

WSG 2004 - ISA World Surfing Games, Salinas, Ecuador



March 19 - 28, 2004, Playa de la FAE, Salinas, Ecuador

Results

Official Results

Place	Country	Possible Points
1	Australia	16554
2	Brazil	14282
3	South Africa	13257
4	Peru	13160
5	Tahiti	11931
6	Spain	11080
7	France	11060
8	Venezuela	9760
9	Costa Rica	9742
10	UK	9215
11	Ecuador	9013
12	Argentina	8695
13	New Zealand	8433
14	Mexico	7748
15	Barbados	6840
16	Japan	6630
17	Switzerland	6185
18	Ireland	5819
19	USA	5345
20	Italy	5066
21	Jamaica	4080
22	Panama	2843
23	Sweden	2598
24	Guatemala	2256

25	Chile	1560
26	Canada	855

Individual Results

OPEN DIVISION

Place	Name	NGB Points
1	Hira Teriinatoofa	TAH 1000
2	Teco Padaratz	BRA 860
3	Mark Richardson	AUS 730
4	Sean Holmes	SAF 670

WOMEN OPEN SURF

Place	Name	NGB Points
1	Sofia Mulanovich	PER 1000
2	Julia Christian	USA 860
3	Andrea Lopes	BRA 730
4	Sheridan Sheilds	AUS 670

BODYBOARD MEN DIVISION

Place	Name	NGB Points
1	Andrew Lester	AUS 1000
2	Yeray Martinez	SPA 860
3	Alvaro Padron	SPA 730
4	Nicolas Capdeville	FRA 670

BODYBOARD WOMEN DIVISION

Place	Name	NGB Points
1	Kira Llewelin	AUS 1000
2	Neymara Carvalho	BRA 860
3	Marina Taylor	SPA 730
4	Claire McGowan	UK 670

LONGBOARD DIVISION

Place	Name	NGB Points
1	Marcelo Freitas	BRA 1000
2	Jason Ribbink	SAF 860

3	Joshua Constable	AUS 730
4	Antoine Delpero	FRA 670

For the full list of individual places, at end of document.

ISA CUP

1. Australia
2. Spain
3. South Africa
4. New Zealand
5. Brazil
6. France
7. Tahiti
8. Ecuador

WSG 2004 Competition Statistics at end of the document.

ISA WSG 2004 OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASES

November 11, 2003 - ISA World Surfing Games 2004 set for Salinas

December 12, 2003 - ISA Grants Hosting Rights for the ISA World Surfing Games to Ecuador

February 12, 2004 - LaBC to handle media services at 2004 ISA World Surfing Games

March 4, 2004 - The IOC President's Trophy to be awarded to the WSG Team Champion

March 8, 2004 - Nations gather in Ecuador for the ISA World Surfing Games

March 14, 2004 - ISA Meetings in Ecuador will touch upon the many important matters at hand for the future of surfing

March 19, 2004 - Stirring Opening to ISA WSG in Ecuador

March 20, 2004 - ISA World Surfing Games attracts top contenders to Ecuador

March 20, 2004 - Big waves and surprises at World Surfing Games

March 21, 2004 - ISA World Surfing Games day two dominated by South Americans

March 22, 2004 - Clean sheets for six nations at ISA World Surfing Games
March 23, 2004 - Jason Ribbink stars at ISA World Surfing Games
March 23, 2004 - ISA approves Surfing America as NGB for USA surfers
March 24, 2004 - Perfect 10 point ride for Miley-Dyer at World Surfing Games
March 25, 2004 - Many cultures and languages at 2004 ISA World Surfing Games
March 25, 2004 - Stocker stays on track for historic victory at World Surfing Games
March 26, 2004 - Holmes and Padaratz into grand final at ISA World Surfing Games
March 27, 2004 - Australia tightens grip on World Surfing Games team trophy
March 28, 2004 - Australia triumphant at ISA World Surfing Games

For all media enquiries or for information regarding media accreditation, please contact Life's a Beach Communications:

Life's a Beach Communications

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Schedule of Events

March 17-19 - Arrival Days / Registration

March 19 - ISA Level 1 Judging Seminar, ISA WSG Judges Meeting, Meeting for Managers, Coaches, Contest Director, Parade of Nations / Opening Ceremony

March 20-28 - Competition Days

March 22 - ISA Biennial General Meeting

March 23 - ISA Annual General Meeting

March 27-28 - Finals

March 28 - Closing / Awards Ceremony

March 29-30 - Departure Days

Important Contacts:

Federacion Ecuatoriana de Surf (FES)

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MEDIA RELEASE: 11/11/03

**From the International Surfing Association
For immediate publication**

ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES 2004 SET FOR SALINAS, ECUADOR

The International Surfing Association (ISA) is pleased to announce that the ISA World Surfing Games 2004 will take to the waters of Playa la FAE in Salinas, Ecuador, from **March 19 - 28, 2004**.

The ISA World Surfing Games 2004, hosted by the Federacion Ecuatoriana de Surf (FES) will be the 20th edition of the biennial contest that determines the world's top surfing nations and awards individual surfing titles in the categories of surf, bodyboard and longboard. In 2003, the FES was the host NGB for the 6th biennial Pan American Surfing Games. This event was a huge success in America and has enabled the FES to host another International Event on its world premier Pacific Coast.

The WSG tradition started in 1964 at Manly Beach in Sydney, Australia, where surfers from around the world representing their home nation competed for men and women's surfing titles.

The event became progressively larger over the years and has been acknowledged as one of the biggest surfing events in terms of participant numbers and attending nations. The World Surfing Games 2002, staged in Durban, South Africa had the attendance of 31 National Teams and over 500 team members.

In 2003, the ISA made the decision to withdraw the Junior division from the biennial WSG in order to provide a singular focus on the world's junior surfing stars and rising talents. The kneeboarding division was also withdrawn as the ISA's intention is to support the holding and organization of a World Kneeboarding Games, in the same format of the World Surfing Games, but exclusively for kneeboarders.

The ISA and FES are looking forward to this great and historical event, and expect National Teams to confirm their attendance in the next several days.

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**MEDIA RELEASE
International Surfing Association
December 12, 2003
For immediate publication**

THE ISA GRANTS HOSTING RIGHTS FOR THE 2004 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES TO ECUADOR

The Federacion Ecuatoriana de Surf (FES), the International Surfing Association's National Governing Body for surfing and bodyboarding in Ecuador, has been awarded the rights to host and organize the 20th Edition of the ISA World Surfing Games 2004 in Salinas, Ecuador, in March 2004.

This event will take place on the Beaches of the FAE, Salinas, Ecuador from March 19th - 28th, 2004. It will determine the world's top surfing nations and award individual titles to the competing divisions of shortboard, bodyboard and longboard.

Over twenty of the ISA's National Governing Bodies (NGBs) from 5 continents have already confirmed their attendance.

The FES, ISA and its member NGBs are looking forward to a great event on Ecuador's world premier Pacific Coast. The FES and ISA are certain that the attending teams and visitors will take home some unforgettable experiences from this historical event that will be part of their lives forever.

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MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 13 February 2004

ISA World Surfing Games

Playa de FAE, Salinas, Ecuador

19 – 28 March 2004

LaBC to handle media services at 2004 ISA World Surfing Games

Life's a Beach Communications (LaBC), the Cape Town, South Africa based specialist watersports communications company, has been appointed to handle the English language media services for the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games (WSG) in Ecuador in the second half of March.

Scheduled for 19-28 March at Playa de FAE, near Salinas on the Pacific coast of Ecuador, the biennial WSG will feature teams from the 45 member nations of the International Surfing Association (ISA) who compete for both individual and team trophies in surfing's largest tournament in terms of participant numbers.

LaBC will manage the accreditation procedures for international media, operate the onsite media office and compile and distribute English media releases globally in the lead up to and during the event.

Media entities intending to produce moving images from the event are reminded that the ISA is the rights holder for all international broadcasts while the Federacion Ecuatoriana de Surf (FES), the organising body, holds the domestic broadcast rights. Please contact LaBC via the details below to establish the implications of these rights and to ensure you have the necessary permissions.

Media personnel are urged to contact LaBC regarding all aspects of the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games, including pre-event information, onsite facilities and accreditation, media releases and results during the contest and a post-event wrap up.

Life's a Beach Communications provided the media services to the 2002 ISA WSG and the inaugural 2003 ISA World Junior Surfing Championships, both of which were staged in Durban, South Africa.

LaBC will be represented in Ecuador by Paul Botha, a veteran surfer, administrator and journalist who has attended numerous international surfing tournaments and has also coordinated and run more than 150 major surfing and beach events.

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MEDIA RELEASE

From the International Surfing Association

March 4, 2004

ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES 2004

March 19 - 28, 2004 - Salinas, Ecuador

THE IOC PRESIDENT'S TROPHY TO BE AWARDED TO THE WORLD SURFING GAMES TEAM CHAMPION:

The winning team of the ISA World Surfing Games 2004 will go back to their home nation, not only with national pride and the glory of carrying the ISA World Team Champion Title, but also will be awarded the IOC President's Trophy.

The IOC President's Trophy arrived yesterday at the ISA Headquarters. It will be hand carried by the ISA President, Fernando Aguerre to Ecuador. It will remain in exhibition until the Award Ceremony on March 28, 2004.

The IOC gives the IOC President's Trophy only to the officially recognized International Federations. The first IOC President's Trophy in surfing history was awarded to the USA Team in 1996. This first trophy celebrated the first time in history that surfers competed in an event under the Olympic Movement. This award from the IOC President to the ISA Champion Team is the highest award given by the ISA to a Team.

Each of the individual members of the Team Champion will also be awarded an ISA Gold medal.

The winning team also gets to take home for two years the Basil Lomborg Perpetual Trophy, named in honor of then President of the South African NGB for surfing who resurrected the ISA world titles in 1978.

At the last WSG, held in Durban, South Africa in 2002, Team South Africa walked away with these awards at the Quiksilver ISA World Surfing Games. A few days later, the whole team received a standing ovation reception, at the President of South Africa's office, in front of the whole Cabinet, marking yet another milestone for surfing.

This year's World Surfing Games, will showcase once again the many talented athletes that work together as a team to take home these prestigious awards.

The ISA wishes all the participating teams the best of luck during these final days before the event.

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MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday March 9, 2004

ISA World Surfing Games 2004

Nations gather in Ecuador for ISA World Surfing Games

Teams from the four corners of the earth are set to gather in Ecuador next week to participate in the 20th biennial World Surfing Games that will crown champions in five wave riding disciplines, the ISA Trophee team event and the overall world champion national team.

Approximately 30 of the 50 national governing federations affiliated to the International Surfing Association (ISA), the San Diego based organisation that is recognised by the IOC as the world governing body for surfing and bodyboarding, will send nearly 400 participants to the tournament, which held in a different country every two years.

Scheduled for March 19-28, the 10-day event will be staged on the beaches of Playa de FAE, near Salinas in the South West corner of the country, just two degrees South of the equator and a venue that receives consistent swell from the South Pacific at this time of the year.

Started in 1964 at Manly Beach in Sydney, Australia, when surfers from the host nation, the USA, Hawaii, Peru and a single South African representative competed for men and women's surfing titles, the event has become progressively larger over the years and is now acknowledged as the world's biggest surfing event in terms of participant numbers.

The countries are represented by teams of between one and 20 members and the entire complement march in the colourful 'Parade of Nations' in their official team apparel and then attend the emotive 'Sands of the World' ceremony where sand from the beaches of each of the participating nations is mixed together in the presence of the assembled gathering.

South Africa, the host nation for the 2002 games, are the defending national team champions and top seeds this year with 2002 runners-up and six-time champion nation Australia seeded second and 2000 champions Brazil in third spot. Only Hawaii of the top 10 ranked nations at the last WSG will not be present in Ecuador, with France, Spain, 2002 ISA Trophee champions New Zealand, Tahiti, Japan, Puerto Rico and the USA filling the top 10 seedings.

A full team comprises 10 competitors made up of four open men and two women shortboard surfers, two male and one female bodyboarders and one longboard surfer. Not all nations send full teams while many send extensive management and media complements.

The magnificent sculptured IOC President's Trophy, donated by the IOC to recognised federations, will be presented to the country winning the 2004 ISA World Team Champion title. This is determined by accumulating the points scored by all the team members and the winning nation also is awarded the Basil Lomborg Perpetual Trophy, named in honour of the then President of South African surfing who resurrected the World Surfing Games in 1978.

The 2004 ISA World Surfing Games is produced by the Federacion Ecuatoriana de Surf with FES President Manuel Lozano and Juan Miguel Salvador Alban the coordinators and Marcos Bukao (Brazil) the ISA appointed contest director. Paul Botha of Life's a Beach Communications is the English language media director.

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MEDIA RELEASE
From the International Surfing Association
March 14, 2004

ISA MEETINGS IN ECUADOR WILL TOUCH UPON THE MANY IMPORTANT MATTERS AT HAND FOR THE FUTURE OF SURFING

Biennial General Meeting - Monday, March 22

Annual General Meeting - Tuesday, March 23

In the last decade, the sport of surfing went through substantial growth, as proven by many indicators: Amount of participants in every country, amount of countries where the sport is practiced, amount of people interested in the sport, amount of people attracted to surfing lifestyle and culture, type of waves and equipment they ride.

Latest movies are full of surfing actions, from the James Bond movie, to Blue Crush, from Sheryl Crow videos, to cartoons in TV.

At the June 1994 BGM in Rio de Janeiro, during the ISA World Titles, Fernando Aguerre attended as the President of the recently founded Pan American Surfing Association.

Up until that day, he had never been elected to any position in the ISA. During that meeting, he was nominated and elected as the ISA first ever Latin American Chairman in the long history of the ISA.

Only a year later, the ISA was recognized by the IOC as the International Federation for surfing and wave riding.

The position of Chairman was replaced by the position of President of the ISA.

He was re-elected to head the ISA as President in 1996 (Huntington Beach), 1998 (Lisbon), 2000 (Recife), and 2002 (Durban).

The recognition of the ISA by the IOC in 1995 opened a decade of great events for the ISA and the NGB's. This was followed by recognition of many ISA NGB by their respective National Olympic Committees. In many cases this came along with NOC or Government funding.

Many NGB evolved from Associations to Federations, in the process becoming the true leading force behind the growth of surfing in their countries.

The ISA World Surfing Games were held in California in 1996, and for the first time ever were attended by IOC Officials, and opened with a message from the President of the United States of America. That same year, the ISA incorporated several clauses of the Olympic Charter into the ISA Constitution, opening the doors for participation in ISA events to any surfer in the world, without discrimination for financial considerations.

At the same time, the sport of surfing was included, for the first time in history, in multi sport events held under the Olympic Movement: The 2003 South Pacific Games (Fiji), the 2002 Bolivarian Games (Ecuador). Last year, surfing finally made it to the other very relevant sport event in the World, the X Games, held in California, and seen by millions of people around the world.

The ISA efforts behind this tremendous work have been enormous, at both Executive Committee (EC) and National Governing Body (NGB) level. The above events are just some of the success stories that have resulted from years of hard work by all of the ISA leaders around the world.

As the ISA approaches the ISA Annual and Biennial Meetings to be held during the WSG in Ecuador, the ISA would like to take this opportunity to briefly report about the ISA's achievements in the past two years and on its vision forward.

World Surfing Games 2004:

The ISA is very glad that the FES (Federacion Ecuatoriana de Surf) under the wise leadership of Manolo Lozano, is hosting the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games (WSG). The ISA believes these WSG will be spectacular, exotic and history making, in a warm weather, warm water location, with great hosts, as seen in their successful hosting of the Pan American Games in 2003.

ISA World Junior Surfing Championships:

During mid 2002, the ISA wisely decided to hold the Junior division of the WSG in its very own event, and to be held annually.

The plan was to provide with twice the amount of competitions and opportunities for the younger athletes as well as for a larger number of hosting nations to hold this unique event.

The inaugural Quiksilver ISA World Junior Surfing Championships 2003 held in Durban, South Africa and organized by Surfing South Africa in August 2003 was a huge success, and one in which the ISA looks

forward to supporting and organizing each year. 16 nations with over 170 team members were in attendance.

2004 ISA World Junior Surfing Championships (WJSC)

After securing support from the Tahitian Government as well as Quiksilver and other Sponsors, the FTS (Federation Tahitienne de Surf), secured the hosting rights for the 2004 WJSC.

In November 2003, the ISA President met in Papeete with Pascal Luciani, President of FTS, at the Tahitian Olympic Committee HQ. In attendance were several print and TV media and the Tourism Minister of Tahiti.

The event will be held during the first part of December of 2004, in a North Swell facing surf break in the island of Tahiti. Accommodations will be provided in a very nice hotel nearby.

The ISA wishes the very best to the FTS and will continue to work with them to insure the success of the event.

World Bodyboard Games:

The ISA is very interested in finding hosts for running the Inaugural World Bodyboard Games. The ISA believes that Bodyboarders deserve an event of their own, including waves that lend themselves better for bodyboarding.

As soon as a host is secured, the ISA plans to increase the amount of surfing athletes in the WSG teams. Some ideas are inclusion of more longboarders, even female longboarders. This will only be decided once the WBBG organizer is found.

ISA World Kneeboard Championships:

To be held in July of 2004 in Tahiti, the ISA World Kneeboard Championship are the response to Kneeboarders worldwide desire to have their very own and specialized event. This event should provide for a great place to highlight the unique characteristics of Kneeboarding, with Kneeboarding judges and officials. Best of luck to all participants.

Education:

The recent success of the WSG games and WJSC in Durban has shown that the strength and camaraderie of all competing member nations is continuing to grow. These recent events have been the showcase of the quality of event management and officiating needed and have set a precedent for all future ISA events.

As agreed at the Durban AGM in 2002, the ISA focused some resources in supporting the education of NGB's on matters of Judging, Coaching and Technical Direction.

The ISA donated 50% of the costs of funding Seminars at the last Pan American Surfing Games, 2003. The Seminars included a Judging, Coaching, Surf school and Technical Direction seminars. These courses were a huge success and the participants were very pleased with them. These courses will allow NGB's to continue to advance in their development programs, professionalism and in gaining recognition from national sport authorities.

Based on the success of this program, the ISA will be funding and running a Judging Seminar in the days just before the WSG 2004.

The ISA hopes to continue these seminars at each ISA major event, since this is a great way to give value back to the attending NGB's as well as creating a uniform technical preparation around the world.

Judging:

This EC is assisting in the development and endorsement of an International Accredited Judging System, developed by Surfing Australia. Surfing Australia has appointed a representative to run the ISA Judging Seminar before the WSG 2004.

The ISA also revised the regulations for the selection of judges and team requirements at major ISA events in order to increase the level of judging, professionalism and expertise to the event. The ISA has created a Selection Panel to be in charge of selecting the best judges for events, based on judge applications submitted to the ISA Headquarters. Because the WSG now has a larger percentage of bodyboarders, the ISA will also select a Bodyboard Head Judge and ensure that the rest of the panel has sufficient number of judges with prominent bodyboard judging experience.

Membership:

Since the AGM 2002, this EC has been working with several potential NGB's in their ISA application process, thus increasing the number of ISA members. There will be new NGB's as well as regional surfing organizations, included on the BGM 2004 Agenda for ratification of membership.

The EC has included (as prescribed in the ISA Constitution) a presentation by a USA based organization, Surfing America in the Agenda of the Biennial General Meeting to be held during the WSG in March. This organization has petitioned the ISA for recognition as ISA NGB for the USA. A vote for recognition of

Surfing America will only happen after a motion in this direction is moved by a voting NGB, and is seconded by another NGB. If no NGB moves for a vote, no vote on this matter shall be held. The USSF has been advised of the process, and has been given copy of the presentation in advance, to prepare a proper response.

The EC has been assisting several other organizations in finalizing their application package to become recognized ISA members. Due to the ISA's acceptance of the 2002 motion to substantially facilitate the admission of smaller, developing NGB's, the ISA has been able to establish communication with many new nations who plan to apply for ISA membership in the near future. The ISA is working with these nations, offering advice and encouragement for the further development of their NGB.

On the Olympic Front:

ISA Vice President Maile H. Aguerre continues to act as the ISA's liaison with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the General Association of International Recognized Sports Federations (GAIFS), the International World Games Association (IWGA), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and other regional and multi-sport event organizations. She attended several meetings in 2003 and has developed stronger relationships with key Olympic leaders, including the IOC President and the PASO President (Pan American Sport Organization). She just attended the IOC's Conference on Women and Sports, held in Morocco from March 7 - 9, 2004.

This EC is intensively lobbying for inclusion of surfing in the Olympic Games and several other Multi-Sport/Regional Games by submitting applications, reports and attending annual meetings.

The IOC sent out a new questionnaire to all the Sports Federations for re-evaluation. This is good news for the ISA because the ISA "family" has grown in strength and size since its original application. The IOC will re-evaluate the whole Summer Olympic Programme after the Athens 2004 Olympic Games.

Our medium term goal is to gain inclusion in the Pan American Games, the second largest multisport event in the Olympic World, to be held in Rio in 2007. The ISA is working with the Confederacao Brasileira de Surf on this matter.

In 2003, the ISA signed the agreement with WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) and accepted the IOC approved World Anti-Doping Code, which is in full force. The ISA will continue to promote the values of good sportsmanship, fair play, and anti-doping.

Since the ISA began anti-doping testing in 1996, there have not been any positive test results. All of the athletes tested at all the ISA Surfing Games have been drug-free, according to Olympic Code.

ISA Events:

In 2003, the ISA had some great new events added on the Calendar in addition to the **Quiksilver ISA World Junior Surfing Championships**. During 2003 the ISA sanctioned the inaugural **ISA Masters World Surfing Titles** in New Zealand, the **Lion Red Trans-Tasman Surfing Challenge** and the **World Kneboard Surfing Championships**, which will take place in July 04. The ISA appointed a representative from Australia to attend and assist with **the South Pacific Games 2003's** Surfing event in Fiji.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, the ISA is proactively working towards securing hosts for future events such as the **WSG 206, 2008, WJSC 2005, 2005**.

In Closing:

The current President, and three of the four VP are going to stand for office in the next elections to be held in March, in Ecuador. During the EC meeting in January 2004, ISA VP Moncho Gil (Spain) decided not to run for re-election due to the workload of his job as President of the Spanish Surfing Federation, as well as other work related commitments. CV and Resumes were also received from several other candidates interested in being a part of the ISA Executive Committee. Results of the Elections will be included in the next ISA Monthly Press Release.

Finally, the ISA Executive Committee and staff would like to thank all its member nations, media and surfers around the world for their support and participation over the past year, with the prospect of a prosperous continued relationship in 2004.

For A Better Surfing Future

International Surfing Association

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MEDIA RELEASE

March 19, 2004

ISA World Surfing Games 2004

Stirring opening to ISA World Surfing Games in Ecuador

"If you want something so badly, then it usually happens", said Fernando Aguerre, the President of the International Surfing Association (ISA) in Salinas, Ecuador on Friday night during the opening ceremony for the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games (WSG).

Aguerre was referring to the desire that enabled Ecuador to overcome all odds to host the 20th edition of the 'Olympics of surfing', despite a critically short build up period from the time the deal was signed in December until the start of the event today (Saturday).

The WSG, which has drawn more than 300 participants from 27 countries on all five continents to this coastal fishing and holiday town in the South West corner of the country, just two degrees below the Equator, commenced with a colourful kilometre long 'Parade of Nations' procession led by the local military band, the event officials and dignitaries.

They were followed along the spectator lined beachfront by flag bearers and then the contingents from the participating nations, all of whom were decked out in a kaleidoscope of official team gear representing the diversity of countries and cultures that make up the surfing nations of the world. Their stirring entrance into the town square next to the Municipal offices brought cheers from the assembled throng with the biggest ovations for the local Ecuadorian squad, their neighbours the Peruvians and the ever-popular Jamaican team. The New Zealanders elicited their traditional rapturous response for their rendition of the traditional 'Haka' while the Brazilians and Venezuelans displayed all the natural exuberance associated with Latin Americans.

The poignant 'Sands of the World' ritual, in which each country pours sand from their country's beaches into a specially created receptacle to signify the union of the surfing tribes of the world was described by Ecuadorian Surfing Federation (FES) President and event producer Manolo Lozano as "... a great ceremony for the world of surfing as it connects all the countries, cultures and races in the spirit of the sport."

Lozano went on, expressing how exciting it was to organize such a prestigious event in Ecuador, the benefits it would bring to the status of the sport in his country and the excellent support that had been forthcoming from many sources.

"There has been very good collaboration between the tourism industry, the local authorities, the military and the organisers to make this event (happen). It's a wonderful way to show the benefits of the country and particularly its surf," he said Aguerre, in his 5th term as the ISA President, welcomed the teams to this gathering of nations and was effuse in his thanks to the FES, the city and inhabitants of Salinas and the authorities in the FAE military base and air force training school in which the event is being staged.

Recognised as one of surfing's forward thinkers, Aguerre used the example of Costa Rico to draw the attention of the local authorities to the huge commercial benefits that can stem from developing surfing tourism. He also reported on the excellent relationship developing between surfing and the international Olympic movement and his pleasure at the sport being included in the X-Games for the first time in 2003, closing with his hope that this event would create 450 enthusiastic ambassadors for Ecuador.

The ceremony proceeded with oaths by the Ecuadorian surfing team captain on behalf of the surfers that the Games would be contested in a sportsmanlike spirit and by one of the judges on behalf of the officials that the event would be fairly administered.

The mayor of Salinas then made a rousing speech punctuated by a fireworks display that culminated in him declaring the 2004 World Surfing Games open to cheers from the packed throng and a flurry of photoflashes and TV interviews as the surfers headed for home and thoughts of eight days of competitive surfing starting at 8am (Eastern Time) on Saturday morning with the 24 first round heats in the men's surfing category.

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MEDIA RELEASE
Saturday March 20, 2004
ISA World Surfing Games 2004

Stirring opening to ISA World Surfing Games in Ecuador

"If you want something so badly, then it usually happens", said Fernando Aguerre, the President of the International Surfing Association (ISA) in Salinas, Ecuador on Friday night during the opening ceremony for the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games (WSG).

Aguerre was referring to the desire that enabled Ecuador to overcome all odds to host the 20th edition of the 'Olympics of surfing', despite a critically short build up period from the time the deal was signed in December until the start of the event today (Saturday).

The WSG, which has drawn more than 300 participants from 27 countries on all five continents to this coastal fishing and holiday town in the South West corner of the country, just two degrees below the Equator, commenced with a colourful kilometre long 'Parade of Nations' procession led by the local military band, the event officials and dignitaries.

They were followed along the spectator lined beachfront by flag bearers and then the contingents from the participating nations, all of whom were decked out in a kaleidoscope of official team gear representing the diversity of countries and cultures that make up the surfing nations of the world.

Their stirring entrance into the town square next to the Municipal offices brought cheers from the assembled throng with the biggest ovations for the local Ecuadorian squad, their neighbours the Peruvians and the ever-popular Jamaican team. The New Zealanders elicited their traditional rapturous response for their rendition of the traditional 'Haka' while the Brazilians and Venezuelans displayed all the natural exuberance associated with Latin Americans.

The poignant 'Sands of the World' ritual, in which each country pours sand from their country's beaches into a specially created receptacle to signify the union of the surfing tribes of the world was described by Ecuadorian Surfing Federation (FES) President and event producer Manolo Lozano as "... a great ceremony for the world of surfing as it connects all the countries, cultures and races in the spirit of the sport."

Lozano went on, expressing how exciting it was to organize such a prestigious event in Ecuador, the benefits it would bring to the status of the sport in his country and the excellent support that had been forthcoming from many sources.

"There has been very good collaboration between the tourism industry, the local authorities, the military and the organisers to make this event (happen). It's a wonderful way to show the benefits of the country and particularly its surf," he said

Aguerre, in his 5th term as the ISA President, welcomed the teams to this gathering of nations and was effuse in his thanks to the FES, the city and inhabitants of Salinas and the authorities in the FAE military base and air force training school in which the event is being staged.

Recognised as one of surfing's forward thinkers, Aguerre used the example of Costa Rico to draw the attention of the local authorities to the huge commercial benefits that can stem from developing surfing tourism. He also reported on the excellent relationship developing between surfing and the international Olympic movement and his pleasure at the sport being included in the X-Games for the first time in 2003, closing with his hope that this event would create 450 enthusiastic ambassadors for Ecuador.

The ceremony proceeded with oaths by the Ecuadorian surfing team captain on behalf of the surfers that the Games would be contested in a sportsmanlike spirit and by one of the judges on behalf of the officials that the event would be fairly administered.

The mayor of Salinas then made a rousing speech punctuated by a fireworks display that culminated in him declaring the 2004 World Surfing Games open to cheers from the packed throng and a flurry of photoflashes and TV interviews as the surfers headed for home and thoughts of eight days of competitive surfing starting at 8am (Eastern Time) on Saturday morning with the 24 first round heats in the men's surfing category.

For further information:

Life's a Beach Communications

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MEDIA RELEASE

Saturday March 20, 2004

ISA World Surfing Games 2004

ISA World Surfing Games attracts top contenders to Ecuador

The 2004 ISA World Surfing Games (WSG), which started in large two to three metre (6-10 foot) waves in Ecuador today, has attracted more than 300 participants from 27 nations to the 20th edition of this biennial 'Olympics' of surfing that will crown world champions in five individual disciplines of wave-riding plus the ISA Trophee team event and the World Champion Surfing Nation.

Scheduled to run until Saturday 28 in Salinas on the SW corner of country, the event is being staged on the beach of Playa de la FAE, which is inside the perimeters of the Fuerza Aerea Ecuatoriana, the country's air force training school whose long term collaboration with the local surfing fraternity and enormous support for this event is unique in the annals of the sport worldwide.

Competitors for today's 24 first round heats in the premier men's surfing event, where each nation can field up to four participants, include the likes of Brazilian Flavio 'Teco' Padaratz, a two time ASP World Qualifying Series (WQS) winner, 2002 WSG runner-up Mark Bannister and fellow Australian Sasha Stocker, the 1994 men's champ, who along with 1990 champ Heifara Tahutini (Tahiti), could create history by become the first ever two-time winner in this category.

Defending team champions South Africa field an accomplished men's squad led by Sean Holmes, whose ability in giant surf and in the perfect waves of Jeffreys Bay is well documented, and includes 90's international surf video legend Frankie Oberholzer, while Pan American champ Gabriel Aramburu (Peru), Spencer Hargreaves (UK) and Brandon Ragenovich (USA), are amongst a host of others who harbour realistic hopes of clinching this highly sought after title.

The women's contenders are headed by international standout and current world #7 Sofia Mulanovich from Peru who will go head to head with rising stars like 2003 ISA world junior champ Jessi Miley-Dyer and fellow Aussie Sheridan Shields, the experienced French pair of Emmanuelle Joly-Thomas and Marie-Pierre Abgrall and former WCT campaigner Julia Christensen (USA).

Others in surfing's fastest growing demographic hoping to upset Mulanovich, who admitted lack of focus had led to her early elimination at the last WSG in Durban in 2002, include Lisbeth Vindas (Costa Rica), Andrea Lopes (Brazil) and Adeline Taylor (Spain) along with super fit South Africans Tasha Mentasti and Sacha Moller.

The winners of the men and women's bodyboard and the longboard surfing categories at that event are all back to defend their titles, with longboard champ Marcelo Freitas (Brazil) bidding for a third straight crown while Nicolas Capdeville (France) is attempting to add a third bodyboard win to his 1992 and 2002 victories.

Neymara Carvalho from Brazil will again face a determined challenge from 2002 women's bodyboard runner-up Heloise Bourroux (France), as will Freitas who again comes up against South African team captain and former world #2 Jason Ribbink, a finalist in 2002, and the defending longboard champ also will have to repel the efforts of Josh Constable (Aus), Pan American champ Steve Newton (USA) and Lee Ryan (UK).

The ISA Trophee, a form of relay surfing that features teams made up of four male and one female surfer from each nation, will be contested by the eight highest rated nations in attendance from the 2002 WSG who are South Africa, Australia, Brazil, France, Spain, defending event champions New Zealand, Tahiti and Japan.

The first heats of the men's surfing discipline took the water at 8am today in seriously large two to three metre (6-9 foot) surf that has restricted contest Director Marcos Bukao (Brazil) to running only the 24 first round heats in the men's surfing on the main control tower on the first day. Forecasts show the waves steadily dropping in size until Wednesday March 24 when another overhead swell is predicted.

The main surf spot next to the rocky outcrop at the Southern end of the beach is home to a colony of huge sea lions whose placid but curious nature has alarmed several of the surfers during practice sessions. The point produces a long left breaking wave with several sections that enable competitors to use their entire repertoire of manoeuvres. Huge sets rumbled through the break on the low tide this morning before reforming on the inside to give the competitors an opportunity to impress the judges.

The second control tower, located in the middle of the beach, will be used to cope with the large number of entries for this prestigious event with its double elimination format that gives every competitor the opportunity lose once and still reach the final via the repechage rounds. This location currently unsurfable and will only be used for competition when the waves are under two metres (6 foot).

The team winning the 2004 ISA World Team Champion title, determined by accumulating the points scored by all the team members, will be awarded the impressive IOC President's Trophy, donated by the IOC to recognised sports federations. The winning nation also holds the Basil Lomborg Perpetual Trophy, named in honour of the then President of South African surfing who resurrected the World Surfing Games in 1978, until the next edition of the event.

The 2004 ISA World Surfing Games is produced by the Federacion Ecuatoriana de Surf with FES President Manolo Lozano and Juan Miguel Salvador Alban the coordinators and Marcos Bukao (Brazil) the ISA appointed contest director. Paul Botha of Life's a Beach Communications is the English language media director.

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MEDIA RELEASE

Saturday March 20, 2004

2004 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES

Big waves and surprises at World Surfing Games

The 2004 ISA World Surfing Games started in huge two to three metre (6 – 10 foot) waves at Playa de la FAE in Salinas, Ecuador on Saturday, producing several outstanding performances and a number of surprise results.

The powerful South swell generated massive waves that rolled through left breaking point in front of the main podium, reforming in the mid break to give the competitors plenty of opportunity to impress the judges with radical manoeuvres on the overhead wave faces.

Contest director Marcos Bukao (Brazil) was unable to utilise the second control tower in the middle of the beach due to the bone crushing power of the double overhead waves and ran only the 24 first round heats of the men's open division today.

The first ride of the biennial 'Olympics' of surfing went to Brazilian Marcelo Coutinho who caught a reformed wave halfway down the point that he rode to the beach for 5.8 points out of a possible 10. Coutinho went on to win the 20 minute heat convincingly from Jean Shaffer from Venezuela with both of them advancing to round two of the qualifiers while 3rd and 4th placed Stephen Conwell (Ireland) and Christian Guzman (Guatemala) were relegated to the cutthroat repechage rounds.

With thousands of locals and weekend holiday makers pouring into the Fuerza Aerea Ecuatoriana air force training camp that hosts the event venue, results mirrored the seeding in the next two heats before the first upset of the event saw Shane Thorne from the defending team champions South Africa slip into the repechage stream. An inspired performance from unheralded Alejo Martinez from Argentina and a solid showing by the UK's Spencer Hargreaves left a dejected Thorne in third place.

Australia, the second seeds for this event, also suffered a setback when 2002 WSG men's runner-up Mark Bannister only caught two mediocre waves in his opening encounter and was eclipsed by Peru's Gabriel Aramburu who won the Pan American title here last year, and Mexico's Raul Medina as the so-called minnows of world surfing started to flex their muscles.

Third seeds and South American surfing power Brazil did not escape unscathed as Jussemir Junior could only manage third behind Ecuador's Felipe Rodriguez and Roberto Diaz from Venezuela, leaving the Brazilian with an extra five heats to negotiate in the 'losers' stream in order to reach the final of this event.

The host country's surfers made merry in the challenging conditions that cleaned up as the tide pushed in later in the afternoon with Marco Goncalves emulating Rodrigues in winning his heat, Carlos Goncalves advancing in second place behind Martins Bernardo (Brazil) and only Andres Fernandez failing to remain in the qualifying stream.

Costa Rico were the surprise performers of the opening day, showing the benefits of regular international competition in Central and Southern America when all four of their men finished in the top two in their respective heats with two wins and two runner-up finishes. France, Spain and Tahiti, the fourth, fifth and seventh seeds, also kept a clean sheet with four qualifiers each,

The USA inexcusably joined the likes of Sweden, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan and Chile with all four men in the repechage rounds while Italy, Switzerland and Mexico could all celebrate at least one team member's advancement.

The day's outstanding performances came from two time WQS champ Flavio Padaratz (Brazil) whose wave choice, speed on the bumpy wave faces and committed manoeuvres were exceptional, along with 1990 ISA men's open champ Hira Teriinatoofa (Tah) landed an outrageous aerial while Gabriel Villaran (Peru), a flu ridden Frankie Oberholzer (SAfr) and Hugo Savelli from France who found great waves and didn't put a foot wrong in the penultimate heat of the day.

Sean Holmes (SAfr) and 1994 ISA champ Sasha Stocker (Aus) benefited from the generous points allocated by the judges to those who waited for the bigger outside waves, with each bagging heat winning nine point rides even though they did not connect to the more performance orientated inside reform.

With a predicted overnight drop in wave height to a more manageable two metres (6 foot), thousands of spectators are again expected to throng the beach to support their new found surfing heroes in what is Ecuador's biggest international event to date this year. The men's qualifying round two heats will be followed by the first round of longboard surfing in front of the main podium and the day's action is completed by the 6 round three qualifying round heats.

The 2004 ISA World Surfing Games will crown champions in the five individual wave-riding disciplines of men and women's surfing, men and women's bodyboarding and longboard surfing, along with the ISA Trophee team event and the ISA world champion nation on Saturday 28 March.

/ends

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MEDIA RELEASE
Sunday March 21, 2004
2004 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES

World Surfing Games day two dominated by South Americans

The second day of the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games was dominated by South Americans as three Brazilians and three Peruvians advanced to the last 12 of qualifying stream in the men's open event.

The day's action started in solid two metre plus waves with round two of the men's qualifiers and the organisers again opting not to employ the second podium in the middle of the beach. Overhead low tide conditions required top class wave selection and the favourites didn't disappoint, executing numerous manoeuvres during long rides.

South Africa's Sean Holmes recorded the highest accumulated heat total of the day with 15.66 points from a possible 20 for his two scoring rides in the last heat of round two, advancing to round three with Pedro Rangel (Ven) and dispatching Mark Walther (Switzerland) and Alvaro Solano (Costa Rico) to the recharge rounds.

Holmes went on to win his third round encounter with a professional display despite a painful hamstring, to join Brazilians Marcelo Coutinho, Martins Bernardo and Flavio 'Teco' Padaratz, all of whom won their respective heats, and Peruvians Gabriel Aramburu, Javier Swayne and Gabriel Vallaran, who all placed second, in the last 12.

The others to advance were Justin Sanders (SAfr), New Zealanders Daniel Scott and Felix Dixon who finished one / two in their round three heat, the UK's Spencer Hargreaves and 1994 WSG men's champ Sasha Stocker, the sole Australian representative.

The two men's rounds were separated by the first round of the longboard surfing where former world #2 Jason Ribbink emulated his compatriot Holmes by top scoring with an identical 15.66 point total, while defending two-time ISA longboard champ Marcelo Freitas (Brazil) proved that he is not going to relinquish his title without a fight by recording 15.49 for his best two rides.

Josh Constable from Australia, Roberto Lorenzo (Spain), Felipe Recerra (Peru) and Tahiti's Patrick Laux were also standouts, each racking up double figure scores on their way to the second round of qualifiers.

Monday's schedule sees the first and second rounds of the men's recharge rounds being staged in front of the main podium with the opening heats of the men and women's bodyboarding taking to the surf in front of the second podium in the middle of the beach.

The champions in the five individual disciplines, the ISA Trophee and the ISA World Champion Nation will be crowned at the vent site on Saturday 28 March.

NB Further releases and images from the 2004 ISA WSG are available on www.surfersvillage.com

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MEDIA RELEASE
Monday March 22, 2004
2004 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES

Clean sheets for six nations at World Surfing Games

A full day of action in one to 1.5 metre (3-5 foot) waves that saw the men and women bodyboarders take to the surf for the first time in the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games in Salinas, Ecuador, resulted in the first eliminations from the event with only six of the 27 national teams in attendance retaining all of their squad members after day three.

Defending team champions South Africa, runners-up Australia along with Brazil, Peru and unexpectedly Costa Rica and the host nation, Ecuador, all have their full complement of competitors still involved in the event, while the other nations have already had one or more of their members eliminated.

The value of local knowledge was clearly demonstrated as the Ecuadorians, who did not attend the last edition of the WSG in Durban, South Africa, in 2002, fought their way through the repechage rounds of the men's event and posted outstanding results in the bodyboard to finish the day in a better position than established surfing powers such as France, Spain and the USA.

Costa Rica, who finished stone last in Durban, have impressed since the opening day of the event when all four of their men qualified in the powerful two to three metre surf. And their bodyboarders carried on the good work today.

Spain and Tahiti each lost one of their men today to hold equal seventh place in the provisional standings, while Argentina, who are short of one men's bodyboarder, and France and another South American country in Venezuela, who each lost two in the men's event, fill out the current top 10 in the prestigious team event.

In the men's repechage rounds that started in excellent low tide conditions on the left breaking point at Playa de le FAE, Australia's Mark Bannister, a shock elimination in Saturday's first round, made amends by matching the highest individual heat score of the division to date when he recorded 15.66 points from a possible 20 this morning.

He was closely followed by Chile's Manuel Selman (14.90), South Africa's Shane Thorne (14.86) and New Zealand's Zenor Wernham (13.66) who all easily progressed through their second round repechage heats in the afternoon too, where Brazilian Jussemir Junior (14.76) and Thorne (14.66) were the top scorers as the tide rolled in and the conditions deteriorated.

The first round of the men's bodyboard also produced outstanding performances particularly from Spain's Alvaro Padron whose 16.99 point aggregate for his best two rides was highest recorded in any heat in the event to date. Padron went on to win his second round heat while defending champion Nicolas Capdeville (France) showed he would be a contender again with two high scoring heats.

Emiliano Tabare, who earned Argentina's first ever WSG medal when he clinched silver in Durban, convincingly won his first heat but came up short in the second, as did Darren Halse (SAfr) while the Ecuadorians Jorge Maldonado and Darwin Montesdeoca both reached the last 12 in the qualifiers stream.

The women's bodyboard featured several outstanding performers who totally outclassed their opposition, including defending champ Neymara Carvalho (Brazil) who scored more than the other two girls in her heat combined. Heloise Bourroux (France), the 2002 runner-up, was another to score more than both her opponent's scores, while Kira Llewellyn (Aus), Marina Taylor (Spain) and Yolanda Blanco (Mexico) secured substantial victories.

Tuesday's program sees the main podium being used for men's surfing repechage rounds three and four plus qualifiers round four, along with longboard repechage round one and qualifiers round two.

The female surfers take to the surf in front of the second podium starting at 8am followed by the first repechage round of men's bodyboarding and the first repechage round of women's surfing.

The champions in the five individual disciplines, the ISA Trophee and the world champion nation in the 20th edition of the ISA World Surfing Games will be crowned on Sunday March 28.

NB Further releases from various teams and images from the 2004 ISA WSG are available on www.surfersvillage.com

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MEDIA RELEASE
Tuesday March 23, 2004
2004 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES

Ribbink stars at ISA World Surfing Games

South African team captain Jason Ribbink was the star on the fourth day of the ISA World Surfing Games being staged at Salinas in Ecuador, earning the highest score for a single ride and the highest combined heat total in the second round of the longboard surfing event.

An accomplished big wave rider, Ribbink was at home in the rising two to 2.5 metre swell and executed a series of radical manoeuvres on a double overhead wave face before walking to nose in traditional longboard style to earn a near perfect 9.66 points from a possible 10 on his first ride. He followed that with an excellent 8.83 point ride to total 18.49 for the heat, more than twice the score of any of his three opponents.

Defending WSG longboard champion Marcelo Freitas (Brazil) was also on form, accumulating 16.22 in winning his second round encounter. Patrick Laux from Tahiti won the third heat of the round with Felipe Becerra from Peru placing second to continue the incredible run of results displays from his team, relegating Australia's Josh Constable, one of the favourites for the title, to the repechage rounds.

The last six in the men's qualifying stream also features two Peruvians in Javier Swayne, who demolished his challengers with a committed performance in the long lefts at Playa de la FAE that saw him net 17.10 points, with Felix Dixon (New Zealand) winning the battle for second place to remain in the qualifiers stream, eventually defeating Marcelo Coutinho (Brazil) by 8.56 to 8.36.

Swayne's compatriot Gabriel Villaran fought out a see saw duel with Flavio 'Teco' Padaratz (Brazil), with the Brazilian just clinching victory, but Villaran also advancing to the qualifiers semi-final. The third heat went the way of 1994 ISA men's champion Sasha Stocker who pipped Sean Holmes (SAfr) for first place, but both advancing at the expense of Dan Scott (NZ) and Justin Sanders (SAfr) who will now have to battle through the sudden death repechage rounds.

The women's surfing started today in powerful double overhead beach break conditions in front of the second podium. The girls soon realised that the right breaking point at the other end of the bay was producing rideable waves and moved across to where they could get some longer rides.

The results reflected the seeding with the top seed in most heat emerging victorious, although world #7 Sofia Mulanovich (Peru) was given a tough time by Andrea Lopes (Brazil) before eventually triumphing, while the two Australians – ISA World Junior champ Jessi Miley-Dyer and Sheridan Shields - scored comfortable wins, as did Spain's Adeline Taylor and Estitxu Estremo, the French pair of Emmanuelle Joly and Marie Pierre Abgrall and Tasha Mentasti (SAfr).

The provisional team standings see Australia taking the lead at the end of the fourth day as not one of their 10 person team has been eliminated from the event. Reigning ISA nations champions South Africa are level with Brazil in second place as Shane Throne (SAfr) and Jussemir Junior (Brz) lost for the second time in the repechage fourth round of the men's surfing. Peru hold a comfortable fourth place lead over France followed by the UK and Tahiti with the host nation slipping to 12th overall.

Surprise package Costa Rica, who finished 30th out of 30 nations in South Africa in 2002, are holding on to eighth place out of 27, thanks largely to the discipline and contest savvy instilled by Wade Sharp, their South

African born coach. According to Sharp the Costa Ricans have plenty of raw surfing talent and enthusiasm and with more contest experience they will become a force on the international scene.

The 20th edition of the ISA World Surfing Games continues until Sunday March 28, with today's (Wednesday) action consisting of recharge rounds for men and women's surfing plus longboarding at the main podium, with second round qualifying and recharge rounds for men and women's bodyboarding at the second podium.

NB Further releases and images from the 2004 ISA WSG are available on www surfersvillage.com

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MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday March 23, 2004

2004 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES

ISA approves Surfing America as NGB for USA surfers

The International Surfing Association (ISA), recognised as the worldwide governing body for the sport, last night approved the petition of Surfing America to become the official National Governing Body for surfing in the USA.

The decision, which replaces the long standing approval of the United States Surfing Federation (USSF), a foundation member of the ISA since 1976, was taken at the Biennial General Meeting (BGM) staged at the 2004 World Surfing Games WSG) being staged in Salinas, Ecuador.

The BGM deals with membership matters and the election of officers and also re-elected Fernando Aguerre as president of the ISA for a sixth successive term, along with three of the four Vice-Presidents with only Moncho Gil (Spain) not standing for re-election due to pressures of business.

The meeting started with the President's report and Aguerre expounding on the success of the two previous ISA events in South Africa – the 2002 WSG and the inaugural ISA World Junior Surfing Championships in 2003. He confirmed that Tahiti would be staging the inaugural ISA World Kneeboard Championships in July this year and the second ISA World Junior champs in December.

The Nations Cup, a Davis Cup like tournament using smaller teams competing at an international level with an overall grand final would start with trials this year and is planned for full implementation in 2005. In the lead up period, smaller nations were encouraged to start exploring international events within their regions.

Negotiations were ongoing with the IOC regarding the inclusion of surfing in the Olympic Games and this was also the case with PASO, the Pan American Sports Organisation, regarding the inclusion of surfing in the Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro in 2007.

The ISA has also been congratulated by the IOC for being one of eight out of all the international sports federations that have achieved a level of 20% or more of its executive positions being in the hands of women.

The elections became a formality when the two nominations from Brazil for executive positions were withdrawn leaving just five nominations for the five positions. Aguerre was nominated for President and unanimously approved before Alan Atkins (Aus), Robin de Kock (SAfr) and Maile Aguerre (Hawaii) were returned and Paul West (USA) were voted on as Vice Presidents.

Turning to membership issues, the Bahamas Amateur Surfing Association received full non-voting and non-competitive approval, Morocco was approved as a provisional voting and competing nation while the NGB from Fiji and the Pan American and Christian Surfing Associations were accepted as provisional non-voting and non-competing organisations.

A very professional presentation from Surfing America to petition the ISA to become the official NGB for the USA included input from Exec Director Mike Gerard, Surfing America President Peter Townend and Surf Industry Manufacturers of America (SIMA) and Oakley President Dick Baker. They also submitted a declaration of unity signed by the National Scholastic Surfing Association (NSSA), the Eastern Surfing Association (ESA) and the Hawaiian Surfing Association (HASA).

A rebuttal by the USSF's Paul West led to a lengthy debate with questioning of both parties that lasted into the early hours of the morning before the motion to approve Surfing America and withdraw support for the USSF was put to the vote. A secret ballot returned approval by 14 votes to seven with one abstention.

The meeting drew to close at approximately 1.30am and everyone present then lined up for a group photograph.

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MEDIA RELEASE
Wednesday March 24, 2004
2004 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES

Perfect 10 point ride for Miley-Dyer at World Surfing Games

Jessi Miley-Dyer raised the bar at the 20th ISA World Surfing Games being staged at Playa de la FAE near Salinas, Ecuador, today when she scored a perfect 10 point ride in the solid two metre (6 foot) surf, the first of the event to date.

The young Australian, winner of the girls U19 title at the inaugural ISA World Junior Surfing Championships in Durban, South Africa, last year, set the contest abuzz by dropping into an overhead wave way on the outside of the point that she proceeded to carve up with one radical manoeuvre after another.

Three committed top to bottom moves using the full face of the wave, followed by a cutback that saw her connect to the inside section where she continued her assault on the lip of the wave resulted in the five judges unanimously granting her the rarely awarded perfect score.

Not satisfied, she then caught another ride that many onlookers thought was better than the first, only to receive a near perfect 9.33 and an event record heat total of 19.33 from a possible 20, nearly six points clear of second placed compatriot Sheridan Shields, whose tally of 13.42 points would have been sufficient to win three of the other five heats in the round.

After Andrea Lopes (Brazil) had set an extremely high standard with 13.83 points in the opening heat of the women's qualifying round two, World #7 Sofia Mulanovich (Peru) put in an inspired performance to post 18.33 points, the second highest total of the event behind longboarder Jason Ribbink's (SAfr) 18.49 of yesterday.

However, after Natasha Rodrigues (Venezuela) had won heat three and Sacha Moller (SAfr) had scored a narrow victory over Marie Pierre Abgrall (France) in heat four, Miley-Dyer took possession of the records for both the highest wave and highest heat total of the event.

Round six of the men's surfing repechage saw Mark Bannister go from third to first in the last 30 seconds of his heat to remain on track for a second successive finals appearance to go with his runner-up finish in Durban, despite his shock relegation to the repechage heats in round one. The Aussie will have to finish either first or second in 11 consecutive heats to make the final, and although he has already progressed through six of them, it will certainly be a magnificent achievement if he pulls it off.

Bannister and team mate David Reardon-Smith finished one-two to eliminate Spencer Hargreaves (UK) and Marcelo Coutinho (Brazil) from the event, with Frankie Oberholzer (SAfr) and Hira Teriinatoofa (Tahiti) fighting out a see-saw struggle in heat two before the South African clinched victory by 16.66 to 16.33 points. Martin Bernardo (Brazil) and Daniel Scott (NZ) bowed out in third and fourth places respectively.

Mark Richardson (Aus) reigned supreme in the third heat of the round, advancing to the next round of repechage along with second placed Loic Erran (France) at the expense of Gabriel Aramburu (Peru) and Justin Sanders (SAfr) who simply could not find any waves with scoring potential.

The second round of longboard repechage heats saw Josh Constable (Aus), Francisco Posadas (Ecuador) and Pan American champion Steve Newton (USA) win their encounters to remain in contention for the title along with second place finishers Daniel Gil (Argentina), Rogelio Ramos (Mexico) and Lee Ryan (UK).

The bodyboarding rounds, staged in the powerful two metre plus beach break in the middle of the bay, produced some outstanding performances with South African Vaughn Harris recording the highest heat tally of the third round qualifiers – 17.23 from a possible 20 – to move into the last six. He was joined by heat winners Andrew Lester (Aus) and Alvaro Padron (Spain) who beat reigning ISA bodyboard champ Nicolas Capdeville (France) in heat three. The other two to reach the semis were Beau Day (Aus) and Bruno Invyk (Brazil).

The third round of qualifying in the women's bodyboard pitted reigning ISA world champ Neymara Carvalho against 2002 runner-up Heloise Bourroux (France) with the French girl emerging victorious on this occasion, although both are through to the last six and will be seeded into separate semi-finals. They will be joined by Kira Llewellyn (UK) and Luna Montigo (Italy) from the first heat and Marina Taylor (Spain) and Megan Saunders (Venezuela) from the second.

The Australians tightened their grip at the top of the provisional team standings and have yet to lose a single member of their team. South Africa are currently second after losing two of their men's open surfers with Peru third, also with two men out but with worse finishing positions than SA. Brazil currently fill fourth spot but have potential champions in virtually every division and cannot be discounted at this stage while France, Venezuela, Tahiti, Spain, Costa Rica and hosts Ecuador occupy the balance of the top 10 positions.

The ISA World Surfing Games continues until Sunday March 28, with tomorrow's (Thursday's) action moving onto the main podium starting with the high pressure men's open qualifying semi-finals followed by round seven open men's repechage, women's surfing round three qualifiers and repechage, two rounds of men and women's bodyboard repechage and the repechage round three longboard heats.

NB Further releases and images from the 2004 ISA WSG are available on www.surfersvillage.com

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MEDIA RELEASE
March 25, 2004
2004 ISA World Surfing Games

Many cultures and languages at 2004 World Surfing Games in Ecuador

Twenty six nations are competing in the 2004 World Surfing Games at Playa del FAE in Salinas Ecuador and the event is surely the United Nations of Surfing.

Of the twenty six, ten are from South America, seven are from Europe, two Caribbean Island nations have made the trip and so have Tahiti and Japan. Australia and neighbour New Zealand are attending along with the USA and Canada and South Africa, the defending World champions, are the only African country at the event.

The beach at Playa del FAE and the little holiday village of Salinas are bursting at the seams with an intriguing mix of cultures, colours and language.

From the excitability and emotion of the Latin temperament, the laid back Tahitian way and the reserved South African culture to the power of the Australians and the exuberance of the French, the 2004 World Surfing Games certainly has a momentum all of its own.

While the South Africans and Australians take the daily routine pretty seriously, the hosts are having as much fun as they possibly can. The bigger nations are there to win so each heat involves strategy and tactics and the outcome is important but for the crowd on the beach any surfer from Ecuador is a hero and despite where the host nation might finish at the end of the event, Ecuador and its surfers are already champions.

This is how it should be. The serious business of trying to win the championships mixed with the pure joy of just being able to host the event and be part of it all.

It is a wonderful, friendly, happy place this little South American country which is best known for its woven hats, its fishing, its oil pipelines, the Galagagos islands and its bananas.

Now it can add one more item to this list. It is a surfing paradise just waiting to be explored and it really knows how to host a good international contest.

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WSG 2004 - Surfervillage

MEDIA RELEASE
Thursday March 25, 2004
ISA World Surfing Games 2004

Stocker stays on track for historic victory at World Surfing Games

Sasha Stocker from Australia stayed on track for a historic second open men' s surfing title at the 20th ISA World Surfing Games in Salinas, Ecuador, today when he reached the qualifiers final in dropping one to 1.3 metre (3-4 foot) surf.

Stocker won his first title in 1994 at Barra Beach, Rio de Janeiro in Brazil and has not put a foot wrong in this event, staying in the qualifying stream by placing first or second in the five heats he has contested to date. He was impressive again today, winning the opening heat of the day over Peruvians Gabriel Villaran and Javier Swayne to reach the last four of the qualifiers and now having two attempts at reaching the grand final.

In his next heat Stocker again comes up against Villaran, who he defeated today, Brazilian Flavio 'Teco' Padaratz (Brazil) and Sean Holmes (South Africa), who finished first and second in the other semi-final, with the top two from that encounter on Friday advancing directly into Sunday's prestigious men's open final.

In the double elimination format used at the biennial WSG, the pair placing third and fourth in the qualifiers final, who will have lost for the first time in the event, get another chance against the top two from the recharge stream, with the first and second place finishers from that heat joining the two already in the grand final.

Round seven of the men's recharge stream resulted in Mark Richardson (Aus) and Hira Teriinatoofa (Tahiti) eliminating a game Mark Bannister (Aus), the 2002 runner-up, whose gallant attempt to reach the grand final from the first round of recharge came to an end due to a broken surfboard halfway through the heat. The second heat was won South Africa's Frankie Oberholzer, who along with David Reardon-Smith (Aus) ended the hopes of Loic Erran (France).

The inconsistent nature of the surf was highlighted in the third round of women's qualifiers where yesterday's hero, Jessi Miley-Dyer (Aus), who recorded a perfect 10 point ride and the highest heat total of the event, was today relegated to the repechage rounds when she placed third behind world #7 Sofia Mulanovich (Peru) and experienced campaigner Emmanuelle Joly (France).

Andrea Lopes (Brazil) and Natasha Rodriguez (Venezuela) advanced from the first heat of the round with Tasha Mentasti (SAfr) and Marie Pierre Abgraal (France) dropping to the repechage rounds, while Laura Pecoraro (Argentina) and Sheridan Shields (Aus) advanced from heat three, with Adelina Taylor (Spain) and Sacha Moller (SAfr) having to take the long path through the repechage rounds.

In the third round of longboard repechage Josh Constable (Aus) and Pan American champion Steve Newton (USA) kept their hopes alive by eliminating Rogelio Ramos while Francisco Posadas from the host nation had the beach crowd in raptures by winning the second heat from Daniel Gil (Argentina) with Lee Ryan (UK) sidelined.

The bodyboarders tried their skills in the long left breaking point at Play de la FAE for the first time today when all the action was staged in front of the main podium. The wave produces an exceptionally long ride with mixed flat and hollow sections that tested the repertoire of the riders.

Cedric Dufaure (France) was in sync with waves, scoring over 16 points from a possible 20 in both his heats and reaching the fifth round of repechage, as did Darren Halse (SAfr), Yeray Martinez (Spain) and Arnaldo Gonzalez (Ven) while Emiliano Tabare, the 2002 runner-up and first ever ISA medal winner for Argentina was eliminated.

The women's bodyboard repechage rounds saw Claire McGowan (UK), Yolanda Blanc (Mexico), Yuka Nishimura (Japan) and Moerava Anderson (Tah) advance through two heats with the likes of Inge Pieters (SAfr) and Mihi Wells (NZ) eliminated.

Australia maintained a firm grip at the top of the provisional team standings after five days of competition despite losing their first team member today with defending ISA champions South Africa in a fairly comfortable second place having had two men and their women's bodyboarder eliminated. Brazil has overtaken Peru for third place as they lost three men and one women surfer while the Peruvians have two men and both men's bodyboarders out.

The leaders are followed by France in fifth place and then come Spain, Venezuela, Tahiti, Costa Rica and Ecuador with the host nation in a close four-way tussle for the final place in the top 10 with the UK, New Zealand and Argentina.

Friday's program of events starts with the longboard qualifiers semi-finals, then the third repechage round of women's surfing and the longboard qualifiers final. The women's surfing qualifier semis, repechage round four and qualifier final are next up followed by qualifier semis for man and women's bodyboard, a round of men's repechage and then the qualifier finals for both men and women bodyboarding.

The day ends with the qualifier final and the repechage semis in the crucial men's surfing division where the four man contingent in each team means that the eventual men's world champ contributes a substantial 4 000 points to his team's accumulated total.

NB Further releases and images from the 2004 ISA WSG are available on www.surfersvillage.com or www.surfingaustralia.com or www.fesurf.org

Life's a Beach Communications
Email: lifesabeach@mweb.co.za

MEDIA RELEASE
Friday March 26, 2004
ISA World Surfing Games 2004

Holmes and Padaratz into grand final at World Surfing Games

Sean Holmes from South Africa and Brazilian Flavio 'Teco' Padaratz qualified for Sunday's grand final in the premier men's open surfing division of the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games in Salinas, Ecuador, when they finished first and second respectively in the qualifying stream final today.

In surf that became increasingly inconsistent as the tide rolled in, the final four undefeated surfers paddled each other around the point and into the next bay in order to gain the advantage of having the inside position on the few overhead waves. After five minutes of no rides Holmes moved into the mid-break and stroked into a head-high wave that he carved up with vertical bottom turns, crisp bounces off the lip and tight arced cutbacks to earn a solid 8.0 points to applause from the crowded beach.

Padaratz answered back with a similar wave that he took apart in his own style and the scene was set as those two went head to head while Sasha Stocker (Aus) and Gabriel Villaran (Peru) stayed out at the back, each catching one big wave with the Peruvian scoring over nine points for a radical series of manoeuvres that put him within four points of second place and a berth in the grand final.

With less than minute to go and Holmes in the lead, Padaratz showed all his professional experience when he tactically kept Villaran off the first wave of a solid set and then manoeuvred the Peruvian too deep inside for the second wave, which the Peruvian caught but only received half a point for when he could not get around the first section.

Villaran and Stocker, who only rode one wave in the 20 minutes, now drop into the repechage stream where they have a second chance to reach the grand final when they take on the top two from the repechage round 9 heat which features Javier Swayne (Peru) and Mark Richardson (Aus) who eliminated David Reardon-Smith (Aus) in the first repechage semi.

The second repechage semi produced inspired surfing from Hira Teriinatoofa (Tah) and Frankie Oberholzer (SAfr) who put an end to the challenge of Felix Dixon (New Zealand). The Tahitian successfully completed a huge aerial on one of his rides and was rewarded with 9.17 points out of a possible 10 while Oberholzer's busy style and 'go for broke' manoeuvres paid off with a couple of eight point scores.

The qualifiers stream finals in the other four disciplines were also decided today with South African team captain Jason Ribbink and Antoine Delpero (France) reaching Sunday's grand final in the longboard event and defending two-time event champion Marcelo Freitas (Brz) and Patrick Laux (Tah) dropping into the repechage stream for the first time.

World #7 Sofia Mulanovich (Peru) moved straight into the women's surfing grand final with a comfortable victory over a determined Sheridan Shields (Aus) leaving an unlucky Andrea Lopes (Brz) just short despite several high class rides and Emmanuelle Joly trailing in fourth place.

The women's repechage semis saw Anali Gomez (Peru), Julia Christian (USA), event record point scorer Jessi Miley-Dyer (Aus) and Tasha Mentasti (SAfr) reach the last four of that stream and still in with chance of reaching the grand final if they can get through two more heats.

In the men's bodyboarding Alvaro Padron (Spain) and defending event champ Nicolas Capdeville (Fra) guaranteed themselves a podium finish on Sunday by finishing one-two in the qualifiers final while Andrew Lester (Aus) and Vaughn Harris (SAfr) live to fight again in the repechage final early on Sunday morning.

Defending champion Neymara Carvalho (Brz) reached the women's bodyboarding grand final for the second successive year along with Kira Llewellyn (Aus) as they relegated 2002 runner-up Heloise Bourroux (France) and Marina Taylor (Spain) to a battle against the top two from the repechage last four for a shot at the title.

Australia tightened its grip at the top of the provisional team standings despite losing Mark Richardson in the prestige men's surfing division, bringing their total casualties to only two. Second placed South Africa also have two men out and also lost their women's bodyboarder and then today Sacha Moller in the women's surfing.

Brazil and fourth placed Peru lost nobody today and are within 200 points of each other while fifth placed France is almost 4 000 points further back, fighting off the challenges of Tahiti and Venezuela, with Spain a little further off the pace in eighth.

Costa Rica with everyone now eliminated, Argentina, who still have title chances in the women's surfing and longboarding, the UK with their women's bodyboarder and host nation Ecuador who still have their longboarder in contention, are locked in a battle for the last two spots in the top 10.

Saturday's action comprises recharge rounds in all five individual disciplines until only two remain to contest the recharge finals against today's two losers from the qualifier finals on Sunday morning. The two one hour semi-finals in the ISA Trophee tag team event will be staged over the low tide, starting at 1pm, with the seeding pitting South Africa against France, Spain and the host nation while Australia take on Brazil, ISA Trophee champions New Zealand and Tahiti.

The top two teams in each semi will meet in the final on Sunday.

NB Further releases and images from the 2004 ISA WSG are available on www.surfersvillage.com or www.surfingaustralia.com or www.fesurf.org

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MEDIA RELEASE
Saturday March 27, 2004
ISA World Surfing Games 2004

Australia tightens grip on World Surfing Games team trophy

Australia tightened its grip on the ISA World Surfing Games team trophy on the penultimate day of the 20th edition of the event being staged in Salinas, Ecuador, and will go into the final day with all but two of their 10 person squad still in contention for the five individual titles and the ISA Cup tag team event.

After Kira Llewellyn, Andrew Lester and Sheridan Shields yesterday qualified for the grand finals of the women and men's bodyboard events and women's surfing, and Sasha Stocker for the recharge final for men's surfing, the record holding six time winners of the team event added four more team members to tomorrow's final recharge heats in men and women's surfing, longboarding and men's bodyboarding.

And they then went on to clinch a berth in the ISA Trophee final when they defeated Brazil by the narrowest of margins in their semi-final to grab second place behind defending champions New Zealand.

Yesterday's nearest challengers and defending team champions South Africa were overtaken by Brazil when they suffered the disappointment of having all three of their contenders to join Sean Holmes and Jason Ribbink in Sunday's final day's action eliminated at their final hurdle today.

Despite having both their men's bodyboarders eliminated, Brazil still have four contenders for the titles with Teco Padaratz and defending champ Neymara Carvalho already in the men's surfing and women's bodyboarding respectively while defending champ Marcelo Freitas in the longboard and Andrea Lopes in the women's surfing are into the recharge finals of their disciplines.

Peru, with Sofia Mulanovich in the women's surfing grand final and Gabriel Villaran in the men's surfing final recharge, are still in fourth place, 700 points behind South Africa and 1500 ahead of fifth placed France, who have four in contention in men and women's bodyboarding, women's surfing and longboarding.

Tahiti are 900 points further back followed by Spain, Venezuela and Costa Rica, with the UK in 10th spot and hosts Ecuador in a creditable 11th place in the first time they contested the event with a full team.

In a rising swell that provided occasional two metre waves, the battle to qualify for the final day produced tight tactical contests and some outstanding surfing.

The round five longboard repechage heat resulted in Josh Constable (Aus) and Pan American champ Steve Newton (USA) advancing at the expense of Francisco Posadas (Ecuador) and Daniel Gil (Argentina) to join Marcelo Freitas (Brz) and Patrick Laux (Tahiti) in Sunday's final repechage, with the top two there advancing to the grand final against Jason Ribbink and Antoine Delpero (France)

Round five of the women's bodyboard repechage saw Yolanda Blanco (Mexico) and Claire McGowan (UK) advance to a Sunday match up with Marina Taylor (Spain) and Heloise Bourroux (France) by defeating Moerava Anderson (Tah) and Yuka Nishimura (Japan). Neymara Carvalho (Brz) and Kira Llewellyn (Aus) are waiting in the grand final for the top two from the repechage final.

Beau Day (Aus) and Yeray Martinez (Spain) advanced to the men's bodyboard repechage final by relegating Arnaldo Gonzalez (Venezuela) and Darren Halse (SAfr). They will have to overcome Andrew Lester (Aus) and Vaughn Harris (SAfr) in order to reach the grand final and the chance to challenge Alvaro Padron (Spain) and defending champion Nicolas Capdeville (France) for the title.

The women's surfing repechage round 7 heat was won by event high point scorer Jessi Miley Dyer (Aus) who advanced with Julia Christian (USA) to meet Andrea Lopes (Brz) and Emmanuelle Joly (Fra) for a place in the grand final against Sofia Mulanovich (Peru) and Sheridan Shields (Aus).

The premier men's surfing discipline where the winner contributes 4 000 points to the team tally, saw fierce struggles that left Frankie Oberholzer (SAfr) and Javier Swayne on the sideline while Mark Richardson (Aus) and Hira Teriinatoofa (Tah) advanced to an encounter with Gabriel Villaran (Peru) and Sasha Stocker (Aus) with the top three taking on Sean Holmes (SAfr) and Teco Padaratz (Brz) for the honour of being the ISA world surfing champion for the next two years.

The ISA Trophee final will feature South Africa and Spain, who defeated France and hosts Ecuador in the first semi today, and defending champions New Zealand along with Australia, who relegated Brazil and Tahiti in the second semi.

The 2004 ISA World Surfing Games draws to a close tomorrow (Sunday) with the final day program starting at 8am with the repechage finals in the five individual disciplines followed by the ISA Trophee at approximately 9.45am and then the grand finals of bodyboard women, bodyboard men, longboard, women's surfing and men's surfing.

The awards ceremony will be staged on the podium at Playa de la FAE at approximately 1 pm.

/ends

NB Further releases and images from the 2004 ISA WSG are available on www.surfersvillage.com or www.survingaustralia.com or www.fesurf.org
/ends

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MEDIA RELEASE
Sunday March 28, 2004
ISA World Surfing Games 2004

Australia triumphant at ISA World Surfing Games

Australia emerged triumphant at the 2004 ISA World Surfing Games in Salinas, Ecuador, today when the clinched the prestigious IOC President's Trophy and the ISA World Champion Nation title for a record seventh time overall and for the first time since 1998 in Portugal.

The Aussie team also claimed ISA Cup tag team event and two of the five individual discipline titles when Kira Llewellyn and Andrew Lester won the women and men's bodyboard crowns respectively.

The other three titles were shared between Tahiti, whose Hira Teriinatoofa earned the premier men's surfing gold with an exciting blend of high risk manoeuvring, Peru, whose Sofia Mulanovich went through the event unbeaten, and Brazil whose Marcelo Freitas wrapped up a third successive longboard title.

The Australian team, which had representatives in all six finals staged today, accumulated 16 554 points from their 10 person squad, 2 272 points ahead of second placed Brazil, with defending champions South Africa another 1025 points back in third position and only 97 points ahead of fourth placed Peru whose result was their best ever.

The crowds that flocked to Playa de le FAE, in an Ecuadorian air force base, for the final day of the nine day 'Olympics' of surfing were treated to world class performances in the excellent if sometimes inconsistent overhead waves that poured through all day. Highlights included the high scoring men's bodyboard final where three of the top four all notched up more than 17 out of a possible 20, and the tension filled ending to the men's surfing final.

The men's final started slowly with only Mark Richardson (Aus) securing a counting ride in the first eight minutes, but came alive midway through when Teriinatoofa caught an overhead wave outside the point and created an outstanding ride that used his entire repertoire of radical manoeuvres to earn 9.33 points from a possible 10, leaving just 2.70 points off Richardson's lead.

A great exchange of rides with six minutes to go had Teco Padaratz (Brazil) and Richardson both awarded 7.83 for long rides while Sean Holmes (South Africa) received his best score of 6.27 and the Tahitian only 1.33 and now 5.83 off Richardson's lead.

All except Richardson caught rides in the final minute with Holmes' 5.10 leaving him in fourth place, while Padaratz completed an exceptional combination of manoeuvres to receive 9.43 and the lead, with just Teriinatoofa's score to come. After deliberating for some time the judges awarded his last ride 8.0 points, giving the title to the ecstatic Tahitian.

By comparison the women's surfing final was more clear cut as Mulanovich, the world #7, earned the highest score of the final on her first ride and her lead was never seriously threatened after she received 7.33 for her third ride. The only drama came in the last exchange that ended after the siren had sounded when Julia Christian's (USA) last ride of 5.60 secured her the silver medal ahead of Andrea Lopez (Brazil) with Sheridan Shields (Aus) not finding any waves offering scoring potential to place fourth.

The longboarding also produced drama in the closing minutes when Jason Ribbink (SAfr), with the single highest scoring ride of the final, snapped his leash attempting a re-entry on an overhead wave and had to swim to the beach to pick up a replacement. This lost him valuable time and with just one minute remaining and needing just 6.16 points, he had only reached the mid break where he turned around and caught his final ride.

Despite completing a number of radical backhand manoeuvres and a long nose ride and ending with a jubilant raising of his arms to roars from the crowd, the judges stuck to their criteria of only rewarding rides from the outside with big scores and scored him 5.57. This left him second to Brazil's Marcelo Freitas whose two early rides had netted 7.83 and 6.50 and an incredible third successive title.. Josh Constable from Australia clinched the bronze while Antoine Delpero (France) took the copper medal.

The men's bodyboard final started with a flurry of rides that scored between 6.83 and 8.33 points and set the pattern for the 25-minute heat. Alvaro Padron, fellow Spaniard Yeray Martinez and Andrew Lester (Aus) all led at one stage or another after recording nine plus point rides.

Only defending champion Nicolas Capdeville (France) seemed unable to connect with the long running outside waves and it was eventually Lester's last ride of 8.83 points that secured him the gold medal, with Martinez taking home the silver and Padron the bronze.

Kira Llewellyn from Australia clinched the gold medal in the women's bodyboard with a great opening ride that netted her 8.66 points, the highest score of the final, and a 7.33 at the end of the heat. Defending champ Neymara Carvalho took second with two good rides while Marina Taylor Spain placed third ahead of Claire McGowan (UK) who incurred a paddling interference that halved the score of her second ride.

The ISA Trophee tag team event was dominated from the outset by Australia with David Reardon-Smith, their power surfer, entering the water first and racking up three excellent scores. Sasha Stocker followed that up with a 9.17 and the writing was on the wall for the other teams.

South Africa held second place until successive two point rides saw them slip behind Spain, who held on to the silver medal with a strong showing from their women's surfer. Defending champions New Zealand trailed in fourth needing a combination of waves totalling 11.34 points to win.

The team positions were event high best results for Tahiti in fifth place and Spain who overtook France for sixth place thanks to the results from their men's bodyboarders. Venezuela went from 12th in 2002 to 8th this year and Costa Rica from 30th and last two years ago to 9th, just 18 points behind the South Americans.

Ecuador, the host nation, finished a creditable 11th out of the 26 attending nations, just behind the UK, and can be justifiably proud of organising one of the best World Surfing Games to date despite being one of the youngest of the International Surfing Association's (ISA) member nations.

The 20th gathering of surfing nations enjoyed consistent surf, at times reaching three metres, and received massive support from both public and private institutions in the country, including the influential head of the national Olympic committee, as well as huge media coverage for the sport nationally.

The next event on the ISA schedule is the World Kneeboard Championships in Tahiti in July followed by the second World Junior Surfing Championships, also in Tahiti, in December. The 2005 Junior event is scheduled for the USA with the same country hosting the 2006 WSG.

2004 ISA World Surfing Games

Salinas, Ecuador

Results

Men's Surfing

1. Hira Teriinatoofa (Tahiti)
2. Flavio 'Teco' Padaratz (Brazil)
3. Mark Richardson (Australia)
3. Sean Holmes (South Africa)

Women's Surfing

1. Sofia Mulanovich (Peru)
2. Julia Christian (USA)
3. Andrea Lopes (Brazil)
4. Sheridan Shields (Australia)

Longboard Surfing

1. Marcelo Freitas (Brazil)
2. Jason Ribbink (South Africa)
3. Joshua Constable (Australia)
4. Antoine Delpero (France)

Men's Bodyboarding

1. Andrew Lester (Australia)
2. Yeray Martinez (Spain)
3. Alvaro Padron (Spain)
4. Nicolas Capdeville (France)

Women's Bodyboarding

1. Kira Llewellyn (Australia)
2. Neymara Carvalho (Brazil)
3. Marina Taylor (Spain)
4. Claire McGowan (UK)

ISA Trophee

1. Australia

2. Spain
3. South Africa
4. New Zealand

ISA World Champion Nation

1. Australia	16 554
2. Brazil	14 282
3. South Africa	13 257
4. Peru	13 160
5. Tahiti	11 931
6. Spain	11 080
7. France	11 060
8. Venezuela	9 760
9. Costa Rica	9 742
10. United Kingdom	9 215
11. Ecuador	9 013
12. Argentina	8 695
13. New Zealand	8 433
14. Mexico	7 748
15. Barbados	6 840
16. Japan	6 630
17. Switzerland	6 185
18. Ireland	5 819
19. USA	5 345
20. Italy	5 066
21. Jamaica	3 840
22. Panama	2 843
23. Sweden	2 598
24. Guatemala	2 256
25. Chile	1 560
26. Canada	855

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For further information:

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Podium 1											
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Total	
Total Waves	376	348	457	293	324	357	288	587	187	3,217	
Waves Computed	192	192	188	186	168	168	142	327	122	1,685	
Excellents Waves Scores	6	11	7	17	17	22	29	48	28	185	
Goods Waves Scores	36	60	61	63	61	60	81	167	59	648	
Mediuns Waves Scores	117	130	176	109	91	118	99	201	48	1,089	
Weeks Waves Scores	217	147	213	104	155	157	79	171	52	1,295	
Interferences	1	1					2	2	1	7	
Decisions on same aggregated scores			1	2	1	1		3		8	
Bests waves scores											
Jessica M-Dyer (AUS)										10.00	
Andrew Lester (AUS)										10.00	
Sofia Mulanovich (PER)										9.83	
Yeray Martinez (SPA)										9.83	
Jason Ribbink (SAF)										9.66	
Roberto Bruno (BRA)										9.60	
Cesar Bauer										9.50	
Arnaldo Gonzalez										9.50	
Bests aggregates scores											
Jessica M-Dyer (AUS)										19.33	
Andrew Lester										18.83	
Jason Ribbink (SAF)										18.49	
Sofia Mulanovich (PER)										18.33	
Andrew Lester (AUS)										18.03	
Yeray Martinez (SPA)										17.83	
Roberto Bruno (BRA)										17.76	
Joshua Constable										17.50	
Alvaro Padron (SPA)										17.43	
TAG TEAM (110 points be possibles by heat: 4 competitors x 2 waves + 1 power surfer x 3 waves)											
Australia								45.86	57.06		
Spain								50.82	50.18		
South Africa								51.51	49.20		
New Zealand								46.11	46.72		
Brasil								42.67			
France								40.20			
Tahiti								38.83			
Ecuador								36.55			

INTERNATIONAL SURFING ASSOCIATION

WSG 2004 - SALINAS - ECUADOR

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

OPEN DIVISION				OPEN DIVISION			
Place	Name	NGB	Points	Place	Name	NGB	Points
1	Hira Terinatoofa	TAH	1000	49	Steven Pierson	TAH	240
2	Teco Padaratz	BRA	860	49	Jean Shaffer	VEN	240
3	Mark Richardson	AUS	730	49	Michel Velasco	SPA	240
4	Sean Holmes	SAF	670	49	Heriberto Ramirez	MEX	240
5	Gabriel Villaran	PER	610	49	Ahmed Perez	VEN	240
6	Sasha Stocker	AUS	583	49	Johnny Fryer	UK	240
7	Javier Swayne	PER	555	49	Romain Laulhe	FRA	240
8	Frank Oberholtzer	SAF	528	49	Ikah Wilmot	JAM	240
9	Felix Dixon	NZL	500	49	Jun Shiba	JPN	240
9	David Reardon Smith	AUS	500	49	Kalle Carranza	MEX	240
11	Loic Erran	FRA	475	49	Hugo Savalli	FRA	240
11	Mark Bannister	AUS	475	49	Mark Walther	SWI	240
13	Gabriel Aramburu	PER	450	61	Brandom Ragenovich	USA	180
13	Martins Bernardo	BRA	450	61	Giovanni Perini	ITA	180
13	Spencer Hargreaves	UK	450	61	Shouta Nakamura	JPN	180
16	Justin Sanders	SAF	413	61	Sam Taylor	BAR	180
16	Daniel Scott	NZL	413	61	Inilek Wilmot	JAM	180
16	Marcelo Coutinho	BRA	413	61	Justin Rogge	USA	180
19	Heifara Tahutini	TAH	390	61	Federico Pilurzo	ITA	180
19	Leon Santorik	NZL	390	61	Mark Vaughan	UK	180
19	Pedro Rangel	VEN	390	61	Guillermo Cadenas	MEX	180
22	Ugo Benghozi	FRA	375	61	Adrian Small	BAR	180
22	Diego Naranjo	CRI	375	61	Andrea Orrico	ITA	180
22	Sam Lamiroy	UK	375	61	Luke Williams	JAM	180
25	Michel Bourrez	TAH	360	73	Stephen Conwell	IRE	144
25	Lucas Garcia	SPA	360	73	Christian Guzman	GUA	144
25	Roberto Diaz	VEN	360	73	Stafan Bjorlin	SWE	144
25	Felipe Rodriguez	ECU	360	73	Masami Sakai	JPN	144
25	Gilbert Brown	CRI	360	73	Christian Bulling	SWI	144
25	Luiz Vindas	CRI	360	73	Paolo Perucci	ITA	144
31	Andres di Marco	ARG	330	73	Casey Cruciano	USA	144
31	Zennor Wernham	NZL	330	73	Daniel Paez	SWI	144
31	Jussemir Junior	BRA	330	73	Freddie Meadows	SWE	144
31	Martin Passeri	ARG	330	73	Yuichi Numata	JPN	144
31	Luiz Rodriguez	SPA	330	73	Anders Ingelsten	SWE	144
31	Shane Thorne	SAF	330	73	Jeff Creggo	USA	144
37	Alvaro Solano	CRI	300	85	Ishak Wilmot	JAM	120
37	David Exague	SPA	300	85	Roland Hauser	SWI	120
37	Maxi Siri	ARG	300	85	Chris Wagner	CAN	120
37	Marco Goncalves	ECU	300	85	Henio Skaldin	SWE	120
37	Alejo Martinez	ARG	300	85	Rody Alvarez	CHI	120
37	Raul Medina	MEX	300	85	Vince Rellis	IRE	120
43	Sebastian Alarcon	PER	270	85	Steve Burns	IRE	120
43	Anderson Myers	BAR	270	85	Pedro Vergara	GUA	120
43	Carlos Goncalves	ECU	270	85	Mike Morgan	IRE	120
43	Andres Fernandez	ECU	270				
43	Brian Gooding	BAR	270				

INTERNATIONAL SURFING ASSOCIATION

WSG 2004 - SALINAS - ECUADOR

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

BODY BOARD MEN DIVISION				WOMEN SURF DIVISION			
Place	Name	NGB	Points	Place	Name	NGB	Points
1	Andrew Lester	AUS	1000	1	Sofia Mulanovich	PER	1000
2	Yeray Martinez	SPA	860	2	Julia Christian	USA	860
3	Alvaro Padron	SPA	730	3	Andrea Lopes	BRA	730
4	Nicolas Capdeville	FRA	670	4	Sheridan Shields	AUS	670
5	Vaughan Harris	SAF	610	5	Emmanuelle Jolly	FRA	610
6	Beau Day	AUS	583	6	Jessica M.Dyer	AUS	583
7	Arnaldo Gonzalez	VEN	555	7	Anali Gomez	PER	555
8	Darren Halsen	SAF	528	8	Tasha Mentasti	SAF	528
9	Bruno Invik	BRA	500	9	Natasha Rodriguez	VEN	500
9	Roberto Bruno	BRA	500	9	Laura Pecoraro	ARG	500
11	Pedro Rosario	VEN	475	11	Marie Pierre-Abgraal	FRA	475
11	Cedric Dufaure	FRA	475	11	Lisbeth Vindas	CRI	475
13	Emiliano Tabare	ARG	450	13	Estitxu Estremo	SPA	450
13	Walter Gatgens	CRI	450	13	Adelina Taylor	SPA	450
13	Jorge Maldonado	ECU	450	13	Robin Davies	UK	450
16	Oswald Hare	TAH	413	16	Sacha Moller	SAF	413
16	Darwin Montesdeoca	ECU	413	16	Brooks Wilson	CRI	413
16	Aidan Dixon	NZL	413	16	Andrea Vinueza	ECU	413
19	Cesar Bauer	PER	390	19	Rosaura Alvarez	VEN	390
19	Norio Aihara	JPN	390	19	Shauna Ward	IRE	390
19	Gabriel Galdos	PER	390	19	Sofia Melgosa	MEX	390
22	Jose Rutheford	MEX	375	22	Marina Werneck	BRA	375
22	Danny Hall	UK	375	22	Anja Hurlimann	SWI	375
22	Damian Astorga	ARG	375	22	Allisson Arvizu	USA	375
25	Koukichi Shimada	JPN	360	25	Lisette Prado	ECU	360
25	Martin Kelly	IRE	360	25	Easkey Britton	IRE	360
25	Nicholas Richard	TAH	360	25	Anne Laure Comme	TAH	360
25	Dorian Staheli	SWI	360	25	Enilda Alonso	PAN	360
25	Mark Griffith	UK	360	25	Maria Laura Temporini	ITA	360
25	Seamus McGordrick	JAM	360	25	Sarah Bentley	UK	360
31	Gianfranco D'Angelo	ITA	330	31	Celine Gehret	SWI	330
31	Juan Montiel	CRI	330	31	Mikio Kaike	JPN	330
31	Brett Short	BAR	330	31	Nicole Perez	PAN	330
31	Fernando Cadena	MEX	330	31	Ana Isabel Sacles	MEX	330
31	Tino Staheli	SWI	330	31	Rie Matsuo	JPN	330
31	Jose Suarez	PAN	330	31	Elim Beckford	JAM	330
37	Aaron Kirton	BAR	300	37	Andrea Aldana	GUA	300
37	Eddie Kuan	GUA	300	37	Mallory Peterkin	BAR	300
				37	Cherienne Layson	BAR	300
				37	Kelly Clarkson	NZL	300
				43	Moerava Anderson	TAH	270
				43	Imani Wilmot	JAM	270

INTERNATIONAL SURFING ASSOCIATION**WSG 2004 - SALINAS - ECUADOR****INDIVIDUAL RESULTS****LONG BOARD DIVISION****BODY BOARD WOMEN DIVISION**

Place	Name	NGB	Points	Place	Name	NGB	Points
1	Marcelo Freitas	BRA	1000	1	Kira Llewelin	AUS	1000
2	Jason Ribbink	SAF	860	2	Neymara Carvalho	BRA	860
3	Joshua Constable	AUS	730	3	Marina Taylor	SPA	730
4	Antoine Delpero	FRA	670	4	Claire McGowan	UK	670
5	Patrick Laux	TAH	610	5	Heloise Bouroux	FRA	610
6	Steve Newton	USA	583	6	Yolanda Blanco	MEX	583
7	Daniel Gil	ARG	555	7	Moerava Anderson	TAH	555
8	Francisco Posadas	ECU	528	8	Yuka Nishimura	JPN	528
9	Felipe Becerra	PER	500	9	Luna Montigo	ITA	500
9	Gerhard Wilhelm	VEN	500	9	Megwin Saunders	VEN	500
11	Lee Ryan	UK	475	11	Mihi Wells	NZL	475
11	Rogelio Ramos	MEX	475	11	Inge Pieters	SAF	475
13	Leo Ranzoni	ITA	450	13	Laura Pecoraro	ARG	450
13	Hironori Azumi	JPN	450	13	Olenka Castro	PER	450
13	Roberto Lorenzo	SPA	450	13	Hillary Clarke	IRE	450
16	Carlos Arias	CRI	413	16	Jennifer Torres	CRI	413
16	John Mc Cury	IRE	413	16	Iliana Crow	ECU	413
16	Sven Grossenbach	SWI	413	16	Carmen Rios	PAN	413
19	John Mike Peterkin	BAR	390	19	Mallory Peterkin	BAR	390
19	Alberto Conte	PAN	390	19	Anja Hurlimann	SWI	390
19	Binge Eliasson	SWE	390				
22	Yassine Ouhilalal	CAN	375				

INTERNATIONAL SURFING ASSOCIATION - WSG 2004 - SALINAS

SEEDS

OPEN DIVISION			OPEN DIVISION			WOMEN DIVISION		
Name	NGB	Seed	Name	NGB	Seed	Name	NGB	Seed
JUSTIN SANDERS	SAF	1	MAXI SIRI	ARG	49	SACHA MOLLER	SAF	1
FRANKIE OBERHOLTZER	SAF	2	MARTIN PASSERI	ARG	50	TASHA MENTASTI	SAF	2
SHANE THORN	SAF	3	ALEJO MARTINEZ	ARG	51	JESSICA M-DYER	AUS	3
SEAN HOLMES	SAF	4	ANDRES DI MARCO	ARG	52	SHERIDAN SHIELDS	AUS	4
MARK RICHARDSON	AUS	5	KALLE CARRANZA	MEX	53	ANDREA LOPES	BRA	5
MARK BANNISTER	AUS	6	RAUL MEDINA	MEX	54	MARINA WERNECK	BRA	6
DAVID R-SMITH	AUS	7	HERIBERTO RAMIREZ	MEX	55	MARIE P.ABGRAAL	FRA	7
SASHA STOCKER	AUS	8	GUILLERMO CADENA	MEX	56	EMANUELLE JOLY	FRA	8
TECO PADARATZ	BRA	9	MIKE MORGAN	IRE	57	ESTITXU EXTREMO	SPA	9
MARCELO COUTINHO	BRA	10	STEPHEN CONWELL	IRE	58	ADELINA TAYLOR	SPA	10
MARTINS BERNARDO	BRA	11	VINCE RELLIS	IRE	59	KELLY CLARKSON	NZL	11
JUSSEMIR JUNIOR	BRA	12	STEVE BURNS	IRE	60	ANNE LA URE COME	TAH	12
ROMAIN LAULHE	FRA	13	FEDERICO PILURZO	ITA	61	MOEKANA ANDERSON	TAH	13
LOIC ERRAN	FRA	14	PAOLO PERUCCI	ITA	62	RIE MATSUO	JPN	14
UGO BENGHOSI	FRA	15	GIOVANNI PERINI	ITA	63	MIKIO KAIKE	JPN	15
HUGO SAVALLI	FRA	16	ANDREA ORRICO	ITA	64	JULIA CHRISTIAN	USA	16
DAVID EXAGUE	SPA	17	ADRIAN SMALL	BAR	65	ALLISSON ARVISU	USA	17
MICHEL VELASCO	SPA	18	BRIAN GOODING	BAR	66	MARISA RODRIGUEZ	VEN	18
LUIS RODRIGUEZ	SPA	19	SAM TAYLOR	BAR	67	ROSAURA ALVAREZ	VEN	19
LUCAS GARCIA	SPA	20	ANDERSON MYERS	BAR	68	SOFIA MULANOVICH	PER	20
ZENNOR WERNHAM	NZL	21	MARK WALTHER	SWI	69	ANALI GOMEZ	PER	21
LEON SANTORIK	NZL	22	ROLAND HAUSER	SWI	70	ROBIN DAVIES	UK	22
DANIEL SCOTT	NZL	23	CHRISTIAN BULLING	SWI	71	SARAH BENTLEY	UK	23
FELIX DIXON	NZL	24	DANIEL PAEZ	SWI	72	LAURA PECORARO	ARG	24
HIRA TERINATO OFA	TAH	25	ICAH WILMOT	JAM	73	ANA ISABEL SACLÉS	MEX	25
HEIFARA TAHUTINI	TAH	26	INILEK WILMOT	JAM	74	SOFIA MELGOSA	MEX	26
STEVEN PIERSON	TAH	27	ISHAK WILMOT	JAM	75	SHAUNA WARD	IRE	27
MICHEL BOUREZ	TAH	28	LUKE WILLIAMS	JAM	76	EASKEY BRITTON	IRE	28
JUN SHIBA	JPN	29	NICO MANOS	CAN	77	M.LAURA TEMPRINI	ITA	29
MASAMI SAKAI	JPN	30	CHRIS WAGNER	CAN	78	MALLORY PETERKIN	BAR	30
SHOUTA NAKAMURA	JPN	31	GILBERT BROWN	CRI	79	CHERIANNE LAYSON	BAR	31
YUICHI NUMATA	JPN	32	DIEGO NARANJO	CRI	80	ANJA HURLIMANN	SWI	32
JEFF CREGO	USA	33	ALVARO SOLANO	CRI	81	CELINE GERHET	SWI	33
BARNDON KAGENOYCH	USA	34	LUIZ VINDAS	CRI	82	MENSALE F WILMOT	JAM	34
JUSTIN ROGGE	USA	35	MARCO GONCALVES	ECU	83	ELIM BECKFORD	JAM	35
CASEY CRUCIANO	USA	36	ANDRES FERNANDEZ	ECU	84	LISBETH VINDAS	CRI	36
ROBERT DIAZ	VEN	37	FELIPE RODRIGUEZ	ECU	85	BROOKS WILSON	CRI	37
AHMED PEREZ	VEN	38	GABRIEL GONCALVES	ECU	86	ANDREA VINUEZA	ECU	38
JEAN SHAFFER	VEN	39	CHRISTIAN GUZMAN	GUA	87	LISETTE PRADO	ECU	39
PEDRO RANGEL	VEN	40	PEDRO VERGARA	GUA	88	ANDREA ALDANA	GUA	40
SEBASTIAN ALARCON	PER	41	GARY SAAVEDRA	PAN	89	MARY PAZ	GUA	41
JAVIER SWAYNE	PER	42	HENIO SKALDIN	SWE	90	ENILDA ALONSO	PAN	42
GABRIEL ARAMBURU	PER	43	STAFFAN BJORLIN	SWE	91	NICOLE PEREZ	PAN	43
GABRIEL VILLARAN	PER	44	FREDDIE MEADOWS	SWE	92			
SAM LAMIROY	UK	45	ANDERS INGELSTEN	SWE	93			
SPENCER HARGREAVES	UK	46						
JOHNNY FRYER	UK	47						
MARK VAUGHAN	UK	48						

