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SANCTION CHANGES TO STEEL PIER CLASSIC

(VIRGINIA BEACH, VA – April 19, 2012) – Due to a scheduling conflict, this year’s Steel Pier Classic (SPC) surfing contest will not be affiliated with the Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP), and the SPC will not be part of that organization’s national tour this summer.

This change was confirmed by the Virginia Longboard Federation (VLF), the producers and organizers of SPC. ASP members will be notified of the changes by their organization, but are still welcomed to compete in the contest, although no tour points will be awarded.

The [Steel Pier Classic and Surf Art Expo](#) is presented by Coastal Edge and Billabong and is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend May 26-28, in Virginia Beach, Va. Although no longer granting ASP Tour points, the professional Men’s and Women’s longboard contests will still offer cash purses of \$5,000 and \$2,500, respectively. In addition, a \$5,000 Men’s pro shortboard contest will also remain part of the surfing event.

“We will revert back to the VLF rules of competition and pro purses will remain the same,” said Mary Knight, president of the Virginia Longboard Federation. “Surfers and fans can expect the same high caliber competition, unsurpassed judging and unique community spirit that they’ve come to know from the Steel Pier for the past eight years.”

More than 400 amateur and professional surfers from all over the United States are expected to compete in this three-day surfing contest.

The VLF is a nonprofit organization. Proceeds from this annual event are distributed to worthy causes in the community such as: Wave Warriors; Zeke Memorial Surfing Fund; Love & Caring Ministries; Virginia Gentlemen; Aidnow and Corporate Landing Elementary.

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For more information, entry forms, and a schedule of events visit www.virginialongboardfederation.com, For more information on Coastal Edge, stop by the beach superstore, 316 21st Street and Arctic Avenue, Virginia Beach, or visit: <http://www.coastaledge.com>.

For more information on the Surf Art Expo go to www.vbsurfartexpo.com or contact Sponsorships Unlimited at 757-222-2355. The Surf Art Expo is takes place on the boardwalk during the surf competition and is all about the surf, the ocean, and the beach. Local surf artists and artisans are featured in all mediums, such as painting, sculpture, metalwork, jewelry, photography, furniture, woodwork, and surfboard shaping.