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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***South Padre Island to Host First-Ever International Surf Rescue Challenge in the United States***

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas, September 12, 2023** – South Padre Island, in partnership with the TX Chapter of the United States Lifesaving Association (USLA), proudly announces **its role as** host for the 2023 International Surf Rescue Challenge (ISRC), marking the first time this prestigious event will take place on U.S. soil. The event is set to take place September 19-24, 2023, at the Isla Grand Beach Resort.

“We are thrilled and honored to be the first-ever U.S. destination to host the International Surf Rescue Challenge and continue the 90-year tradition of international surf lifesaving rivalry,” said Blake Henry, South Padre Island CVB Executive Director. “We look forward to welcoming participants from around the globe and hope to provide everyone in attendance with an unforgettable experience.”

The International Surf Rescue Challenge is a comprehensive competition program that puts the world's most skilled surf lifesavers to the ultimate test. Through a series of **competitions**, the **contestants** will showcase their expertise, strength, and commitment. For the upcoming 2023 ISRC, participants in the Open Age Teams division will include Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, and the USA, while the *Youth Teams* division will feature the talents of Japan, South Africa, and the USA.

**Visit South Padre Island**, and event organizers extend a warm invitation to the public to join in on the excitement and help cheer the teams and athletes on! To learn more about the 2023 International Surf Rescue Challenge, visit the event website [here](https://www.sopadre.com).

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### *About South Padre Island*

*With miles of pristine shoreline and clear emerald water, South Padre Island is Texas' only tropical island paradise. Calm weather and more than 300 days of sunshine make South Padre Island a year-round destination offering a variety of nature tourism attractions, water sports, and activities for the entire family. For more information, visit [www.sopadre.com](https://www.sopadre.com).*

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