



# Naval Base Ventura County

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## Surf's up at Point Mugu Navy base opens surfing contest to public

By Jeana Diacono  
NBVC staff writer

**Ventura County, Calif, Oct. 6, 2008 . . .** Southern California's best kept secret is about to be revealed. The first ever surf contest is scheduled at Naval Base Ventura County, Point Mugu and everyone is invited.

Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) surf contest will be held on Saturday, Oct. 25. It is open to the public to enter and to watch.

"Point Mugu is one of the best surfing spots in California so a lot of people want to come and surf on it," Kent Blankenship, NBVC Athletics Director said. "We are encouraging the public to either participate or come out and watch."

This particular stretch of ocean at Point Mugu is such a special spot because it faces in a south direction which gives it a unique wave. "Especially when there is a south swell coming the wave breaks different and a lot bigger than a lot of different beaches along the coast here," Blankenship said.

Todd Proctor, owner of Proctor Surfboards, agrees that Point Mugu provides a world class wave. He says everyone should come down and enjoy the ocean and socialize. "It's a contest to bring people together," he said. Proctor believes that a gap can form between the military and their community members. Opening Point Mugu will join two groups that both enjoy the same thing. .

"I think the motive is really cool," Proctor said. "To bridge that gap will be a really cool thing."

The contest will be broken up into six different divisions: open men and women, body board, military men and women, and junior men (17 and under). .Check in starts at 6:30 that morning and the competition begins at 7:30 a.m. It may run up until 3 or 4 p.m. depending on how long the heats are.

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Each heat lasts 20 minutes. There will be three heats per division and the top two people from each heat will then go to the finals for that division.

“It kind of makes for a long day, but it’s also fun for people watching the surf because we have a lot of great surfers out there,” Blankenship said.

In order to participate in the surfing competition, participants have to turn in a registration form. These forms are be available in the local Ventura County surf shops, or email Amanda Haskell at [Amanda.haskell@navy.mil](mailto:Amanda.haskell@navy.mil), or Fred Morgan at [fred.w.morgan@navy.mil](mailto:fred.w.morgan@navy.mil). The entry fee to participate is \$20 for military and \$25 for civilians, with a \$10 late fee for registration after Oct. 22.

If you would rather watch then participate, parking will be available at the beach for those who call ahead of time to get on the guard gate list. Call Amanda Haskell at 805-989-7378 by close of business Oct. 21 to get on the list. For those not on the list there will be a shuttle van that will take people from the front gate at Point Mugu to the beach and back. The van will run all day.

Proctor SurfBoards will award a custom board to the winner of the competition.

“We are also going to have a booth at the beach and be there to explain how boards are made,” Proctor said. “We are going to have two of our pros competing and two other guys that are ex pros.”

Two professional surfers that will be participating are Jarrah Tutton and Danny Estes.

The winners of the competition will be chosen on how well they follow the rules of the sport. “Surfers will be judged on the size of the wave, how long they ride and what the surfer does on the ride,” Blankenship said. The lead judge is Matt Malone.

All contestants will receive a special event t-shirt, and a first, second and third place winner will be chosen from each division. The winners will receive either plaques or trophies.

If you can’t participate this year, you may have another opportunity to surf this rare area. “We hope it will become an annual event but it might even become a two day event so we can get more people surfing and more people entered in it,” Blankenship said.

For more information call 805-989-7378 or (805) 982-3007.

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