

SUPERCAD E MIXES NOSTALGIC AND FUTURISTIC FUN

The Casino Fun Center Supercade at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk is another example of the Boardwalk's goal to combine nostalgic and high tech entertainment.

Housing a fantasy world of futuristic video games, pinball machines, and a laser tag arena, the Supercade also offers a number of working arcade machines from throughout its 94-year history.

In June of 1907, the Santa Cruz Casino opened as part of the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. Although titled a "casino," it housed no gambling and was promoted by famed developer Fred Swanton as a Penny Arcade, ice cream parlor, and greeting area for guests going to the ballroom, theater, and restaurants upstairs.

Some of the early arcade machines still in use by guests today include Grandma Fortune Teller, Estrella's Prophecies, and, for just one token, the 1920s charm of the The Old Swimming Hole flip-card machine.

While those and even later classic games hold their own—including Asteroids, Donkey Kong, Pacman, Frogger, and Tron (all located in the Classic Corner Section of the Supercade)—there is little doubt that the attention grabbers in the Supercade are those attractions demonstrating the latest technology.

The Sector 7 Laser Tag Arena invites guests into a 3,500 square foot maze of seven black-light rooms. Teams outfitted with colorful light lasers and flashing laser-sensitive vests try to tag members of the opposite team while avoiding their own teammates.

In 1999 the first programmable virtual roller coaster in Northern California arrived at the Supercade. The Maxflight CyberCoaster lets

guests enter their choice of thrills into a computer and then hop into a two-person pod that does all the rest.

Also new in 1999 were Tekken Tag, Star Wars Pinball 2000-Episode 1, Star Wars Trilogy, Dance Dance Revolution, and Crazy Taxi.

Then in 2000 the lively Jambo Safari, Capcom vs.SNK, Marvel vs Capcom2, and Sky Target (a flight simulator game) joined the arcade.

Other simulated video games featured inside are the San Francisco Rush driving game, Top Skater skateboard simulator, Lost World Jurassic Park, Wave Runner jet ski simulator, Alpine Racer snow skiing game, and Daytona USA Special interactive car racing game.

In 2001 the Supercade's tradition of offering the latest video games will continue, with Star Wars Pod Racer and Arctic Thunder already on the floor.

A variety of activities are available in the Supercade, from the latest in high-tech adventures and interactive games especially for children, to pinball, air hockey, the Gold Rush Shooting Gallery, Richter's Old-time Portrait Studio, Whiting's Ice Cream, and much more, guaranteeing hours of family entertainment.

The Supercade also houses a Boardwalk Redemption Center where players who win coupons from games such as Skee Ball can trade in those coupons for prizes such as bikes and computers. The Redemption Center is near the west entrance on Cliff Street.

The Casino Fun Center Supercade provides two birthday and special occasion rooms. Both the Supercade and the Laser Tag Arena are also available for private rentals.

The Casino Fun Center Supercade is open daily year round, with the exception of Christmas Day. Call (831) 426-7433 for schedule information.