

2024 VETSHOPAUSTRALIA SURFING DOG CHAMPIONSHIPS COMPETITOR PROFILES

CHEECH & Sam

Basics

- **Breed:** Golden Retriever
- **Age:** Nearly 4 years old
- **Hometown:** Gold Coast

Background

Cheech, the nearly four-year-old Golden Retriever, is making waves as the next big star in the surfing dog world. Raised on the Gold Coast, Cheech grew up immersed in the ocean and surfing culture, developing an innate love for the water. As the step-sister to legendary surfing dog Porkchops, Cheech has some big paws to fill—but with her determination and natural talent, she’s proving she’s more than ready to rise to the challenge.

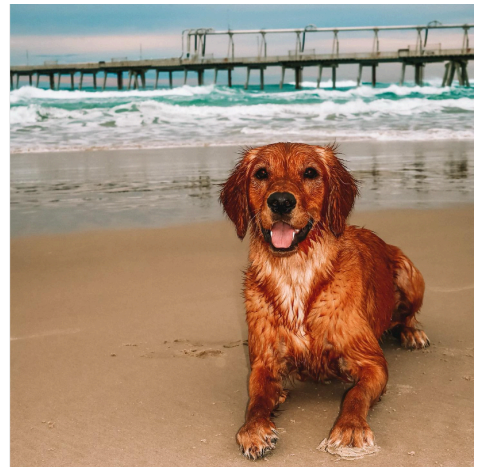
Personality & Fun Facts

- Cheech shares a tight bond with her owner Sam, never straying far from his side, whether on land or water.
- With Porkchops’ legacy as a Surfing Dog champ, Cheech carries the torch forward, bringing her own flair and energy to the waves.
- Cheech’s mum, Nelly, will join her for their debut in the 2025 Surfing Dog Championships, making it a family affair.

Training & Style

Cheech has spent countless hours in the water perfecting her technique, focusing on balance and coordination to tackle the waves with ease. Her natural athleticism and passion for surfing make her a standout among her peers.

What’s Next?



With 2025 marking her official debut alongside Nelly, Cheech is set to bring her own style and charm to the Surfing Dog Championships. Fans can't wait to see this promising young Golden Retriever create her own legacy on the waves.

JARRAH & Chris De Aboitiz

Basics

- **Breed:** Rescue Dog
- **Hometown:** 1770, Queensland
- **Named After:** Jarrah timber, reflecting strength and resilience

Background

Jarrah is a standout in the surfing community, known for tackling the massive swells at Bells Beach with grace and skill. A rescue dog with a heart as big as the waves he rides, Jarrah is carving out a name for himself while honoring the legacy of his predecessor, Rama. With Chris as his devoted partner, Jarrah made his debut at the Surfing Dog Championships in 2024, taking over as the team's next big star.

Personality & Fun Facts

- Famous for his fearlessness on huge swells, Jarrah is already a legend in the making.
- Jarrah loves riding on Chris's back, a testament to their strong partnership and trust.
- Named after jarrah timber, Jarrah embodies the resilience and toughness needed to excel in surfing and life.

2024 Surfing Debut

This year marks a pivotal moment as Jarrah officially steps into the spotlight. With Rama retiring, Jarrah is poised to carry on the legacy, bringing his unique style and courage to the Surfing Dog Championships.

What's Next?

As Jarrah takes over from Rama, the surfing community eagerly anticipates his performance in 2025 and beyond. With his fearless approach and unbreakable bond with



Chris, Jarrah is ready to write the next chapter of surfing greatness.

BU & Dane, Rio Wilson

Basics

- **Breed:** Blue English Staffy
- **Age:** 3.5 years (Born in 2020)
- **Surfing Since:** 4 months old
- **First Competition:** 2021

Achievements

Bu, also known as Malibu, is a force to be reckoned with on the waves. In 2024, she made waves—literally and figuratively—by winning the *Best Wave Award*. Her determination and undeniable charm have solidified her status as a Surfing Dog Championships favorite.

Signature Move

Tandem surfing with her owner, Dane. This duo's synergy and adorable bond never fail to captivate the audience.

Personality & Hobbies

- Bu has a sassy streak, often keeping her best friend Monty, a 12-year-old Labrador, in line.
- She swims across the Noosa River weekly to stay in peak form for competition.
- A true Main Beach local, Bu lives just 200 meters from the sand and is a familiar face to the Noosa community.
- Bu was taught to do the hula by a dolphin trainer, proving her talents extend beyond the surfboard.

What's Next?

After dominating the 2024 Surfing Dog Championships, Bu has her sights set on 2025. With her impressive training regimen and a knack for stealing hearts, the question remains: What tricks will this talented Staffy bring to the surf next year?



DUKE & Paul “Jonesy” and Huey Jones

Basics

- **Breed:** Basset Hound
- **Age:** 1 year old
- **Surfing Since:** 8 months old
- **Debut Year:** 2024 Surfing Dog Championships

Background

Duke, the floppy-eared dynamo, has taken the 2024 Surfing Dog Championships by storm. Despite being new to the sport, this young prodigy has displayed remarkable natural talent, proving that age—and those long, low legs—are no barrier to riding waves like a pro.

Personality & Fun Facts

- Duke’s go-to song for getting pumped is none other than “*Hound Dog*,” a nod to his breed and boundless energy.
- Named after *The Dukes of Hazzard*, Duke embodies a free spirit and fearless attitude.
- With less than a year of training, Duke’s progression has been nothing short of extraordinary.

2024 Surfing Debut

In his first-ever competition, Duke captivated audiences with his laid-back charm and determination on the board. His unique style and easy-going vibe made him a fan favorite, solidifying his place as one to watch in the years to come.

What’s Next?

Duke’s debut has set the stage for a promising surfing career. With his natural talent and a penchant for showmanship, this young Basset Hound is ready to make waves at future championships and prove that surfing is for every breed.

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- Not as confident as his big brother Hugs on the board but practice makes perfect.



KAI & Zanna Conlan

Basics

- **Breed:** Blue Merle Border Collie
- **Age:** 4 years (Born in 2020)
- **Surfing Since:** 6 months old
- **First Competition:** 2020 Surfing Dog Championships

Background

Kai made a splash as a surfing prodigy, competing in his first Surfing Dog Championships at just six months old. After taking a year off in 2021, he faced challenging conditions in 2022 and returned stronger than ever in 2023. Known for his obedience and sharp instincts, Kai is a standout in the Surfing Dog pack. Competed once again in 2024, but the conditions weren't on his side this year. Despite the challenges, Kai showcased his unwavering spirit and commitment to the sport.

Personality & Fun Facts

- When he's not riding waves, Kai can be found swimming, showcasing his love for all things water.
- When asked if they'd rather be stranded on a deserted island with family or Kai, his owners chose Kai because "he does what he's told!"
- Kai has a unique hobby—jumping to catch sand when you flick it up, proving he's always ready for fun.

What's Next?

With his incredible obedience, natural talent, and love for surfing, Kai is set to be a strong contender in every competition. Fans eagerly await his performances, knowing he'll bring his signature mix of skill and charm to the waves.



POPPY & Michele & Luke Lochhead

Basics

- Breed: Groodle (Golden Retriever x Poodle)
- Age: 5 years (Born in 2019)
- Surfing Since: 2020 (Started at 1 year old)
- First Competition: 2021
- Notable Win: “Best Wave Award” (2023)

Achievements

- From a fresh-faced rookie in 2021 to a celebrated champion by 2023, Poppy has taken the Surfing Dog Championships by storm. Known for her poise and playful spirit, she clinched the coveted Best Wave Award last year, charming both judges and the crowd.

Signature Move

- Surfing on two legs while holding hands with her owner—a heart-melting display of skill and trust that sets her apart from the competition.

Personality & Hobbies

- When Poppy isn’t catching waves, she’s all about the simple joys of life: chasing her ball and bounding around like a kangaroo, earning her the nickname “The Kangaroo Groodle.”

Fun Facts

- Team Poppy stands out with their hot pink rashies and matching floaties, bringing flair to the competition.
- Off-season training with her owners, Michele and Luke, keeps Poppy in peak surfing form.

What’s Next?

With her sights set on the 2025 Surfing Dog Championships, everyone’s eager to see what new tricks



this curly-haired sensation has in store. Will Poppy claim the crown this year?

LANI & Rob Lorenzon (from VIC)

Basics

- **Breed:** Kelpie
- **Age:** 2 years
- **Surfing Debut:** 2024 Surfing Dog Championships

Background

Lani is the energetic younger sister of the legendary surf dog Spike, with big pawprints to fill. Hailing from Victoria, she's already proving she has what it takes to carve her own path in the world of surfing dogs.

Personality & Hobbies

- Lani thrives at the beach, where she can channel her boundless energy into swimming and surfing.
- Inspired by her brother Spike's achievements, Lani is determined to make her own mark.
- Named after Princess Kaiulani of Hawaii, Lani carries a name as regal as her potential on the waves.

2024 Debut

At the 2024 Surfing Dog Championships, Lani made her highly anticipated debut with her owner Rob by her side. Transitioning from a spectator to a competitor, she showcased her budding surf skills and her readiness to take on the challenge of building her own legacy.

What's Next?

As Lani continues to develop her surfing prowess, the surf community eagerly awaits her next move. Will she step further into the spotlight and carry on the family tradition of excellence on the waves? With her energy, determination, and love for the beach, Lani is just getting started.



HAPPY & Paul (W.A)

Basics

- **Breed:** Australian Shepherd
- **Age:** 6.5 years
- **Surfing Debut:** 2023 Surfing Dog Championships

Background

Happy is no ordinary Australian Shepherd—this high-energy pup from Western Australia traveled across the country with her owner Paul to make waves at the Surfing Dog Championships. After a standout debut in 2023, Happy returned in 2024, proving her passion for the sport and love for adventure.

Personality & Hobbies

- Happy is all about frothing activities, from surfing and skating to climbing and performing tricks.
- Whether it's riding waves or splashing in the surf, the ocean is Happy's playground.
- This Aussie Shepherd never says no to a tasty treat, especially after a big day of action.

Owner Spotlight: Paul

- **Engineer & Adventurer:** When he's not engineering, Paul is conquering challenges like the Avon Descent, a grueling 124km white-water race in WA—making him the first human to do it!
- **Ninja Warrior:** Paul once competed on *Australian Ninja Warrior* wearing a dog onesie, proving that humor and determination go hand in hand.

2024 Surfing Return

Happy's return to the Surfing Dog Championships in 2024 showcased her impressive agility, polished tricks, and unshakable bond with Paul. Together, they've become a team to watch on the waves, inspiring others with their adventurous spirit.

What's Next?



With his love for action and unmatched zest for life, Happy is sure to keep pushing boundaries, both in and out of the water. This talented trickster’s journey is far from over, and the surf community is eager to see what he and Paul will conquer next.

BEAR & Isaac

Basics

- **Breed:** Red Cattle Dog
- **Age:** Approx. 2 years (Debuted at 1 year old in 2023)
- **Owner:** Isaac, 16 years old
- **Surfing Debut:** 2023 Surfing Dog Championships

Background

Bear and Isaac are the underdogs turned rising stars of the Surfing Dog Championships. Their journey began in 2023 when they spontaneously entered the competition. Despite being new to the scene, they hit the waves with incredible confidence, executing pro-level tricks that wowed the crowd.

Training Regimen

- Before hitting the waves, Bear hones his balance and coordination by practicing on a skateboard around the yard.
- Isaac’s youthful energy and Bear’s natural agility make for an unstoppable team on the surfboard.

2024 Return

In their return, Bear and Isaac brought fresh tricks and even more determination to the competition. Their fearless rides and tight bond made them stand out as a team to watch.

What’s Next?

All eyes are on Bear for 2025. With his skateboarding skills and growing experience on the waves, he’s poised to become the dog to beat. Isaac’s commitment and



Bear's natural talent make them a pair destined for surf stardom.

LOUI & Rodrigo

Basics

- **Breed:** Border Collie
- **Age:** 5 years (Born in 2019)
- **Surfing Since:** 12 weeks old
- **Hometown:** Byron Bay

Background

Loui is a seasoned wave-rider who's been making a splash since puppyhood. Straight from the laid-back shores of Byron Bay, this adventurous Border Collie has quickly become one of the Surfing Dog Championships' standout stars. His natural balance and calm demeanor make him a natural on the board.

Favorite Surf Spots

- **Agnes Water:** Known for its stunning breaks and surf-friendly vibe.
- **Noosa:** A classic favorite for Loui to show off his skills and enjoy the ocean's embrace.

Personality & Hobbies

- From road trips to water adventures, Loui thrives on exploration and action.
- Loui isn't just a surf star—he also understands commands in Swedish, Portuguese, and English.
- While some dogs might go for treats, Loui will do just about anything for a carrot!

2024 Performance

Team Loui captured the crowd's hearts with a mix of wave-riding mastery and a chilled-out personality. His polished skills, paired with his effortless Byron Bay vibe, make him a true crowd favorite.

What's Next?



With years of surfing experience under his belt, Loui's journey is far from over. As he continues to carve up waves and go on adventures, fans eagerly await what new tricks this talented Border Collie will unveil in the next Surfing Dog Championships.

Basil & Chris and Lynn (Debut Year)

Basics

- **Breed:** Pembroke Welsh Corgi
- **Age:** 4 years old (Born in 2021)
- **Debut Year:** 2025 Surfing Dog Championships

Background

Basil the Corgi is ready to take the 2025 Surfing Dog Championships by storm! Though it's his first appearance at this iconic event, Basil is no stranger to the waves. Small in stature but mighty in talent, this adventurous pup has mastered the art of surfing and even dabbles in wingfoiling, proving his versatility and skill on the water.

Personality & Fun Facts

- Basil's love for all water adventures makes him a natural in the surf.
- While he hasn't surfed at Noosa yet, Basil frequently hits the waves at Coolum, where he hones his skills.
- Surfing isn't Basil's only forte—this talented pup is also a wingfoiling enthusiast, adding another impressive skill to his repertoire.
- With his irresistible personality and signature Corgi charisma, Basil is sure to win over the crowd both on and off the waves.

What's Next?

As Basil prepares for his debut in the Surfing Dog Championships, fans are eagerly awaiting his performance. With his mix of natural talent, determination, and unique style, Basil is poised to make a big splash and cement his place as a crowd favorite.



VEUVE & Kathleen (Debut Year)

Basics

- **Breed:** Groodle (Golden Retriever x Poodle)
- **Age:** Almost 1 year old (Debuting as a puppy prodigy!)
- **Debut Year:** 2025 Surfing Dog Championships

Background

Meet Veuve, the bubbly and energetic Groodle named after the iconic champagne, Veuve Clicquot. Making her highly anticipated debut at the 2025 Surfing Dog Championships, this young star is already turning heads with her natural affinity for the water and her adventurous spirit. With her strong Noosa support crew cheering her on, Veuve is ready to make waves!

Personality & Fun Facts

- Veuve loves water, people, adventures, and hanging out with other dogs—she’s always up for fun!
- This little prodigy took to stand-up paddleboarding without hesitation, showcasing her natural balance and fearlessness.
- With a dedicated team of fans and friends in Noosa, Veuve has a built-in cheering squad ready to support her debut.

What’s Next?

Veuve is channeling her boundless energy and love for the ocean into perfecting her surfing skills ahead of the 2025 championships. With her charm, adventurous spirit, and natural talent, she’s poised to steal the spotlight and become a fan favorite in no time.



TARO & James

Basics

- **Breed:** Shiba Inu
- **Age:** Almost 2 years old
- **Hometown:** Noosa

Background

Taro, the charismatic Shiba from Noosa, is a rising star in the Surfing Dog Championships. Despite having only five surfing sessions under his leash, Taro made his debut at the 2024 event with a natural flair and undeniable confidence.

Personality & Fun Facts

- Taro might be new to the surf scene, but his skills say otherwise. His debut performance was as smooth and effortless as a seasoned pro.
- Taro's best friend is Cow, a Burmese cat—a bond as unique as his surfing style.
- Named after the humble potato, Taro proves that even small beginnings can lead to greatness.
- Known for his signature move of hanging 20, Taro's all about showing off those paws on the board.

2024 Surfing Debut

Signing up just days before the big event, Taro and his owner took to the waves with fierce determination. Taro's cool composure and natural balance made it look as easy as walking on the beach, earning him plenty of admiration from spectators.

What's Next?

With his promising debut, Taro is already being hailed as a natural talent. As he refines his skills and gains more experience, Taro is set to become a staple in future Surfing Dog Championships. The surf world is ready to see what this spunky Shiba will conquer next.

