



## **2016 AWSA RULE CHANGE SUMMARY**

### **1.03 Sponsor Qualifications**

All tournaments shall have at least one USA Water Ski-affiliated club as one of the sponsors. ~~In order to sponsor a tournament, one or more of the sponsoring affiliated clubs shall meet the following qualifications:~~

~~Class R, L, and E Tournaments: An active sponsor of a sanctioned tournament held during or since the prior two calendar years. In addition, the Chief Judge of that tournament must certify that no serious deficiencies on the part of the sponsor existed, and that he would recommend sanction be granted for a Record Capability tournament. When a tournament is sanctioned as Record Capability, the special requirements of Rule 15 apply in addition to all others.~~

~~Regional or National Tournaments: Qualifications for hosting a Regionals or Nationals are the same as those for a Record Capability tournament.~~

~~Class C Tournaments: An active sponsor of a water ski tournament, sanctioned or unsanctioned, held during or since the prior two calendar years. In addition, the Chief Judge of that tournament must certify that it was run according to AWSA Rules, and that in his opinion the sponsor could produce a satisfactory tournament.~~

~~Class F (Grass Roots) and X Tournaments: No experience qualifications are necessary.~~

## 1.05 Regional and National Dates

Tournaments are held on an annual basis. The Regional Tournaments shall be held to conclude on a weekend, one to six weeks prior to the National Tournament, ~~which shall be held during the second or third full week in August.~~

**1.13** A skier having fewer than three tournament scores will have penalties applied to the average of the scores they do have, in the respective classes reported, and based on the table below:

Penalty	
One Class C Score	10%
One Class E or above Score	5%
Two Class C Scores	5%
One Class E Score AND one Class C Score	2.5%
<b>Two Class E or above Scores</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

## Placement Qualifications:

**4.02A3** Overall: For those qualified by placement in overall without Level 8 rankings, scores for all events required for overall for the applicable division at the current Regionals or immediate past Nationals, must be above zero ***unless the skier has a current level 7 ranking in that respective event.*** (Also see 5.01-overall qualification)

## 6.09 Changing Officials

At the discretion of the Chief Judge, any or all officials may be changed during a large Slalom or Jumping event. The event may be divided into groups to accommodate officials changing, although no such group shall have fewer than ~~15~~ **10** skiers. Under exceptional circumstances, the Chief Judge may change any official at any point during an event.

## 6.10 Defining "Judge"

The term "Judge" refers to an AWSA-rated Senior, Regular or Assistant Judge, ~~IWWF Class 1, 2 or 3~~ Judge or any Pan American equivalent. Other federations' or regions' judges' ratings are equated to those of AWSA for use in assigning tournament personnel as follows:

AWSA	AWSA Class	IWWF
Senior	C, E, L & R	<b><i>Pan Am, E &amp; A Senior, Canadian level 3, Australian level 3</i></b>
Regular	C, E, L	<b><i>As above but adding, E &amp; A National, Canadian Level 2, Australian level 2</i></b>
Assistant	C	<b><i>As above but adding Canadian Level 1, Australian level 1</i></b>

## 7.05 Protests

Protests shall be considered only for failure of the tournament committee or the officials to comply with these rules. No protest shall ever be considered on judgment decisions by the judges ***except as noted in 10.08F and 11.09D***

## 8.02 Boats

A. The Nautique Hydrogate can be set in one of two positions, slalom or tricks/jump (may not be set in between modes)....

Jump: The default position is the jump mode. The skier has the option of using the slalom mode. It is the skier's responsibility to inform the boat crew of slalom option prior to leaving the dock. ***In Class C tournaments only, the skier may choose to change the setting between jumps.***

## 8.03 Skis

A. Maximum ski width shall not exceed ~~30~~**35**% of the length.

D. Trick skis:

1. Skis used in the Tricks event shall not have fins.
2. Trick skis with molded rails/grooves less than ~~1/4~~ **1/2"** are allowed

## 9.08 Officials

B Event Judges: The Chief Judge shall ~~shall~~ **may** appoint two event judges in addition to the judge in the boat.

## 9.16C8

Color Specifications: The ramp aprons and ramp surface shall be of different colors, both of which shall be different from the water surface. The ramp surface shall be one solid **red-orange color** without borders or decorations. An X may be allowed in the top left corner of the ramp, with the maximum allowable size of the X approximately 2'x2'. The X must be next to the top and left edges of the surface of the ramp.

## 10.06 Boat Speeds and Line Lengths (*Optional rules for juniors inserted in Italics for rest of 2016 ski year in a Class C tournament only*)

- A. The minimum starting speed for all divisions shall be 25 kph (15.5 mph).
  - 1. At the option of the LOC, a skier may start below the minimum speed in Class F only and the pass(es) shall not be scored at or above zero until they have reached the official minimum starting speed. (Also see Rule 3.06).
  - 2. Also, at the option of the LOC as stated in its tournament announcement, or by majority vote of the Appointed Judges, the number of passes may be limited to a specific number but not less than four.

Male Divisions	Maximum Speed	Female Divisions	Maximum Speed
Boys 1	49/(30.4)	Girls 1	49/(30.4)
Boys 2	55/(34.2)	Girls 2	52/(32.3)
Boys 3	58/(36.0)	Girls 3	55/(34.2)
Men 1	58/(36.0)	Women 1	55/(34.2)
Men 2	58/(36.0)	Women 2	55/(34.2)
Men 3	55/(34.2)	Women 3	55/(34.2)
Men 4	55/(34.2)	Women 4	55/(34.2)
Men 5	55/(34.2)	Women 5	52/(32.3)
Men 6	55/(34.2)	Women 6	52/(32.3)
Men 7	52/(32.3)	Women 7	49/(30.4)
Men 8	49/(30.4)	Women 8	49/(30.4)
Men 9	49/(30.4)	Women 9	46/(28.6)
Men 10	49/(30.4)	Women 10	46/(28.6)
Men 11	46/(28.6)	Women 11	46/(28.6)
Open Men	58/(36.0)	Open Women	55/(34.2)
Masters Men	55/(34.2)	Masters Women	55/34.2

- B. The boat speed shall be advanced by 3 kph (1.86 mph) on each pass until the maximum speed for the division is reached according to the table above, at which time the speed will remain constant and the line will be shortened in accordance with the table below. ***(Juniors 2016, The maximum boat speed shall remain the same for each division, for males skiing as B3 shall be 58 kph (36.0 mph), and 55 kph (34.2 mph) for all others.)***

1st cut - to a 18.25 meter (59' 10.5")	}	± 15 cm (5.906")
2nd cut - to a 16 meter (52' 6")		
3rd cut - to a 14.25 meter (46' 9")		
4th cut - to a 13 meter (42' 7.8")	}	± 7.5 cm (2.953")
5th cut - to a 12 meter (39' 4.4")		
6th cut - to a 11.25 meter (36' 10.9")		
7th cut - to a 10.75 meter (35' 3.3")		
8th cut - to a 10.25 meter (33' 7.6")		
9th cut - to a 9.75 meter (31' 11.9")		
10th cut - to a 9.50 meter (31' 2")		
11th cut - to a 9.25 meter (30' 4.2")		

All subsequent cuts shall be made in .25-meter (9.844") increments.

- C. A skier may elect to start at a speed higher than his division maximum speed, up to his respective Open Division maximum speed, and may not return to his division maximum speed on subsequent passes. Any passes skied at that higher speed shall receive credit for buoys as though they were being run at his division maximum speed. A skier cannot set a National record unless they ski at the actual age division maximum speed. An OM may not ski at 36mph (58k) set a record there and then drag that score to a 34mph (55k) division (M3). See Tow Lines Dimension Chart in the Appendix, and the table above. (also 14.02). ***(Juniors 2016, A skier may start their run anywhere in the matrix shown in 10.06(g) below.)***
- D. A skier shall have the option of selecting his starting speed (at or above the minimum for his division) and rope length. ***(Juniors 2016 see below wording in italics for 2016.)***
1. If any but the minimum starting speed for the skier's division is selected and the first pass is completed, the skier is credited with all skipped passes. If the selected pass is missed, the skier will receive credit for actual buoys rounded as if it were the minimum starting speed.
  2. With the exception of items A and B above and at the option of the skier, slalom may be run starting with any line length, below maximum speed. When the maximum speed is reached, if the skier makes a complete pass, he then receives credit for any longer line pass(es). If the pass is missed, he will receive credit for buoys as if it were the 23-meter line pass.
  3. Opting Up
    - a. Upon completion of a pass, the skier shall have the option of skipping a pass in the sequence defined in 10.06C.
    - b. Skiers not at maximum speed must always increase their speed, with each pass, until their maximum speed is reached.
    - c. If the skier elects to opt up in this manner then the skier must complete the selected pass to receive credit for the skipped pass and/or passes. If the pass is not completed the skier will receive credit for buoys at what would have been the consecutive rope length or speed.

## **Options for Juniors:**

**D. Upon completing their first pass, the skier will then receive credit for all of the initially skipped speeds and/or line length passes. However, if that first pass is not complete, then it will be scored as though it was run at the minimum speed and maximum line length.**

**E. After each completed pass, the skier may advance to a higher speed, or a shorter line -- i.e. pass-to-pass movements in the matrix may only go down, and/or to the right.**

### **F. Opting Up.**

**1. After completing a pass, a skier may advance two or more intervals either faster or shorter.**

**2. If the skier elects to opt up in this manner then the skier must complete the selected pass to receive credit for the skipped pass(es). If the pass is not completed the skier will receive credit for buoys at what would have been the first immediately sequential skipped speed, or immediately sequential line length if there was no increase in speed.**

### **G. Advancement and Scoring Matrix ...**

**Revised AWSA Slalom Scoring Matrix -- Buoys Earned on Completion of cited Pass**

		<i>Line Length -- AWSA Feet off Upper, Metric Length Lower</i>											
<i>Boat Speed</i>		<i>Long</i>	<i>-15</i>	<i>-22</i>	<i>-28</i>	<i>-32</i>	<i>-35</i>	<i>-38</i>	<i>-39.5</i>	<i>-41</i>	<i>-43</i>	<i>-44</i>	<i>-45</i>
	<i>KPH MPH</i>	<i>23.00</i>	<i>18.25</i>	<i>16.00</i>	<i>14.25</i>	<i>13.00</i>	<i>12.00</i>	<i>11.25</i>	<i>10.75</i>	<i>10.25</i>	<i>9.75</i>	<i>9.50</i>	<i>9.25</i>
25	15.5	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
28	17.4	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78
31	19.2	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84
34	21.1	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84	90
37	23.0	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84	90	96
40	24.9	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84	90	96	102
43	26.7	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84	90	96	102	108
46	28.6	48	54	60	66	72	78	84	90	96	102	108	114
49	30.4	54	60	66	72	78	84	90	96	102	108	114	120
52	32.3	60	66	72	78	84	90	96	102	108	114	120	126
55	34.2	66	72	78	84	90	96	102	108	114	120	126	132
58	36.0	72	78	84	90	96	102	108	114	120	126	132	138

**10.14d4.** Skier Elects the Option to Start at Any Line Length Other Than 23-meter at Below Maximum Speed: He shall be credited with six buoys for every pass he makes below the maximum speed. When the maximum speed is reached, if the skier makes a complete pass, he shall receive credit for any longer length passes. If the pass is missed, he shall receive credit for buoys as if it were the 23-meter pass. **(except when applied to the new 10.06 for juniors)**

**Add 10.07B. Where end course is available,** ~~In no case shall the towboat pylon~~ **shall not** deviate by more than 20cm (7.87in) from the course centerline. **For instances where end course video is not available, the boat shall follow a straight path as close to the centerline of the course as possible.**

~~**10.07C:** The bounds of the boat gates shall be defined by the center of the attachment point of each buoy.~~

**10.08A3: Only** one event judge shall ride in the towboat, hereafter referred to as the boat judge.

**10.08C1a** For Class L & R, reference the IWWF Rule for tower judge configuration (Class R requires gate and boat video under all configurations). **If tower judges cannot be located as described below in configurations D1,2,&3, a rule exception is required per IWWF.** Class L & R meets or exceeds the requirement for Class E. Reference 14.04B for Boat Video requirement for Elite Division Record Application

**10.08C1b:** A judge's tower is defined as an elevated observation point, **with a floor at least 3m above the surface of the water** that provides an unobstructed view of the slalom course. ~~at least ten feet (3 m) above the surface of the water.~~

**10.08C2c:** The camera shall be adjusted to show both buoys in clear focus, and equipped with ~~optical (not digital) magnification of sufficient power to~~



display the gate at least 1/6th of the full width of the screen (1/3 width or larger is recommended).

### **11.03 Trick Pass**

Positioning tricks at the start of a pass must be done before the entrance buoy, ***unless the skier declares a positional trick to the boat driver/judge prior to his run.*** Any trick completed before the entry buoy will be treated as a positional, out of course trick. Any trick completed after the entry buoy will be treated as an in course trick, ***unless the skier declares a positional trick to the boat driver/judge in advance.***

A. After passing the approximate position of the entry buoy ***or after completing the declared positional turn,*** the beginning of the trick pass shall begin: .....

### **11.08 Officials**

C. Boat Judge: An additional judge shall ride in the boat. He shall check speeds, observe the boat path and stop the boat in the event of a dangerous condition. He shall be authorized to grant rerides, at the skier's option, for deviations in boat speeds and path as governed by Rules 7.01, 11.06 and 11.07. ~~The Chief Judge may designate the boat driver as the boat judge in the event that a camera is operated from the boat.~~ ***In a Class C tournament, the Chief Judge may designate a boat driver, who has at least a Regular Driver rating or has at least both an Assistant Driver and an Assistant Trick Judge rating, as the boat judge.***

***ADD 11.09D: If a skier/representative believes that there was an error in the timing of the trick pass, he may challenge it by notifying the Chief Judge as soon as is practicable and by putting up US \$100. The Chief Judge and a designated review judge will re-time the pass. If they both agree on a revision in the timing or on the original timing, then that will be where the run will end. If they disagree or agree that the video does not clearly overrule the original, then the original timing will stand. The \$100 will only be returned if the original time was changed. If the funds are not returned to the skier, they shall be forwarded to the AWSEF as a contribution in the skier's name.***

### **11.12F: Clarification on Reverse trick question (delete descriptions)**

2. For trick numbers 1 (S), 2 (TS), 3 (B), 4 (F), 8 (TB), and 9 (TF) only, if the original trick is creditable, but a first attempt at the reverse trick is not, the skier need not repeat the original trick before making another immediate attempt or attempts at the reverse. Therefore, the following sequences are allowable:

S, RS nc, RS credit (trick number 1)

TS, RTS nc, RTS credit (trick number 2)

B, F, R nc, R nc, R credit, R credit (trick numbers 3 and 4)

TB, TF, R nc, R nc, R credit, R credit (trick numbers 8 and 9)

For all other tricks, the reverse trick must be creditable on the first attempt following the original trick. A second attempt may not be credited without performing the original trick again first.

3. No reverse trick shall be disallowed simply because it follows an original trick that is ruled no credit or because the original trick is a repeated trick.

4. For trick number 5 (~~Θ, BB, 5B, 5F, 7F, and 7B~~), reverse tricks are limited to 360 degrees (~~Θ or BB~~) but may follow a 360-degree (~~Θ or BB~~), 540-degree (~~5B or 5F~~), or 720-degree turn (~~7B or 7F~~).

5. For trick number 12 (~~T5B and T7F~~), reverse tricks are limited to 540 degrees (~~T5B~~), but may follow a 540-degree turn (~~T5B~~) or 720-degree turn (~~T7F~~).

**11.16C: Trick Release:** If used, the trick release shall normally be skier-supplied equipment. However, a skier may accept a tournament-supplied release mechanism. In either case, the skier is fully responsible for any release or malfunction of the device, and no request for a reride will be granted for premature or accidental release or any other type of malfunction. A rope trick release mechanism up to 60cm (24") may be used (see Rule **11.18B**).

### **11.18: Interference by the Release Operator**

**A.** If the skier-supplied release person interferes vocally or physically with the duties of the boat driver or the boat judge in the first pass, then the skier will receive a score of zero in that pass and not be allowed a second pass. Interference in the second pass will result in only the first pass being scored. Communications with the skier, including coaching, after a fall or in

the sit down period, are allowable, provided the communication does not interfere with the officials.

**B. In the trick event, the tow rope will be attached directly to the tow pylon or supplied trick release. Manipulation of the tow rope by the release person during the performance of tricks is prohibited. This person will be considered part of the skier's equipment and subject to Rule 7.07.C.**

**11.20F:** In circumstances which the Chief Judge regards as exceptional, the Chief Judge may review the tape **video** and ask the Event Judges to look at the run again so that the correct score may be established.

**11.20G:** At the request of an event judge (and approved by the Chief Judge) the video may be reviewed to establish credit or no credit of a trick or tricks. ~~provided that the judge(s) states which trick(s) he wishes to review. It is not the intention to review the entire run.~~

**12.05C** In the trick event, the tow rope will be attached directly to the tow pylon or supplied trick release. ~~Manipulation of the tow rope by the release person during the performance of tricks is prohibited.~~

### **Rule 13.03 Turn and Burn Format**

A. DEFINITION: In Class C, unseeded tournaments and at the discretion of the LOC, a skier may elect to begin his FINAL round of a multi-round SLALOM event immediately upon the completion of his current round **with the same boat and crew**; i.e. "turn and burn (T&B)."

- ~~1. Only applies to FINAL round of a multi-round SLALOM event, not to the trick or jump events.~~

### **15.02 Sanction and General Tournament Organization**

The sanction application for a tournament with Record Capability (**Class E or, L or R**) must be submitted directly to USA Water Ski Headquarters no later than seven days prior to the scheduled start of the tournament.

**15.02B** In order to produce a Record Capability tournament, **a tournament shall have at least one USA Water Ski-affiliated club as one of the**

**sponsors.** a sponsor must have produced a sanctioned tournament during or since the prior two calendar years.

**15.05J:** IWWF-sanctioned Record Capability tournaments (Class L or R) must include one official certified by the Pan American Confederation who may also be one of the chief officials. ***That official needs to be on site during a multi round tournament only while those events are being run.***

**15.06D1:** End-course video shall be recorded in the Slalom event for all passes. A rigidly mounted video camera shall be operated from a point on the centerline on at least one end of the slalom course, adjusted to show all of the boat guides in clear focus and equipped with optical (not digital) magnification of sufficient power to display the far entrance/exit gate occupying at least 1/6th of the full width of the screen (1/3 width or larger is recommended).

#### **AWSA National Championships Event Classification**

Divisions	Slalom	Trick	Jump
B1/G1	E	<b>E/L*</b>	--
B2/G2	E	<b>E/L*</b>	L
B3/G3	L	L	L
M1/W1	L	L	L
M2/W2	L	L	L
M3/W3	L	L	L
M4/W4	L	L	L
M5/W5	L	L	L
M6	L	L	L
W6	L	E/L*	<b>E/L*</b>
M7	L	E/L*	<b>E/L*</b>
M8-10/W9-10	E	E/L*	<b>E/L*</b>
<b>W7-8</b>	<b>E/L*</b>	E/L*	<b>E/L*</b>
MM/MW	L	L	L
OM/OW	R	R	R
Trick divisions that may expect scores of 10,000 points or higher should be run as an "R" classification.			
*At the option of the skier			

Tournament Classification	Regular Local Class C	National Entry Class E	Ranking List Class L	World Record Class R
<b>Applicability</b>				
<b>AWSA National Records</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>IWWF Ranking List</b>	No	No	Yes	Yes
<b>World Records</b>	No	No	No	Yes
<b>General Requirements</b>				
Chief Officials				
Judge	Reg or Sr	Sr.	Sr. (W)	Sr. (W)
Scorer	Reg or Sr.	Sr.	Sr. (A)	Sr. (A)
Driver	Reg or Sr.	Sr.	Sr. (A)	Sr. (A)
Safety Director	State	State	State	State
Technical Controller	No	<b>Reg, Sr, Amb</b>	<b>Sr or Amb(W)</b>	<b>Sr or Amb (W)</b>
Appointed Judges	CJ plus 2 Appt.	5 not including CJ	5 (A), not including CJ; Pan Am req. (P)	5 (A), not including CJ; Pan Am req.(P)
Conflict of Interest Rule	No	Yes	Yes (W)	Yes (W)
Site Certification	Measured	Survey	Survey (W)	Survey (W)
Judges Towers	3 m high, both sides recom.	3 m/44 <sup>0</sup> both sides	3 m/44 <sup>0</sup> both sides, perfect sight (W)	3 m/44 <sup>0</sup> both sides, perfect sight (W)
Speed Control	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Slalom Requirements</b>				
End course video	No	Yes	Yes (W)	Yes (W)
Buoys	Per Rulebook	Per Rulebook	Measured per Rulebook (W)	Measured per Rulebook (W)
Event Judges	5 (or 3) Ast. or up	5 total, min 1 R/S each tower and towboat <b>E**</b>	3 Sr/2 Reg min (W)	5 Sr. (W)
EJ's with gate video	3 Ast or up	3 Sr. or Reg.	2 Sr./ 1 Reg min(W)	3 Sr. min (W)
Boat Video	Optional	Optional( <b>Note 1</b> )	Optional (W)	Required (W)
Gate Video	Optional	Optional	Optional (W)	Required (W)
<b>Tricks Requirements</b>				
Video	Recommended	Required	Required from boat (W)	Required from boat (W)
Event Judges	5 (or 3) Asst or up.	5 Reg. or Sr.	3 Sr/2 Reg min.(W)	5 Sr. (W)
EJ's w/immediate video	Same	3 Reg or Sr	2 Sr/1 Reg (W)	3 Sr. (W)
Boat Judge	<b>Ast. or up, or Ast dr w/ Ast jug rating</b>	Ast. or up or Reg or Sr. Driver	Reg or up (W) or Reg or Sr. Driver	Reg. or up (W) Reg or Sr. Driver
Trick Timing Devices	Manual	Automatic	Video timing	Video timing
Timer	Ast. recom.	Reg or Sr.	Reg or Sr. (W)	Reg or Sr. (W)
<b>Jumping Requirements</b>				
Video	Not Required	Not Required	Required (W)	Required (W)
Distance Calc. Method	M/B or Comp.	Computer	Computer (W)	Computer (W)
Event Judges	<b>1 ast or up boat-1 or 2 ast or up shore</b>	3 Reg or Sr.; 1 shore may be Ast.	2 Sr./1 Reg. min (W)	3 Sr. (W)
Video Judges	2 Ast or higher when used	2 Reg or Sr.; 1 may be Ast.	1 Sr/1 Reg. (W)	2 Sr. (W)
Meter Readers	2 (or 1) Ast.or up recom.	2 each with 1 Reg. or Sr.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

Notes: (W) as required by IWWF World Rules.

(P) as required by IWWF Pan-American Region Rules.

(A) as required by AWSA Rules, which are more requiring than the associated Pan-American or World Rules (if any).

E\*\* In Class E Slalom events, an Assistant Judge may replace one of the two slalom tower judges in each tower when 5 judges are being used. (Does not pertain to Regional and National tournaments.

**Note 1: Boat Video required for the last 2 passes for Elite National Records (OM, OW, MM, and MW)**

