



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **City of Dana Point, Boys & Girls Clubs of Capistrano Valley, Dana Point Surf Club, and Girl in the Curl Partner to Celebrate California Surfing Day**

**Dana Point, CA (September 19, 2018)** – The first annual California Surfing Day will be honored in Dana Point with a very special surf session for boys and girls from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Capistrano Valley. On Wednesday September 19, close to 50 young people, ages 10 to 18, will be picked up after school by the Dana Point Trolley from the Boys & Girls Clubs location in San Juan Capistrano and taken to Doheny State Beach to experience an afternoon of riding the waves with volunteer surf instructors from the Dana Point Surf Club and Girl in the Curl.

“There is no better way to celebrate the sport of surfing and its rich history in Dana Point than to share its enjoyment with young people. This is a true community celebration and further demonstrates our spirit of Aloha,” said Dana Point City Manager Mark Denny

Earlier this year, the State of California established September 20 as California Surfing Day, to celebrate the California surfing lifestyle and commend all those who honor the history, culture, and future of surfing.

“This will be a very special day for our club members to understand and get more acquainted with the ocean environment that’s right in their backyard,” said James Littlejohn, executive director, Boys & Girls Clubs of Capistrano Valley. “What better way to do that than spending a few hours learning to surf with some volunteer surfers! I really want to thank the Dana Point Surf Club, City of Dana Point, Girl in the Curl, Boneyard Café and all the volunteers for making this possible for our members.”

The Dana Point Surf Club will provide approximately 30 volunteer professional-class surfers and instructors, as well as certified Orange County lifeguards, who are all members of the club, to provide safe instruction and guidance to the boys and girls.

“When the City approached us about doing something to recognize California Surfing Day we knew it had to be special. When we started our club the goal wasn’t just to compete but to do good things in our community,” said Eric Diamond, executive committee chairman, Dana Point Surf Club. “This event really brings to life why we celebrate surfing, especially here in Dana Point. And it’s going to benefit everyone. I know the kids will be stoked to get in the water but more than that, our surf club members will see how much of an impact they can have by sharing their love of surfing.” The Dana Point Surf Club is a member of the West Coast Board Riders Club. Started in 2016, the Club now numbers almost 500 members. Diamond hopes to make this an even bigger annual event in Dana Point.

Surfing has long been part of Dana Point’s heritage. In the ‘50s and ‘60s, the right-breaking waves that tended to form along the Dana Point coastline could produce 12-foot surf breaks in Dana Cove which became known as the legendary Killer Dana. Doheny State Beach has gained its fame as one of the best places on the West Coast to learn to surf and was made even more famous by the Beach Boys in their music. Dana Point was also home to California’s first surf shop opened in 1954 by local Hobie Alter. It was also the place where Surfer magazine was founded and the location for production of the most iconic surf film Endless Summer.

In addition to the surf session, the September 19 event will include food provided by Boneyard Beach Café, named after one of the four surf breaks at Doheny State Beach, along with goodie bags for all the boys and girls.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Capistrano Valley are a world class after-school non-profit offering quality programs in academic success and healthy lifestyles while building good character and leadership skills in its members.

For more information go to [www.danapoint.org](http://www.danapoint.org).

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