

Dale Staples wins Mitchum Buffalo City Surf Pro 2018



A stoked Dale Staples from St Francis Bay emerged from the waters of Nahoon Reef in East London today, 15 April, as the Mitchum Buffalo City Surf Pro 2018 champion.

Surfing in excellent conditions on the final day of the Mitchum Buffalo City Surf Pro pres. by Reef Wetsuits, Dale eliminated local legend and former Championship Tour competitor, Greg Emslie, from the event.

Two other St Francis surfers who did incredibly well in the Mitchum Buffalo City Surf Pro were Longboard winner, Michael Hill, and Faye Zoetmulder winning in the semis.

Surf writer, Craig Jarvis writes that Greg Emslie reached the semis of the Mitchum

Buffalo City Surf Pro but Dale opened up the QS 1,000 final with an 8.5 in the high tide conditions, surfing powerfully and with confidence. "He followed this up immediately with a great back up score of 7 points, and McGillivray was on the ropes and in deep in combo-land only a few minutes into the heat.

"Expecting the plucky J-bay surfer to fight back with tenacity, McGillivray unfortunately suffered an interference call with Staples, and with a zero score included in his tally, there was no way he could extricate himself from the runner-up position."

Edited by Bev Mortimer
Photo: Event winner, Dale Staples on his way to winning the Mitchum Buffalo City Surf Pro WSL / THURTELL

Surfing Star Crystal Hulett wins Women's Longboard event



St Francis Bay's Crystal Hulett surfed her way to victory in the World Surf League Women's Longboard event at the Royal St Andrews Hotel Port Alfred Classic Yesterday, 7 April.

And another St Francis Bay surfer, Michael Hill, will be surfing against Steven Sawyer of Jeffreys Bay today in the first of the semis on earlier this month.

Shortboard ace Crystal Hulett (St Francis Bay) scored an historic victory in this first WSL Longboard Qualifying Series event to be staged in South Africa when she defeated Marishka Myers (Jeffreys Bay). Both women caught

plenty of waves in the final with Hulett's top two scores totaling 11.25 out of 20 versus the 9.50 accumulated by Myers, giving Hulett the early lead in the WSL Africa women's longboard rankings.

Also at the same event top seed and reigning WSL Africa champ Nicole Pallot (La Lucia) reached the semi-finals of the QS1,000 women's event after outpunting Faye Zoetmulder (Cape St Francis). Josefina Ane the 19 year-old women's World Surf League (WSL) Qualifying Series (QS) title winner today, was slated to secure her first title by defeating 14-year-old standout Zoe Steyn (East London). *Edited by Bev Mortimer*

King of the Kromme 2018



Tamryn White Photography

Pam Golding King of the Kromme was, won by Jasper Mooke, the new 2018 King of the Krommel Heid in calm warm conditions, with a full moon high tide, paddlers enjoyed an incoming tide for the beautiful paddle up the river, but had to work hard on the way back as the tide was still surging in! Plus some short cuts over still shallow sandbanks in less than 500mm of water, made for some very tiring sections. But the scenery, particularly up the Geelhout made it worthwhile. The river was full of Easter weekend boats, many pulling skiers,

adding another dimension with their wake causing a few paddlers to take a swim .

Many thanks to organizers Daryl Staples and Ingrid Staples Dave-and Marie Louw, Aislairst Stuart-White for driving the safety boat, Pete King for placing the turn buoy, Woodlands Dairy for the chocolate milk, Carbonology once again for their generous and high quality lucky draw split shat paddle, Quaysyde for providing the best venue in the country, prize-giving photographers Jane Ardena and Warren Knez, drone pilots Warwick Purdy and Nevill Hulett

Josh Hemple's great swimming achievements

Josh Hempel of St Francis Bay participated in the South African Junior Nationals age group gala in Durban, between 21 and 25 March.

Josh swam some fantastic races and improved with every swim. He swam in the 200 free, 50 fly, 50 free, and 100 fly.

As a result of his performance in these events, he has been placed nationally as 4th in the 50 fly, 8th in the 50 free, 5th in the 200 free and 5th in the 100 fly. He also set three new school records in the



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