

# Want to Join? EASTERN SURFING ASSOCIATION



Become a member of the largest and most effective surfing organization in the United States - the ESA!

Founded in 1967 by East Coast surfers, the ESA continues to promote East Coast surfing and surfers like you. Your membership helps the ESA keep a strong voice in the surfing community.

As a member you will enjoy our many programs:

- **Competition:** Local, Regional, The Easterns® and Surfing America competition opportunities.
- **Member Services:** Discounted price for subscription to Surfer magazine, along with discounts from ESA sponsors.
- **Scholarships:** Apply for a Marsh Scholarship towards higher education.
- **S.E.A. (Surfers for Environmental Action):** Protect your rights to free beach access and clean water.
- **Visit [www.surfesa.org](http://www.surfesa.org):** Your comprehensive resource for all ESA and East Coast Surfing information.

The **Eastern Surfing Association** is the largest amateur surfing association in the United States. It was founded in 1967, by East Coast surfers to promote, preserve and protect the sport of surfing on the East Coast. Our family-oriented programs promote a healthy and active lifestyle. It is not uncommon to find two or three generations of the same family involved as members of the ESA, and actively competing in our program. Two of the original ESA founders, Cecil Lear and David Reese, are still active in the Association today! The ESA's activities are organized into twenty-five districts, which extend along nearly 2,000 miles of coastline. Stretching from the Great Lakes through the Florida Panhandle, each district's programs are developed and operated by a dedicated group of volunteer directors and staff.

## Competition

One of the primary activities of the ESA is its program of competition for surfers of all ages and abilities. With a history of over forty-seven years of success, ESA contests are organized at the grassroots, district level on a year round basis. Each district conducts four or more contests per year, and each year the ESA has over 150 competitions along the East Coast, Gulf Coast and the Great Lakes. Within these contests, surfers compete in ability groupings, ranging from novice to the most advanced competitors. The athletes are divided among a series of age groupings for both men and women, ranging from Menehunes (Polynesian for "Little People") under twelve years of age through Grand Legends, ages sixty and older. From the local District level, competitors may advance to Regional competitions, then on to the Eastern Surfing Championships (The Easterns®). Members may also qualify through ESA championship events to compete at Surfing America prime events and USA Surfing Championships.

## Beach Access and Preservation

The ESA is the only effective organized voice on the East Coast, speaking politically and legally for the interests of East Coast surfers, working to ensure free public access to a clean beach and clean ocean environment. This effort becomes increasingly important as population swells cause greater competition for the limited areas of open beach still

remaining. The ESA has traditionally responded to efforts to limit surfing by political activities on a local level.

When needed, the ESA's legal efforts are directed by a staff of attorneys who volunteer their service to the ESA pro bono.

## Academic Scholarships

Deserving amateur surfers who wish to continue their formal education beyond the high school level can apply for financial assistance from the ESA's Marsh Scholarship Program. The grants are awarded annually to ESA members on the basis of academics and citizenship, rather than athletic ability. The program began in 1981 to recognize and honor the accomplishments of North Carolina surfer Mike Marsh. Mike set a fine example for students everywhere by earning his law degree while simultaneously and successfully waging his own private battle with cancer. To date, the ESA has awarded over \$200,000 in scholarships to deserving surfing scholars.

## Ecology Education

In 1990, the ESA launched Surfers for Environmental Action (SEA) to serve as a clearing house for information regarding environmental concerns on the East Coast, and to develop a program of ecology education for our members. The ESA is currently affiliated with the Clean Water Network and the Environmental Defense Fund.



**NEW & RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
**Preferred method is online at <http://esa.surfsignup.com/>**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (check one): \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal Member – Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

- SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP – \$35 per person** (non-competitive)
- COMPETITION MEMBERSHIP - \$65 per person for all divisions based on age/gender.**
- FAMILY MEMBERSHIP - \$95 per family** (individuals must reside at the same address) **The cost includes all divisions available based on age/gender for competitive family members** (list names, date of birth and divisions for each additional member on additional sheet).
- LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP - \$1,000 per person – includes 5 divisions** (does not include Surfer Magazine)

**Shortboard Divisions**

- Menehunes U12 (11 & Under, M/F)
- Boys U14 (13 & Under)
- Boys U16 (15 & Under)
- Junior Men U18 (17 & Under)
- Men (18-29)
- Masters (30-39)
- Senior Men (40-49)
- Legends (50 & Over)
- Grand Legends (60 & Over, M/F)
- Girls U14 (13 & Under)
- Girls U16 (15 & Under)
- Junior Women U18 (17 & Under)
- Women (18-34)
- Ladies (35 & Over)
- Open Shortboard (All Ages, M/F)

**Bodyboard Divisions**

- Menehune Bodyboard (13 & Under, M/F)
- Open Bodyboard (All Ages, M/F)

**SUP**

- Open SUP (All Ages, M/F)

**Longboard Divisions**

- Menehune Longboard U14 (13 & Under, M/F)
- Junior Longboard U18 (17 & Under)
- Mens Longboard (18-34)
- Masters Longboard (35-49)
- Legends Longboard (50 & Over)
- Junior Womens Longboard U18 (17 & Under)
- Womens Longboard (18 - 34)
- Ladies Longboard (35 & Over)

As a member of ESA, you are eligible to receive a one-year subscription to Surfer Magazine for ONLY \$5. Surfer is available in print and digital subscriptions (please specify below – one per household). **If you would like to receive this Surfer subscription, please include an ADDITIONAL \$5 to your total payment.**

[ ] Yes, please send me one-year subscription to Surfer Magazine – I am including my \$5 with payment.

Please specify: [ ] Print subscription [ ] Digital subscription

[ ] No thanks, I would prefer not to receive a one-year subscription to Surfer Magazine.

[ ] Please check here if you would like to receive informative emails from the ESA – Email \_\_\_\_\_

***Please make your check payable and mail to:***

**ESA Headquarters  
P.O. Box 625  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451**

**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FEES ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*(Please be sure to include the \$5 for Surfer Magazine subscription, if you choose to receive, in your total check amount)*

**For questions about your membership, please contact [info@surfesa.org](mailto:info@surfesa.org)**