



# WAVE TOUR 2015

RHOSNEIGR EDITION



1ST EDITION OF THE OFFICIAL BWA TOUR MAGAZINE!

THANKYOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS WHO HELP MAKE THE BWA WAVE TOUR HAPPEN. WE VALUE YOUR SUPPORT AND WE HOPE WE CAN CONTINUE OUR PARTNERSHIPS, BUILDING THE COMPETITION, REACHING NEW AUDIENCES AND MOST IMPORTANTLY GROWING THE SPORT!



EXTRA SPECIAL THANKYOU TO ALL THE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE RHOSNEIGR COMPETITION AND THE FIRST EDITION OF THE BWA WAVE TOUR MAGAZINE.

#### DEMO KIT:

THANKYOU TO DAVE WHITE FOR BRINGING A VAN & TRAILER FULL OF RRD KIT, MARK HOSEGOOD FOR THE STARBOARD, SEVERNE AND TUSHINGHAM KIT FOR ALL TO SAIL ON AND O'SHEA FOR PROVIDING THE ISUPS AND GIANT ISUPS FOR PADDLE BOARDING.

#### PHOTOGRAPHY:

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# CONTENTS

---

**FOREWORD WITH NIGEL TREACY**

PAGE 2

**INTERVIEW WITH HEAD JUDGE MARK HOSEGOOD**

PAGE 3

**RHOSNEIGR DAY 1**

PAGE 4

**INTERVIEW WITH LUKAS ZAJDOWSKI**

PAGE 5

**RHOSNEIGR DAY 2**

PAGE 6

**QUICK CATCH UP WITH BEN PROFFITT**

PAGE 7

**RHOSNEIGR DAY 3**

PAGE 8

**INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL ARCHER**

PAGE 9

**PHIL HORROCKS INTERVIEW**

PAGE 10 - 11

**RHOSNEIGR DAY 4**

PAGE 12 - 15

**WOMEN IN WAVESAILING**

PAGE 16 - 19

**RHOSNEIGR DAY 5**

PAGE 20- 22





# FOREWORD

The BWA is delighted to be working with The Mailing Room as our principal tour sponsor in 2015. The partnership is a fitting one, TMR and BWA are fast-growing organisations fuelled by enthusiasm and aspirations for the future. The main focus for 2015 will be to grow the youth and junior fleets. We are already discussing some very exciting initiatives which will be championed by Phil Horrocks and assisted by our Tour Director, Geoff Hautman.

We have built a UK wave tour that is respected throughout Europe and attended by some of the world's top sailors. I am personally excited to see how we can promote the tour to a wider and younger audience. The Mailing Room are already providing invaluable marketing and PR assistance with the Rhosneigr event.

**NIGEL TREACY**  
**BWA CHAIRMAN**





# HEAD JUDGE: MARK HOSEGOOD

### How long have you been a judge for the BWA?

I have been a judge for the PWA since 2007 but I came into the BWA a few years ago. I was one of the UK pro windsurfers and always tried to compete on the world tour but had serious injuries, it was after one of those injuries that the PWA approached me to judge so I got into it that way. I've been around for donkey's years in many different capacities; coaching, running shops, testing equipment, judging!

### What are you looking out for when judging?

We're looking at the difficulty of move, how clean it's landed, how much flow and speed there is and the style. On a personal level I like to see things done with speed and flow. I dislike things that are forced when they shouldn't be, they should be integrated in with what conditions allow.

### What attracted you to Wavesailing?

I like the freedom of it, personally doing it, it's a feeling of flying when everything goes quiet and you're really high. Its constant thinking, speed, flow, movement and adjustments.

### Describe Wavesailing to an outsider?

You know those cold, wet, windy days where people don't want to go outside? Were the ones that are out there having amazing fun! Floating, jumping, looping, flying! When everyone else thinks the weather is miserable we think it's wonderful and it's great to see.

### Who are you sporting heroes?

When I was a kid my hero was Robby Naish. Also Francisco Goya and Jason Polakow

### What advice would you give to anyone looking to get into Wavesailing?

Come to the events! If you're into windsurfing and you want to get into Wavesailing just because it's a national event don't let it put you off. You learn an awful lot by being here. When I started out I used to learn more in one week in this environment than I would in 6-9 months trying to do stuff by myself. It raises your aspirational game, you learn a lot, the people are really cool and friendly and really generous with their advice.

### What's the best piece of advice you have to give about Wavesailing?

The best thing I've learnt is that if it's going wrong, it goes wrong for all sorts of people, just take 10 minutes out then go back out there.

### Where is the future of Wavesailing headed?

If you look at what the top guys are doing on the world tour it's like seeing something out of a computer game, what was impossible 5 years ago is now the normality in competitions. What's impossible now won't be in the future, more rotations, higher height – pretty radical!

### Best trick you've ever seen?

Philip Köster doing a higher jump than I have ever seen any one do with a stalled forward loop then landed planing full speed and that was when he was about 16 years old!

# RHOSNEIGR DAY 1



22nd APRIL - DAY 1 AT RHOSNEIGR SAW NO WIND BUT PLENTY OF SUN, DUE TO CONDITIONS REGISTRATION WAS EXTENDED UNTIL 9AM FRIDAY 24TH. FILMING FOR THE BOARD PODCAST GOT UNDERWAY AND EVERYONE MADE GOOD USE OF THE SUN BY HAVING A BBQ THAT EVENING.



# JUDGE: LUKAS ZAJDOWSKI

### **How long have you been a judge for the BWA?**

Since 2009/10. When I arrived in UK I was running Funsport and partly organising the event, then when we started doing the leg to leg events there was a spot for a judge in Ireland so I started there and have been doing it since.

I have experience and knowledge of the sport itself and the fact I used to be in the background making sure the event happens contributes to my experience as a judge, now I can enjoy it and see it from a different level.

### **What are you looking out for when judging?**

I love Wavesailing so as many big jumps and massive forward and back loops as possible. Style and good waveriding is the best thing, anything entertaining.

### **What attracted you to Wavesailing?**

Adrenaline, edge and it's the most extreme side of windsurfing. A part of windsurfing that everyone aspires to get to. I started in Poland when I was 14, I had my first experience age 10 and had to be rescued by a power boat but I got hooked on the adrenaline, I lived on the coast in Poland and it was the cool thing to do. Since age 14/15 I would spend all my summers on the coast and taught myself windsurfing.

### **Describe Wavesailing to an outsider?**

Imagine driving a Porsche across Austrias hill roads with a rockslide /avalanche coming

### **Who are you sporting heroes?**

Because I used to train in swimming it is Michael Phelps, also Rodger Federer and in windsurfing it Josh Stone because of his attitude and approach to life. Francisco Goya and I sympathise with Keith Teboul (he is bald to).

### **What advice would you give to anyone looking to get into Wavesailing?**

Don't give up, go out in any possible conditions and make sure you have got the right kit,

### **Where is the future of Wavesailing headed?**

I think it's going to get stronger and higher with jumps, more combination moves, I will also say that wave-riding is the next big thing and mixing it with new school wave riding will be where the youngsters will go but in my opinion you can't beat an 8-10 metre wave and vertical turns top to bottom.

### **Best trick you've ever seen?**

A massive back loop during 2009 Rhosneigr event by Phil Horrocks which resulted in a snapped board.

### **Any insights for this year's competition?**

Lets pray for wind! I have seen some good videos of Adam Lewis but let's not forget about the old dogs Phil Horrocks and Ben Proffitt.

# RHOSNEIGR DAY 2

NO WIND PART II







# INTERVIEW WITH BEN PROFFITT

## **How did you get into Wavesailing?**

My parents had a caravan at Bala lake that we would go to every weekend, they were also members of a sailing club and my dad windsurfed so I gave it a try age 9.

## **Best place ever windsurfed?**

I would say Gnaraloo in Australia

## **Career highlights so far?**

I won the indoor world championships in 2014 in Poland at the Olympic stadium. Coming 5th at my first world cup in pozo in 2004, British titles and winning the Tirez wave classic titles 4 times in a row.

## **Top tip?**

If you're not having fun then change something because its got to be fun, it shouldn't be that serious.

## **Best trick landed?**

Push loop forward

## **Best trick ever seen?**

Philip Köster sailing on a good day, he is a bit of a freak!

## **Who are your sports heroes?**

when I was growing up I used to follow Mark Angulo, and more recently Josh Stone

## **How can we get more youths into windsurfing?**

It's a certain mind-set and type of person, a lot start on holiday and don't follow it through, the best way to get people into it is to convert anyone who buys a stand-up paddle board to windsurfing, there's not a big step from paddling around on a big board to sticking a sail on it. If you enjoy paddling around there's no way you wouldn't enjoy blasting around – that should be the manufacturers goal!

## **What does the future hold for you?**

I'm still competing in the world, I was 16th last year and I'm moving into doing commentary for the world tour, I'm doing more media type stuff but still competing, I'll stop competitively when I no longer enjoy it.

## **What are the benefit of competing in BWA Wave Tour?**

Weve been so lucky with conditions, with almost better conditions on the UK tour than on the international tour, especially in Cornwall, 3-4 metre high waves! In the world cup Adam Lewis is 15th in the world, Phil was top 20, the standard when its good is quite high and it helps raise your game so its worth coming here to compete.

# RHOSNEIGR DAY 3



24th APRIL - DAY 3 AT RHOSNEIGR STARTED OFF LOOKING PROMISING WITH THE HOPE OF WIND LATER IN THE AFTERNOON BUT UNFORTUNATLY CONDITIONS DIDN'T BUILD UP ENOUGH TO GET THE COMPETITION UNDERWAY. THERE WAS DEMO KIT ON DISPLAY FROM SOME OF THE SPONSORS AND A FEW PEOPLE GOT OUT FOR SOME LIGHT ACTION ON THE WATER.



# JUDGE: MICHAEL ARCHER

### **How long have you been a judge for the BWA?**

3-4 years. I have competitive experience in sailing and windsurfing but after injuring myself I couldn't compete for a while and I started helping out with student events and then I got asked to help judge, it progressed from there and I ended up judging more serious events.

### **What are you looking out for when judging?**

An overall good standard of Wavesailing, ability to ride in all sorts of varied conditions, making the most out of what's in front of you.

### **What attracted you to Wavesailing?**

I used to do a lot of competitive sailing but I got fed up of it, I went to university and they had a windsurfing club. I got introduced to both Windsurfing and Wavesailing, it's the perfect cross between the two for me.

### **Describe Wavesailing to an outsider?**

Surfing with a sail but you can do big jumps and flips. It's a cross between motocross and surfing on the water without the hardboard.

### **Who are you sporting heroes?**

Kelly Slater and Robbie Naish

### **What advice would you give to anyone looking to get into Wavesailing?**

Come along to these events, it will give you access to people who can give you advice on training and technique, on where to go and what to do. Also have a really good go at it overseas and get some lessons when you're out there.

### **Where is the future of Wavesailing headed?**

Tricks will get bigger and more impressive, over the last ten years the level even at amateur is better than it was at pro level 10 years ago, hopefully it will keep progressing year on year with better tricks and a higher standard than ever before.

### **Best trick you've ever seen?**

Triple forward loop

### **Any insights for this year's competition?**

It would be interesting to see how Adam Lewis is going to do, I'd like to see what he can bring, I think he pushes the top pros the most out of anyone.



# PHIL HORROCKS 2013/2014 BWA

## How did you get into Wavesailing?

When I was about 12 I went on a family holiday (5 of us piled into Ford Escort) down to the South of France near Bordeaux for 3 weeks in the summer holidays. One time we met my uncle who had some windsurfing equipment, including a 3 metre long board which by today standards would be ridiculous. I had a go and I was able to sail alone within a few hours, then I had a lesson from an instructor on a tiny little duck pond about 50 meters across learning to go backwards and forwards. I didn't windsurf again until my older brother got into it age 18 then we would drive across to the Ganolwyd after school and weekends until he left to go to university then I didn't windsurf again until a few years later.

I went to college and did Sports Science and spent 6 weeks on placement at Plas Menai National Outdoor Centre, 3 weeks of the placement was on the water: sailing, kayaking and windsurfing. Whilst I was there I saw some people doing a live-in trainee instructor course and I decided that was what I wanted to do. Rather than going to university I wrote to charities to help fund the course and got a place on it. From there I learnt to become a windsurfing, sailing and kiting instructor and they kept me on there. I spent 5 years teaching as a contract instructor. I was teaching all day and windsurfing in between and after lessons to the point where I ended up doing more wind-surfing and less teaching.

That's when I started coming to Rhosneigr to windsurf, then I saw the BWA and the competition in Ireland, I wanted to get involved but wasn't sure how to. Whilst windsurfing in Rhosneigr I met George in 2001, he was one of the more established windsurfers and he asked what was stopping me from competing. I wanted to go pro but needed to get some exposure to attract sponsors, George offered to sponsor me. I bought a van and drove to Portugal with Ben Proffitt and we started to do British competitions together and then world cup events. My relationship with George and The Mailing Room developed and he continued to sponsor me and I progressed on.

## What are some of the definitive moments of your career?

The time that George took at the beginning to talk to me about my career has got me to where I am today. This support was the springboard to becoming a pro windsurfer.

Going to Hawaii (2006) for the first time to train was also the point that I started to do photoshoots for the manufacturers so I became more involved in the development of the brand image on a more international level and with that came more funding from international brands.

Then 2007 we had a competition in Cape Verde, I went in as a rookie and beat a couple of guys who were better than me, we had the most amazing conditions. After the competition at the hotel I was staying with a few pros including Jason Polakow and Nik Baker that was a huge moment.

## What are the biggest moments competitively?

The world cup events were such a challenge in themselves because the standard is so high, it's not just about technique its mind-set and preparation. I was all set to give up the world cup until Denmark, I came 9th and realised I was good enough to stay in it. At that time I was always finishing top 3 in the UK and in August 2013 my daughter was born, this helped relax me in competition and get less stressed about it which showed as I went on to win my first UK championship that same year.

We had the final event in Cornwall Oct / Nov 2013 which were the best conditions we'd had in a really long time, all my family were there - I had so much support and it was the perfect ending, my most special moment in windsurfing. Then I did it all again last year! It was an equal challenge, it was no easier to win the second time round but to win it again was a confirmation it wasn't just luck!



# UK CHAMPION

## What is the future of Wavesailing?

Windsurfing has given me so much opportunity to travel the world; Brazil, South Africa, Cape Verde, Denmark – all things I wouldn't have done without windsurfing and The Mailing Room. I appreciate that so much and it would be great to help other people have that opportunity aswell. There are kids out there that have talent but don't know how to take it forward, they need the encouragement and guidance.

## How can that help come together?

I've been doing some brainstorming and the fundamental thing about windsurfing is you need to encourage the youth, and there are avenues through schools and clubs.

The RYA have an initiative setup called team 15, this takes kids at the bottom level and tries to develop them into good racers to progress them towards the Olympics but windsurfing isn't an Olympic sport so there is no motivation for the RYA to push youths to get out on to the sea windsurfing.

Parents are the best way to push children but perhaps don't feel comfortable sending kids out on the sea. In order to push children in a structured environment and show them what the opportunities are, we are in the brain-storming stages of an initiative to develop 6 events across the uk that work with local organisers, this local involvement is really important to help get kids into stuff.

Ideally each event will be hosted by a local equipment shop or training development club and will comprise of a weekend of training and experience out on the water with a competition element at the end, in addition the BWA will provide a pro representative to give them tips on technique and provide support with the training.

Three of the events will aim to tie in with the BWA wave tour and there is possibility of an additional 7th event to bring together everyone from each event for a large training and competition camp.

“ Winning the UK championship was no easier the second time round but to win it again was confirmation it wasn't just luck! ”

# DAY 4

*For last few years Rhosneigr has been delivering some fantastic condition during the BWA Wave event, this year... Well they weren't epic but we still managed to get people out on the water for two expression sessions.*

*The first round was fully dedicated to the pros but ever keen Justyna asked to join in and we just couldn't say no! Tricky, slightly onshore conditions with few waves rolling in resulted in the decision to judge the performance on the best overall move. Ben Proffitt kicked off with a forward loop, not the classic stalled one he is able to perform due to conditions, but still the bench mark was set!*



# PROS EXPRESSION SESSION

*It's important to remember what these guys can do - doubles, back loops, push loops and combination manoeuvres have been claimed by every one of them.*

*The show was stolen by Adam Lewis who ended up winning thanks to a nice high shaka on the outside supported with lower scoring freestyle tricks and the only decent waveride of the day. Ben came 2nd thanks to the early forward loop and James Cox took 3rd with a good old school willy skipper. They all were on the hunt for a back Loop which landed would have been a certain 1st place but with the conditions no one managed a clean one (despite the claims!).*



# DAY 4

*Second and final round of the day 4 expression session was dedicated to ladies, amateurs and masters. It was great to see that despite the early start (6am at the beach) everyone who entered was ready to participate.*

*Having 10 sailors on the water made it a difficult show to judge, so three judges and two spotters were a must. All sailors were trying hard, it felt like wind was on and off but despite this sailors managed to perform a variety of forwards, vulcans and back loop attempts.*





# AMS EXPRESSION SESSION

*It was great to see Ben Page and Tris Levie trying it hard to win, these two young riders are the future of the tour and hopefully we will see them performing at pro level in the not too distant future.*

*Nonetheless it was the Polish Girl who won! Her forward loop turned out to be the best of the day and remained unbeaten from the start. Well done Justyna Sniady!*

Lukas Zajdowski  
BWA Judge 2015





# WOMEN IN WAVESAILING

## How did you get into Wavesailing

My boyfriend at the time was doing it, I learnt on the lake on the way to Rhosneigr. I almost gave it up as the equipment was really heavy and I found it a real struggle, then one day I started planing and it went from there, it became a completely different sport and once you get on to the sea you never look back because you have the waves.

There was always a lot of good people at Rhosneigr to aspire to be like, it became a passion and a bit of an obsession. Even with 20 years' experience in the sport I'm still learning and keen to push my level and keep going for a really long time.

## At what stage did you start competing?

I tried it about ten years ago and won! I came back to it recently as I have more time now I'm retired. The standard is now really high, there's more girls doing it and you get much better feedback. It's well worth coming to the events to speak to other competitors, I've had lots of good tips off Justyna this morning about jumps and loops I can't wait to have a go at them.

## When will women be competing with men?

One of the top Wavesailors Daida Moreno has competed against men and she did really well, the standard is really high at the top and there are lots of young girls coming up, it's growing from within.

## What advice would you give to women looking to compete?

Start coming to competitions and get used to what is going on, listen to what people are telling you, people are here and really happy to help out, it's such a nice atmosphere to be around.

It doesn't matter how old you are you can still do a lot of stuff and learn new things.

## How get more women in the sport?

I think it's got a slightly old fashioned image but it should be up there with popular sports like surfing, the kit is great and the moves you can do are amazing, it could appeal to a lot more women if they knew how good it was and there was a platform for them to find out more about it.

The magazines are very male dominated and stuck in a bit of a rut, they need to cover more stuff for women. Girls are covering fantastic moves and this deserves more coverage, if young women could see more of that in magazines it would help. It would be interesting to see features on how other women approach different moves, there are loads of women now who are doing fantastic things on waves. You have to go out of your way to find advice and information for women, if there was at least part of a magazine for women it would be really helpful.

Same goes for youths it would be great to see more coverage of young, up and coming windsurfers as some of them are quite small you need to be able to relate to other people in sport.

## Who are your sports heroes?

a lot of the girls in the uk, Justyna Sniady, Sarah Bibby, Sarah Kellett. The Moreno twins are the top women in the world, their technique is so perfect.

Amanda Beenen has progressed really well and is really keen to get other women into the sport and they all deserve more recognition.

Janine Guest

**Name:** Sarah Jackson

**Age:** 17

**Location:** Cheshire

**How long have you been Wavesailing?**

6 months, including at Rhosneigr and Cornwall BWA last year.

**How long have been windsurfing?**

10 years of Techno Racing mostly. I'm quite competitive, as soon as I learned to windsurf I started to race.

**What attracted you to the BWA competition?**

It just looked like fun!

**So you're going to concentrate on waves rather than racing?**

Yup, its too expensive and we don't live anywhere near Weymouth. The current youth squad is made of kids from the south because its so much closer to Weymouth.

**What are you hoping to achieve with windsurfing in the future?**

Competing with the PWA!

**Sporting heroes?**

Sarah-Quita Offringa! I met her when I was 12 in Orkney, and did a slalom comp with her at the Lena Erdil Centre. I was Top Amateur Girl! and 4th overall!



**SARAH JACKSON**





# JUSTYNA SNIADY

## How did you get into Wavesailing?

As I started out windsurfing on the lake I stumbled across an old VHS movie called 'RIP' by Robby Naish. This was back in the day before you could see 1000's of different videos on YouTube. It showed Robby ripping the waves in Hawaii, from that moment on I knew I wanted to windsurf on the waves! The rest is history.

## At what stage did you start competing?

Quite early. Probably well before I was good enough to win a heat! Wave-riding in Poland was not popular at all when I was younger. Windsurfers spent most of their time on flat water spots and being able to do a planing jibe meant you were an advanced sailor. If you could duck jibe you were a local hero. Wave-riding didn't cross many people's minds, so when I started wave-riding there was maybe only one or two other sailors.

After I almost drowned whilst Wavesailing I decided to enter a competition in Germany. I figured I would be able to learn more and push myself further in a safer environment, so I entered my first competitions to improve rather than to win.

That's why I encourage all sailors to come and compete with the BWA. It's a great way to improve and learn from others in a family-like atmosphere and it will only be a matter of time before you get the hang of the sailing heats and become competitive in your category.

## Do you think women should be competing against men?

There was an episode of the PWA tour where one of the top Ladies - Daida Moreno sailed against men. She had every chance to win a heat but didn't succeed at the time. However, I think it is unnecessary to have competitions mixed like that. Don't get me wrong I love competing against guys as well,

but the problems start when a girl wins, men egos should not be put under this much pressure on a regular basis! haha. No, seriously I think that the women's fleet is competitive enough as it is and there is so many talented girls who should just compete against each other and be able to excel in their own category. Mixing heats with men would make it hard to determine the best male or female sailor.

## Advice to women looking to compete?

Don't be afraid to fail, I guess that's a great advice in life in general. I know how frightening it can be to enter your first competition. You worry, put pressure on yourself, and you're scared of what will people think. You will find that people will only encourage you as a new-comer and nobody will expect you to win first time around.

Competing is an art in itself, great free sailors might not always get best results - and vice-versa. One of the great things about entering competitions is that you will learn more within few days than you would free-sailing and you will be much more inspired.

As with everything in life, the more you practise the better you get but you have to start! So my advice is enter as many competitions as you can; have fun, watch, learn and don't get discouraged by failures as these are lessons every competitor needs to learn!

## How can we get more women in the sport?

Women's windsurfing is booming at the moment. The gear got lighter and easier to handle and everywhere I go I see more and more woman on the water already. Most importantly - the sailing is better than ever! However, I do believe that there still room for improvement as far as the gear and accessories for women go. I think the first brands to realise



**1ST PLACE WINNER OF THE AMATEUR  
EXPRESSION SESSION RHOSNEIGR SATURDAY 25TH APRIL '15**

how fast women's windsurfing is growing and release gear specifically designed for woman (everything from smaller boards to thinner booms) will do great in the long-run. I think we need to make woman feel welcome, included and fully capable, which they are. I don't think that windsurfing is promoted enough as a "girl" sport.

Perhaps we should look to sports like SUP or Kite, where the male-female division is not as strong, for guidance. It could also be a historical attitude that windsurfing is a difficult sport to learn that's holding women back but the times have changed, gear is lighter and it is not hard to learn to windsurf anymore - whatever size you are! I think that more marketing effort should be made to promote windsurfing in women's press.

**Who are your sporting heroes?**  
Robby Naish, Jason Polakow, Robert Teriitehau and everyone who pushes their own limits.

**Top technique tip:**  
Always ask for tips if you have someone around who can already land a move you want to learn. No amount of tips given in the magazines and videos will be worth as much as someone seeing what you do and telling you what it is that you are doing wrong.

If you are trying a new move over and over again and it's not working - change something. It doesn't matter if it makes it worse in the beginning - changing something every now and then will be better then doing the same thing over again.

**" As with everything in life, the more you practise the better you get but you have to start! "**

JUSTYNA SNIADY 1ST PLACE WINNER OF THE AMATEUR  
EXPRESSION SESSION RHOSNEIGR SATURDAY 25TH APRIL '15

# DAY 5



DAY 5 - PRIZES WERE PRESENTED TO THE WINNERS OF THE AMS EXPRESSION SESSION BY HOST DAVE BUCKLAND AND HEAD JUDGE MARKE HOSEGOOD. JUSTYNA SNIADY 1st PLACE (MIDDLE), BEN PAIGE IN 2nd (RIGHT) AND TRIS LEVIE IN 3rd (LEFT)

# PRIZE GIVING, PRO COACHING & MORE



PRIZES WERE ALSO GIVEN TO THE PROS WITH ADAM LEWIS IN 1st (MIDDLE), BEN PROFFITT IN 2nd (LEFT) AND JAMES COX IN THIRD (RIGHT). FOLLOWING THE PRIZES SPARKY RAN A PRO CLINIC FOR EVERYONE (TOP LEFT).

# DAY 5



*BIG THANKS TO FARRELL O'SHEA FOR PROVIDING US WITH SOME iSUPS AND GIANT iSUPS FOR PADDLE BOARDING ON THE FINAL DAY. BELOW, FARRELL O'SHEA PRESENTING BEN PROFFITT WITH THE UKWA WINDSURFER OF THE YEAR AWARD!*





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