

QBC Newsletter

July 2010

Yes, it was cold. We're not talking Bells cold, but for Queeny, it was cold.

Yes, it was straight. Not quite South Narrabeen, but straight all the same.

We decided to delay the start by a couple of hours to see if the swell would lift and the tide create some edges. What better way to utilise the time than to cook some fowl and swine and essentially use the BBQ as an outdoor heater.

The conness got underway at about 9:30 in less than average waves, but it seemed there was potential.

Conness 6 is just past the halfway mark, and there were some very interesting movements in each grade. Each winner is determined by his or her best 7 results out of 10 possible conness'ts. This means that some punters have to make a decision if they are going to go for their respective titles or not. Let's break it down by division.

U/14's

We sent out the U/14's first, because the waves were small, and it was too cold for anyone else to accept. Imagine knowing what you know now, and being in the U/14's. You ask for free stuff all day, and usually get it in the end. You surf for about 8 hours in a row. If you just help a little you usually get a \$50 voucher at Australian Surfer HQ. Then you get a lift home, watch a movie and sleep for ten. The other good thing about the 14's, is that just about any of them can win on the day. After doing the point score, this grade has more movement up and down than any other. Not only that, they have a real dig when it's big. Samson Coulter caught a wave in the June conness that put me to shame. I was doing nery plops before my heat, and this 11 year old caught a wave that looked like 15 foot Sunset. Anyway, they're all little frothers, and it's good to have them hanging around, as long as there not hanging around me.

Before the judges have had time to add their scores, the grommets are on the beach, in the judges tent, in their wetsuits, wetting everything, asking to see the sheets, long before I've had time to add up the scores.

Anyway, the unstoppable Jordan Tremlett has moved to poll position, ahead of Jack Hapeta, who has won the last 2 events. Jordan shouldn't rest on his laurels though, as Jack has 1 less conness in his portfolio. Samson Coulter is still well and truly in the hunt, and it was good to see both of the Haylesy's make the final, and the post match function.

Junior Chick's

Alyse has clear advantage in this category, as she seems more focused on surfing. Emily, Simone and Elanor seem to enjoy hanging down the beach all day, but don't prepare by watching the ocean, timing the sets, and looking where to paddle out. Ahhh, boys.

Ladies

Believe it or not Bronte, if you go in the remaining conness'ts, you can still win.

B-Grade

This hotbed of talent is like a snake pit. Very competitive. Just look into the eyes of Ryan Morris, Jake Somerville, or Tim Quinn, and you will see nothing but fire. Throw in the Currenesque Leon Spacknamara, the machine that is Slippery Alagich, the unbridled Mike Hindmarsh, and a B-grade heat can quickly resemble a New Years Eve party at the Comancharo's Regent's Park HQ.

Without leaders Tommy Mitch, on a photo shoot in Bali, and Maris Luidmanis, at a yoga retreat in Kiama, where you eat soup and are not allowed to talk for 3 days, the B-grade title was thrown open to the hungriest wolf. Ask yourself a simple question, who looks like the hungriest bloke in B-grade. Well, you can rule out Wave Rat, Timmy "out the banyan" Manion, BC Tattoo, GT, and one would have thought Meggsy. But not so, just because your weight fluctuates like the Zimbabwean Dollar doesn't mean you can't throw it up there and win the July conness, subsequently moving yourself into 2nd position with 3 64's as throwaways. Timmy leads, but one thinks Tommy Mitch and the Vo are still in prime position. You know what they say though, "life is like a B-Grade final, it's harder that it looks".

A-Grade

Well, the pretty boys of the club. iPads and product. Girls, money and all the trappings of a blessed surfing life. Nick Butler phoning in to register, Tappy checking the charts on his technology, Ryan directing proceedings without actually doing anything. It must be like living in the Eastern Suburbs. They do surf well though. I just think its poor form for the waves to actually get better when the A-Graders are out there. I swear the waves that they get are not there when I'm out there. Green Board wasn't there, and after winning the last 3, could have consolidated his position, but chose to go to Indonesia instead. As if you would. This left the gate open for Benny Ham to bolt, but after breaking 16 of Meggsy's tiles on Friday, and losing his entire wage for the month, the 3rd year apprentice was rattled, and came last in his heat. Danny missed his heat looking at his new iPad and playing Super Mario. Nick "the ballbag" Butler left it to the last minute to catch a left all the way to the beach and take out the conness. The smokey in the pack is Stuey "Magic" Blake, who has had a moment of clarity and realised that at 5'2" tall, he might be better off surfing than playing basketball. Stuey has moved into 3rd, but will be stalked by Alagich, who has not lost his competitive streak, and if he can win a title in 2011 or 2012, will have won A-Grade titles in the 80's, 90's, 00's, 10's.

O/45's

TM, Eymesy, TM, Eymesy. Who will show? Who will win. Eymesy as the polished seasoned campaigner? TM as the brash up and comer, throwing around new school moves and fin wafts. This is one not to be missed. It is so intense, that we are including an additional conness. Yes. Like Flomax, Lipitor and prostate examinations, we need the O/45's to make it through the night. Like the next series of The Bill, this is one not to be missed.

QBC Weekend Away

All the details are below, but now I need to know who is coming and who is not so I can organise food and beds. Please email me if you are coming, how you are getting there, if you are staying both Friday and Saturday night, and if you have any spare spots in your car.

Cheers,

Rat

QBC Weekend Away

When: Friday 16th July and Saturday 17th July

Where: **Sundowner Tiona**
The Lakesway, Pacific Palms
New South Wales Australia
ph: 02 65540291
e: tiona@sundownerholidays.com

<http://tiona.sundownerholidays.com/index.php/accommodation/11-group-accomodation/34-beach-house-surf-lodge>

http://tiona.sundownerholidays.com/Tiona_Site_Map.pdf

How: Please note this is not a contest weekend, just a chance to get away with the mob and get some waves. Try to tee up a lift with someone who has a licence preferably. Contact me on 0410 544 511 to help organise a lift.

What: It is the last weekend of school holidays, so leave early Friday morning, surf all day Friday, check in Friday afternoon, and head to The Pacific Palms Rec. Club to watch the footy and have a meal Friday night. There will be a BBQ on Saturday night, but other than that, it's up to you. Leave Sunday morning or arvo. There are waves straight out the front of where we are staying, so you don't need to drive, as well as excellent fishing and diving. It's close to schools, shops and transport.

Cost: Grubs \$5 per night. Over 18's \$10 per night. BBQ is free, and there might be a few free tins and softies.

You are not guaranteed a bed until you have fatted up your Johnny Cash, which you can do down the contest this weekend.

To Bring: Besides your socks and Reg Grundy's, I suggest a pillow and a sleeping bag/doona. It may be quite cold. A beanie for standing round the fire frogging dogs. Money for playing cards. If you don't eat cooked dead farm animal, and tofu is your go, then bring it yourself. The same goes for those kids that only eat honey sandwiches each meal. We will be eating all 4 major food groups including steak, sausages, bacon and chops (or probably hamburgers). More detail to come.

Rat