



PARA SURF SCOTLAND

2022 ISA WORLD PARA SURF COMPETITION PISMO BEACH, CALIFORNIA TEAM SUMMARY





PHOTO CREDITS: ISA JERSSON BARBOZA



The last 2022 calendar event for the [Scottish Surfing Federation](#) was a national first with Scotland's debut attendance at an international event for Para Surf - surfers with physical impairments.

On the 4th of December, Scotland's newly formed Para Surf Team made it to California to the 2022 Pismo Beach, the [International Surfing Association \(ISA\)](#) World Para Surf Championships, hosted by [Amp Surf](#).

The star of this story is 10 year old Jade Edward from Oldmeldrum, Aberdeenshire. Surfing for only a year with adaptive surf coaches at [SurfABLE Scotland](#), Jade displayed a real talent and competed for the very first time in the summer of 2022 at the English Adaptive Open. A great performance taking everyone by surprise secured her a space on the 2022 national team for the World Championships. With 1 of 2 surfers to qualify for Team Scotland, Jade stepped up her practice and training with an added focus to her surfing.

The English Open gave Jade an introduction to competitive surfing where she received the most amazing welcome into the para surf community. This gave jade a very special opportunity and even at this very early stage, there was a quality to Jade both in and out the water.

Unfortunately on the run up to the Worlds our second qualifying surfer, Paralympic Champion Karen Darke MBE, had to pull out due to a clash of dates with an Antarctic expedition 'The Pole of Possibility', although 2023 is high on the list for Karen and para surfing success.

The 3rd of December came around quick and the team leaving for California. Of course, California didn't let us down on the day dream. Pismo Beach is a postcard. A long beach break working best with a bit of tide in the bay.

The pier, promenade and local surf scene were like something from a film, or at least that's what it felt like to a small crew of surfers from the North East Coast of Scotland. An hour and a half North West of Santa Barbara with breaks all along the coast, it's surfers paradise. The pier, promenade and local surf scene were like something from a film, or at least that's what it felt like to a small crew of surfers from the North East Coast of Scotland. An hour and a half North West of Santa Barbara with breaks all along the coast, it's surfers paradise.



The World Championships kicked off with the opening ceremony and the vibe was

electric. 28 countries supporting 180 surfers hoping for World titles. The build-up was awesome, and everyone felt the anticipation of what was going to be the most incredible visual display of professional surfing. Added to that, the power that we know surfing has on healing and the life-changing opportunities there for many, the stoke was unforgettable.



Jade, the only surfer in team Scotland was officially the youngest ever female to compete. It must have been the most exciting feeling to be on a stage adding sand from her local break to the 'Sands of the World' ceremony, adding a little piece of North-East Scotland to the history of International Para Surfing.

Jade's first heat was a couple of days later, training continued in the run up in some pretty big and dumpy waves but when game day came, the swell cleaned up and gave some of the best waves Jade had ever been out in. Rising to the challenge and surfing brilliantly, Jade scored a 2-wave combined 9.4 and the team is ecstatic.



PHOTO CREDITS: PHIL WILLIAMS

Prepping for this event - being a team debut and considering Jade's age and experience, the priorities were to learn as much as possible while giving Jade the best experience and to help us shape future Scottish Para Teams. Expectations were always discussed as a team where the focus was not on placing high and instead, all about the experience.

But, now Jade's only gone and smashed it coming second in her first qualifying heat!

Qualifying heat 2 - the conditions were perfect again. 2ft peeling right handers off the pier and it's in this heat that the team can see it all coming together. The daily training, video analysis, watching heats surrounded and encouraged by some of the world's best para surfers and as a result the team can see Jade developing enormously. Her second wave in the heat is a high line take off keeping relaxed as the wave builds and she picks her moment to lean in and take the drop. Surfing all the way into the beach moving more than ever and showing some style she scores a combined 12.17 beating both of her wave scores from the previous heat. Scoring highest in the heat, Jade makes it to the semi-finals.

There are 9 divisions of para surfing within the ISA classification where Jade is currently in the only one that allows for physical assistance from coaches in the water. This consists of 2 coaches, a pusher that assists the catching of a wave, and a catcher to guide the surfer in the shallows and through oncoming waves to the line up again. It's a very special experience to assist an athlete in the surf where an unspoken language and instinct develops with both pusher and surfer. The pusher needs to feel the board on the take-off while feeling the wave underneath them to choose how to best set the board. Would a little push to keep a high line work best if the wave needs to build a little before Jade knows to lean into the drop, or does it need a throw to send it down the line matching the speed of the section.

The day of the semi-finals and everyone is just so thankful and proud to be flying the flag for Scotland, including the S.E.A.Crew of Team England who picked up our Saltires from the sand to wave for Jade. It really is the most incredible feeling getting ready for a heat. The rash vests go on, all equipment checked, check the clock as we wish all the competitors the best of luck and make our way to the line-up hearing the commentators over the PA and the cheers from the crowd. This is what it's all about and what drives competitors to train hard, always looking for ways to improve and zoning in to the here and now. It's an incredible feeling of excitement.



The waves are smaller this time, a bit trickier to navigate, and for the first time we all feel the pressure. Jade was up against 3 World Class surfers, Jocelyn Neumueller and Emma Dieters from Australia, and Georgina Melatini, Argentina. Professional athletes and well known on the scene firmly competing to win and all 3 scoring early with some big first waves.

In the water with Jade and talking about how the heat is going, we know we've got as far as we will get this time and in an almost welcomed sense of relief we can celebrate where we are, what we're doing, and what Jade has achieved. We feel we can relax now and simply enjoy the rest of the heat free surfing in this amazing event.

For Jade and Team Scotland, we felt like we had won so much in so many ways. Overall, Jade ranked 7th out of 14, and became the first Scottish surfer to reach a semi-final in an ISA International Event.

2022 ISA WORLD PARA SURFING CHAMPIONSHIPS

QUALIFY ROUND ONE				PRONE 2				WOMEN							
HEAT#1				HEAT # 2				HEAT #3				HEAT # 4			
Red	1	Quinn Waitley	USA 7,7	2	Sarah Almagro	ESP 16,93	3	Catalina Alomar	ESP 6,34	4	Monique Oliveira	BRA 6,80			
White	8	Celine Rouillard	FRA 13,27	7	Hannah Dines	ENG 8,9	6	Emma Dieters	AUS 14,53	5	Jocelyn Neumueller	AUS 16,83			
Yellow	9	Beatrice Durand	FRA 9,97	10	Georgina Melatini	ARG 11	11	Anna Fleur van Loo	NED 5,93	12	Corinne Oehen	SUI 5,27			
Blue							14	Jade Edward	SCO 9,4	13	Noluthando Makalima	RSA 8,43			

QUALIFY ROUND TWO				PRONE 2				WOMEN							
HEAT#1				HEAT # 2				HEAT #3				HEAT # 4			
Red	1	Sarah Almagro	ESP 16,67	2	Jocelyn Neumueller	AUS 12,1	3	Emma Dieters	AUS 17,83	4	Celine Rouillard	FRA 11,94			
White	8	Hannah Dines	ENG 9,57	7	Jade Edward	SCO 12,17	6	Beatrice Durand	FRA 12,43	5	Georgina Melatini	ARG 10,66			
Yellow	9	Noluthando Makalima	RSA 10,67	10	Quinn Waitley	USA 9,33	11	Monique Oliveira	BRA 10,03	12	Catalina Alomar	ESP 8,57			
Blue							14	Corinne Oehen	SUI 9,86	13	Anna Fleur van Loo	NED 5,03			

SEMIFINALS				PRONE 2				WOMEN							
HEAT#1				HEAT # 2				HEAT #3				HEAT # 4			
Red	S1	Sarah Almagro	ESP 17,8	S2	Emma Dieters	AUS 15,67	3	Emma Dieters	AUS 17,83	4	Celine Rouillard	FRA 11,94			
White	S4	Celine Rouillard	FRA 12,9	S3	Jocelyn Neumueller	AUS 17,17	6	Beatrice Durand	FRA 12,43	5	Georgina Melatini	ARG 10,66			
Yellow	S5	Beatrice Durand	FRA 10,47	S6	Jade Edward	SCO 9,07	11	Monique Oliveira	BRA 10,03	12	Catalina Alomar	ESP 8,57			
Blue	S8	Noluthando Makalima	RSA 10,77	S7	Georgina Melatini	ARG 13	14	Corinne Oehen	SUI 9,86	13	Anna Fleur van Loo	NED 5,03			

FINAL				PRONE 2				WOMEN							
HEAT#1				HEAT # 2				HEAT #3				HEAT # 4			
Red	1,9	Sarah Almagro	ESP 14,9	S2	Emma Dieters	AUS 15,67	3	Emma Dieters	AUS 17,83	4	Celine Rouillard	FRA 11,94			
White	2,10	Emma Dieters	AUS 17,26	S3	Jocelyn Neumueller	AUS 17,17	6	Beatrice Durand	FRA 12,43	5	Georgina Melatini	ARG 10,66			
Yellow	1,10	Jocelyn Neumueller	AUS 16,4	S6	Jade Edward	SCO 9,07	11	Monique Oliveira	BRA 10,03	12	Catalina Alomar	ESP 8,57			
Blue	2,9	Celine Rouillard	FRA 10,83	S7	Georgina Melatini	ARG 13	14	Corinne Oehen	SUI 9,86	13	Anna Fleur van Loo	NED 5,03			

THIRD PLACE
FIRST PLACE
SECOND PLACE
FOURTH PLACE

2022 ISA WORLD PARA SURFING CHAMPIONSHIP

WOMEN - PRONE 2



RANK	NAME	NGB
1	Emma Dieters	Australia
2	Jocelyn Neumueller	Australia
3	Sarah Almagro	Spain
4	Celine Rouillard	France
5	Georgina Melatini	Argentina
5	Noluthando Makalima	South Africa
7	Beatrice Durand	France
7	Jade Edward	Scotland
9	Monique Oliveira	Brazil
10	Corinne Oehen	Switzerland
11	Hannah Dines	England
12	Quinn Waitley	United States
13	Catalina Alomar	Spain
14	Anna Fleur van Loo	Netherlands



JADE WITH GEORGINA MELANTINI (ARGENTINA)

“We made friends from all over the world. It was great fun meeting people from different places, and even the people directly competing against me were so friendly and welcoming.”

~ Jade "Shred" Edward

So, what's next?

We really hope that Jade continues to love surfing and that it will forever be a source of strength, joy, and freedom on all levels. For Para Surf Scotland, we are just at the beginning of growing a team for success, allowing opportunity for those new to the sport through to established athletes working towards future gold medals in California.



PHOTO CREDITS: ISA JERSSON BARBOZA

Recorded coverage of Jade's rounds are available from the Official ISA link below.

<https://isasurf.org/gallery/2022-pismo-beach-isa-world-para-surfing-championship/webcast-replays/?type=video>

Round 1 - Day 2 - @ 5hrs 22mins

Round 2 - Day 3 - @2hrs 38mins and Jade's interview at 3hrs 6mins

Semi-final Day 4 - @4hrs 52mins

Pismo 2022 ISA Para Worlds highlight film - <https://youtu.be/SshuvTQMMgk>

Interview at the 2022 English Adaptive Open - https://youtu.be/YT4Z_QPTnzc



For more information on Para Surf Scotland, please contact

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