



OAKLEY BATTLE CLIPS SHINES LIGHT ON SURFING TALENT

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, January 18, 2017: Oakley, in conjunction with Surfing Australia, is bringing Australian surfing to the forefront with the annual Oakley Battle Clips Competition. The competition spans out across the country and brings to light the best young talent in Australian surfing, providing a platform for surfers aged twenty-nine and under to showcase their talent, as well as reward the skill behind the camera lens.

Oakley Battle Clips invites surfing fans to get behind the four finalists in a voting period that will run from **January 19 – February 11**. Public opinion will deem a third of the overall judging score determined by social media interactions ([Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Battle Clips website](#)) – views, likes, comments and shares. In addition to the public's vote, the overall winner of the 2018 Oakley Battle Clips Competition will be judged by an expert panel consisting of Surfing Australia and Oakley representatives.

The finalist's footage was shot in Hawaii by the mySURF.tv crew, with each of the finalists shooting their own 2-3-minute film part which will be included in the Oakley Battle Clip surf film.

The winner will be crowned at a special event and screening of the Oakley Battle Clips film at the Nudie Australian Board Rider's Battle National final in Newcastle on 16 February 2018.

The winner will take home the grand prize of \$20,000 cash and \$5,000 of Nikon camera gear.

The finalists:

[Mitch Parkinson](#)

Cousin to World Champion Joel Parkinson, **Coolangatta QLD** local 22-year-old **Mitch Parkinson** comes from a strong surfing pedigree which has seen him grow into one of Australia's best young surfing talents. Mitch has been chasing his dream of earning a place on the WSL Championship Tour, without the backing of a major sponsor. Mitch is funding his Qualifying series campaign through working his day job as a landscaper, recently placing first in the Taiwan Open of Surfing. Mitch plans to use the Oakley Battle Clips \$20,000 cash prize to continue chasing his dream of competing on the Championship Tour.

(QS Rank 110.)

[Nick Vasicek](#)

Thanks to his **Coolangatta QLD** pedigree of long pumping rights, **Nick Vasicek** has earned himself the reputation of one of the best backhand tube riders in the world. Nick, otherwise known as "Vasa" came within a whisker of qualifying for the WSL Championship Tour in 2015 and has since been grinding his way through the QS to make the top 34. When not competing on the QS, you can be sure to find Nick chasing swells around the globe.

(QS Rank 110).

[Soli Bailey](#)

22-year-old **Soli Bailey** grew up in **Byron Bay NSW**, surfing from the age of two. Currently ranked number 54 in the World Qualifying series, Soli Bailey is undoubtedly one of Australia's hottest young competitive prospects. A stylish and powerful natural footer, Soli's recent successes include a 1st place in the 2016 Volcom Pipeline Pro and 3rd place in the 2017 Vans World Cup of Surfing at Sunset Beach, Hawaii.

(QS Rank 54.)

[Luke Hynd](#)

At 21 years-old, **Luke Hynd** from **Burleigh Heads QLD** has ditched the competition scene to pursue a career as a freesurfer, focusing all of his attention on travelling the globe in search of perfect waves. Luke AKA "Louie" has earned a reputation as one of the most stylish and progressive surfers in the world and with the support of major sponsors such as Rip Curl, Louie has already travelled to some of the best surfing locations on the planet, shooting surf clips and pushing his surfing to the limits.



The MySurf TV– Oakley Battle Clips Special will air on Channel 9 at 10am on 18 February 2018.

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Website: www.oakleybattleclips.com

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