

Skimboarding: Your Route to Shore Surfing

Skimboarding refers to a type of board sport, a sport that is played with the help of board that forms the primary equipment for the sport. In skimboarding, the primary equipment is called a skimboard. The skimboard resembles a surfboard in shape, structure and appearance, but there is slight difference. A skimboard is half the thickness, length and width of a surfboard. Additionally, skimboards also lack skegs; skegs refer to the fins attached on the board sides to aid in direction controlling. Sportsmen who endorse skimboarding as their dream sport are called skimboarders.

To play this sport, the skimboarders make use of the skimboard to glide at some angle on the water surface. Skimboarding is different from other water sports especially surfing. In this sport, the skimboarder stands minimum twenty feet away from the water surface holding his skimboard, waiting for a wave to rise in the sea. When the skimboarder sees a high-rising wave approaching the shore from the sea, he builds on the momentum and starts running towards the sea. As soon as he reaches the water edge, he drops his skimboard and jumps on it to quickly support and balance his body on it. This way the skimboarder waits for the wave to approach and makes his way into the sea water, going in wraps with the wave.

Unlike water surfing, skimboarding is a comparatively difficult sport because balancing on the board is very difficult owing to the small size and lack of skegs. Therefore, skimboarders undergo years of rigorous practice before getting into the sea with their skimboards. But thanks to the difficulty level that it is fun and lifetime experience to see skimboarders play with the water surface and glide over it, moving and dancing with the waves. Building on the zeal and enthusiasm, the skimboarders club their gliding on the sea water along with many tricks with the help of their boards.

The most easy and common trick that they perform is called the wrap. The advanced stage of the wrap trick is called the wrap to barrel. Side slipping is another trick that many skimboarders use. The skimboards that are generally used in this sport are designed and made of carbon, fibre glass and kevlar. However, out of these three, the material that proves to be most cost-effective is fibre glass. For skimboarders who are more interested in performing tricks with the game, their skimboards are made of some foam-filled materials to support lifts and provide buoyancy. These special class of skimboards is called foamies.

Started over 60 years ago, this sport was played out of leisure by people when on vacation and holidaying. Soon, the name and fame spread and today, skimboarding has a rich and high-density international market. At present, skimboarding is renowned as one of the most competitive water board sports in the world. Many tournaments and competitions are organized every year, which draw sport lovers from all corners of the

world. Some world famous skimboarders participate in the tournaments and showcase their jiggle with the board, playing with the water and performing eye-catching tricks.