



## **2017 Wakeboard Rules**

## **Rule 1           GENERAL**

- a) Applicability of the Rules: The rules set forth here govern events, sanctioned by IWWF Asia. Whenever the masculine is used, the same shall be construed as meaning the feminine where the context so requires.
- b) Exceptions to the Rules: Where compliance with the rules is not feasible, the Chief Judge shall, with the approval of the majority of the Judges, make the necessary changes. Such changes will be announced at a riders' or team captains' meeting, and by posting. Where the rules are definite and feasible, a vote of the Judges to decide whether to enforce any provision is prohibited.
- c) No alcohol is to be consumed by Athletes prior to or during the day's event. The days event is deemed as starting 1 hour prior to the first rider starting their run and finished when the final scores for have been posted and the official protest time has elapsed. Once an athlete's heat and results are posted it is deemed that the athlete's day is finished.
- d) Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Any rider (or his representative) or official whose conduct is deemed unsportsmanlike or whose conduct may cause discredit to IWWF Asia, Organizing Committee and sponsors, either on or off the competition site, before during, or after the competition, may be disqualified from all or part of the competition including completed events and/or be subject to a fine to be determined by the IWWF Asia Executive Board, by a two-thirds majority vote of the Judges. Any and all infractions can also be punishable by disqualification of the whole team.

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to: use of vulgar language in public, public tantrums, not riding to fullest potential, failure to attend designated functions or events, failure to attend media conference, opening / closing ceremony, prize-presentation ceremony, etc podium presentations, discrediting publicly event organisers, fellow athletes and/or host countries and/or host federations verbally, and/or on social networking, consuming alcoholic beverages during or before the competition, use of prohibited substances, competing under false pretences, concealing significant injuries or health problems.

This also includes but is not limited to riders and individuals who choose to vandalise or misrepresent wakeboarding at official hotels venues or functions during the event.

## **Rule 2           COMPETITION SITE**

- a) Use of the site is under the authority of the Chief Judge until the completion of the competition.
- b) At the discretion of the Event organiser, and only with the approval of the Chief Judge, riders may be selected to ride or partake in a course testing, and/or media, promotional or sponsorship obligations.

### Rule 3 SAFETY

Unsafe Rider Disqualification: No rider shall be allowed to compete or to continue to compete if, in the opinion of the Safety Director and a majority of the Boat Judges, his competing would be a danger to himself or other riders in the competition. During the competition, the Safety Director may, at any time, request the Chief Judge to halt the event for a poll of the Boat Judges in regard to a rider's actions or conditions. Whenever practical, the advice of a doctor should be obtained.

### Rule 4 ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS' CATEGORIES

There will be four categories:-

<b>Categories</b>	(1) Open Men (2) Open Women	(1) Masters Men (2) Masters Women (30 year and over)
<b>Eligibility</b>	A Federation may select its team in any manner it desires; however, each team member must be a citizen or applying for citizenship of the country which the Federation represents. In case of doubt as to the nationality of a competitor, the Judges normally will refer to his passport. If a skier/rider does not have a passport from the country for which he is skiing/riding, he must prove residence in the country for at least three (3) years. Each Federation shall certify to the Judges that all members of its team meet these qualifications.  <b>All skiers / riders, including individuals, must be entered by their Federation.</b>	
<b>Age</b>	All Ages	To qualify for this category, those born in 1985 or earlier are eligible.
<b>Events</b>	Categories: • Men's Wakeboarding • Women's Wakeboarding	Categories: • Master's Men's Wakeboarding • Master's Women's Wakeboarding
<b>Team Selection</b>	The Wakeboard team shall consist of a maximum of six (6) riders. No team shall have more than three (3) men or (3) women	The Wakeboard team shall consist of a maximum of four (4) riders. No team shall have more than two (2) men or two (2) women
<b>Individual Entry</b>	Individual riders are permitted to compete provided they are the reigning World, Asia & Oceania or Asian Wakeboard Champion.	Individual riders are permitted to compete provided they are the reigning World, Asia & Oceania or Asian Wakeboard Champion.
<b>Team Overall Scoring</b>	The four (4) best placements will be used to compute the overall team score and a maximum of two (2) scores per category shall be used	The three (3) best placements will be used to compute the overall team score and a minimum of one (1) scores per category shall be used
<b>Max Kirwan Shield Overall Scoring</b>	Team Scores from the Open & Masters Division will be added together to determine the Max Kirwan Wakeboard Team Overall Winner	

**\* Riders are permitted to enter only one division, ie. Masters or Open**

## **Rule 5 HEAT SYSTEM**

Wakeboard events will use a heat system, with a Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final round of competition depending on the number of competitors. The Last Chance Qualification (LCQ) round may or may not be used within the competition, subject to time and numbers.

*For the first round of competition, the current Asian Wakeboard rankings will be used to seed the riders. The running order will be determined by the rider's seeding. If a rider is not ranked, he or she will be seeded randomly below the ranked riders and placed on the running order.* The number of riders in each is dependent on the total number of riders entered.

No Heat shall exceed six (6) riders, where possible Heats of four (4) or five (5) are preferred.

An equal amount of riders from each Heat will then advance to the Semi-Final and Final. The results of each round of competition (LCQ, Semi-Final and Final) will be selected from placement and not scores.

Advancing riders will be seeded from placement and then heats will be selected using the following method.

2 Heats 2-1-1-2 or for 3 heats 3-2-1-1-2-3 and so forth. This allows for the heats to be mixed throughout the event

Finals will comprise of a maximum of six (6) riders. In the event of a withdrawal, injury or disqualification, a rider cannot be replaced or substituted. The Final will proceed with the remaining riders. The Official Heat System will be announced before the event begins.

## **Rule 6 RIDER PREPARDNESS**

A rider must be in his bindings, with his life vest and assigned bib on, and with a rope that will not interfere with him being ready to ride when the boat returns to the dock/start area. Any rider who fails to be on immediate hand & in condition to ride when it is his turn in the running order as stated above will be deemed to be wasting time to gain an unfair advantage and **will be disqualified**.

## **Rule 7 DISQUALIFICATION**

Should a rider be disqualified for any reason, he will not be permitted to participate in the remainder of the competition, ie. If he misses his turn in the qualifying rounds, he will not be permitted to compete in the last chance qualifiers.

## **Rule 8 ADVANCEMENT**

A rider need not score in the qualifying round to advance to the next round of competition but he must ride and enter the wakeboard course.

## Rule 9 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Asian Championships: A Federation may select its team in any manner it desires; however, each team member must be a citizen or applying for citizenship of the country which the Federation represents. In case of doubt as to the nationality of a competitor, the Judges normally will refer to his passport. If a skier/rider does not have a passport from the country for which he is skiing/riding, he must prove residence in the country for at least three (3) years. Each Federation shall certify to the Judges that all members of its team meet these qualifications.

**All riders, including individuals, must be entered by their Federation.**

## Rule 10 TEAM SELECTION & SCORING

- a) **Open:** A team shall consist of a maximum of six (6) riders, with the further limitation that no team may have more than three (3) men or three (3) women. The four (4) best placements will be used to compute the overall team score and a maximum of two (2) placements per category shall be used.
- b) **Masters:** A team shall consist of a maximum of four (4) riders, with the further limitation that no team may have more than two (2) men or two (2) women. The three (3) best placements will be used to compute the overall team score and a minimum of one (1) placement per category shall be used.
- c) To qualify for Team Medals in each division, a Federation must have the following
- Open: minimum of two (2) riders, and at least one (1) male and one (1) female
  - Masters: minimum of two (2) riders, and at least one (1) male and one (1) female
- d) Max Kirwan Team Overall Shield: Team Scores from the Open & Masters Division will be added together to determine the Max Kirwan Team Overall Shield winner. Rule 10c will apply.
- e) Each team rider will be awarded the following points depending on his final placement in his respective category:

1 <sup>st</sup> place	100 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	80 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	65 points
4 <sup>th</sup> place	55 points
5 <sup>th</sup> place	45 points
6 <sup>th</sup> place	35 points
7 <sup>th</sup> place	30 points
8 <sup>th</sup> place	25 points
9 <sup>th</sup> place	20 points
10 <sup>th</sup> place	17 points
11 <sup>th</sup> place	14 points
12 <sup>th</sup> place	11 points
13 <sup>th</sup> place	8 points
14 <sup>th</sup> place	6 points
15 <sup>th</sup> place	5 points

16 <sup>th</sup> place	4 points
17 <sup>th</sup> place	3 points
18 <sup>th</sup> place	2 points
19 <sup>th</sup> place	1 point
20 <sup>th</sup> place and all subsequent riders	receive 1 point each

With the use of the heat system, there will be instances where riders have finished in a joint position with a rider in a different heat. Relevant placing points will therefore be given to each team rider based on their placement in the heat and seeding.

f) In the event of a tie, final team placement will be determined as follows:

- Open: by the 5<sup>th</sup> team score. If a tie still exists, then a 6<sup>th</sup> team score will be used to decide final placement. If a tie still exists after all team scores are used, then a run-off will take place between one rider from each team to decide final placement.
- Masters: by the 4<sup>th</sup> team score. If a tie still exists after all team scores are used, then a run-off will take place between one rider from each team to decide final placement.

g) If a team rider is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct (with the exception of the rider being disqualified for being late to the dock or not wearing a bib) no team overall points shall be awarded for this rider. No substitutions allowed.

## **Rule 11      BIBS**

Riders are required to wear an official bib during media riding, actual competition, and interviews. **If a rider is not wearing a bib that is assigned to him while competing, he will be disqualified from the tournament.** No modifications of bibs or addition or deletion of lettering or logos on bibs are permitted.

## **Rule 12      EQUIPMENT**

a) General: All personal equipment is subject to the approval of the Chief Judge and Safety Director

b) Life Vest: All competitors must wear a life vest. It is the responsibility of each rider to ensure their life vest meets the following specifications:

- i. It must float the rider.
- ii. It must be constructed so as to provide adequate protection from impact damage to the ribs and internal organs.

c) Towlines: Riders just provide their own handles and ropes which must be of a non-stretch material.

d) Helmets: Riders must wear a suitable helmet if they choose to hit any of the obstacles in the wakeboard course. If a rider hits an obstacle without a helmet, he will be disqualified from the competition. If a rider wishes to hit any obstacles, he must start his routine with a helmet on. No helmets with receiving or

transmitting devices may be used during competition. Any rider who chooses to remove their helmet must dispose his helmet in a safe and timely manner.

- e) Boats: The total additional weight in the boat will be determined by the Chief Judge.
- f) Damaged Equipment: A rider is fully responsible for his personal equipment and should have **a spare board, fully assembled with bindings and fins**, at his disposal should any damage occur. In the event that a rider realises his equipment has been damaged, he may throw the handle to indicate that he wishes to repair his equipment. This will, however, constitute one fall if it occurs in the wakeboard course. If a rider falls in the wakeboard course due to his equipment being damaged, it will also constitute one fall. **If a rider needs to stop his/her ride in the wakeboard course or before the start of his/her second pass to repair his/her equipment, it will also constitute one in-course fall.** The Chief Judge will have the final say as to whether the equipment has failed. If a rider has damaged his equipment, he will have **four minutes** to repair the equipment. The damaged equipment must be repaired at the starting dock. The time begins when the rider gets onto the starting dock. The rider must have both feet back in his bindings before the four minutes elapses or his routine is over. The boat will then tow the rider from the starting dock to the location of the fall or handle-throw, come to a complete stop and then resume the routine.

### **Rule 13 RE-RIDES**

**It is the sole responsibility of a rider to request for a re-ride.**

When unfair conditions occurs, which, in the opinion of a majority of the Judges, adversely affects a rider, he shall be granted the option of a re-ride only on the passes affected. Re-rides will not be granted if a rider's personal equipment fails.

Re-rides must be taken immediately. If a rider is given a second re-ride, he may elect to take a five-minute rest, during which the next rider in order will perform his routine. The re-ride shall be taken at the conclusion of the rider's routine during which the five- minute rest period expires.

Requests for re-rides may be initiated by a Boat Judge for the event before the next rider starts or may be initiated, as soon as possible, by the rider or his team representative and shall be decided as soon as practicable thereafter. If, in the opinion of the Boat Judges for the event, the request was not initiated as soon as possible after the rider has ridden, the request shall be denied.

Re-ride requests will not be permitted if they are based on variations in weather or water conditions.

### **Rule 14 PROTESTS**

Protests shall be allowed only for failure of the judges and calculators to comply with these rules and only if this non-compliance with rules has an adverse effect on a rider.

Protests shall be made to the Chief Judge only by a rider or team representative. Protest must be made **in writing**, must state the reason(s) for the protest and quote the relevant rule number(s), and must be filed as soon as possible, but no later than **20** minutes after the occurrence or after the results of the event are announced.

The rider or team representative will come to the Chief Judge's station and get an Official Protest Form to make the protest. The rider or team representative will then bring the Official Protest form back to the Chief Judge for review. After the Chief Judge has reviewed the protest and score sheets, he will meet with the Boat Judges to discuss the protest if he deems necessary. The Boat Judges will meet with rider to discuss the protest if the Chief Judge deems necessary. Actions may then be taken by the Chief Judge to address the protest.

Protests must be accompanied by the approximate equivalent in local currency of US Dollars 100.00 - This amount will be refunded if the protest is considered reasonable or upheld by the Judges.

If a rider wishes to make a protest while on the water, the protest needs to come by radio to Chief Judge's station. The Chief Judge will be on hand to hear the protest. The Chief Judge will record the protest on the Official Protest form until the rider is able to sign and complete the form. Chief Judge will take the proper steps to solve the protest.

All judges must be at the Chief Judge's station immediately following the last event each day and will remain 20 minutes after the release of the official results to answer questions.

Protests will be handled by the Chief Judge and the 3 judges involved in the respective event. In the case of other protests, ie. heat protests, timing, etc, such protests shall be handled by the majority of judges.

A correction of an error in the computation of scores shall not be considered a protest and the correction shall be made on the approval of the Chief Judge and Calculator within 20 minutes after the results are announced, and Boat Judges' scoring sheets have been made available for inspection. The inspection of scoring sheets will be done only in the presence of the Judges scoring that particular event.

## **Rule 15            USE OF VIDEO**

Due to the subjective scoring nature & spirit of wakeboarding, video footage of any kind will not be used by Judges, riders or team representatives to resolve any disputes. Judges will not view or comment on any video footage during the event.

## **Rule 16            COMPETITION FORMAT**

a) General: Each rider shall be allowed two passes through the wakeboard course during which time he may perform any routine he chooses. He will be judged on subjective style categories, to arrive at a single combined score.

Judging of the routine begins when the rider enters the wakeboard course and ends when the rider exits the wakeboard course, falls for a second time, or completes his wildcard trick (finals only).

Riders are encouraged to perform a smooth flowing routine with a wide variety of tricks. Each manoeuvre should be different and executed as cleanly as possible and taken to its limit.

Boar (Scoring) Judges: The Chief Judge will designate three Boat judges, to be seated in the tow boat, to score each rider's routine.



- b) Scoring: Judges will award a maximum of 100 points to each rider based on their overall impressions of the routine performed. Each individual heat per division will be judged independently from the other heats on the day. The judges will score the first rider of the heat subjectively and each subsequent rider's performance after that rider is judged higher or lower dependant upon their ride. Judges are required to both score and placement a rider in within each heat.

The judges will score each rider in each of the following categories:-

\*Execution - 33.3 Points

This reflects the level of perfection to which each manoeuvre was performed

Intensity - 33.4 Points

This reflects how big the moves were performed, as well as the technical difficulty of the tricks executed.

Composition - 33.3 Points

This reflects the overall composition of the routine in terms of the rider's ability to perform a variety of manoeuvres in a flowing, creative sequence

**\* riders will not be penalised for falls**

- c) Calculation of Scores: The Average method of calculating will be used. Scores from all categories of a rider's routine are added together to produce a judge's total score. All three judges' total scores are then averaged to produce a final score for a rider.
- d) Calculation scores will be cross-referenced to the judges' placement of the rider. **The judges' placement of the rider will always override the judges' total score of the rider.**
- e) In addition to the chief calculator and chief judge signing off on results sheets, the three boat judges must also sign off on the results sheets.

**Rule 17 WAKEBOARD COURSE**

- a) Course Buoys: Buoys to be used for the wakeboard course must be of the following specifications:-
1. Only inflatable buoys may be used, and they should be made of a lightweight, pliable material with smooth exposed surface.
  2. Color of buoys shall be selected for maximum visibility. A fluorescent orange paint must used for the start buoy and fluorescent green paint is recommended for the cut-off buoy
  3. Each buoy shall have a strong loop for attaching anchor lines. The buoys must be attached to the anchor line by the use of a system that will tighten the buoy in such a way as to ensure that it does not move around from its position.
- b) Course Dimensions: A start buoy shall establish the approximate area of the beginning of the wakeboard course from each direction. The end of the pass shall be signified by an end buoy. The distance from the start and end buoys will

be a minimum of 370 metres. These course dimensions will be used where practical. Bright orange buoys are recommended for the start and end buoys

- c) Cut-Off buoy: A cut off buoy will indicate the point after which the tow boat will not be able to get up to speed for a rider to continue his run in the second pass. Bright green buoys will be used for the cut-off buoy. The position of the cut off buoy will be determined by the Chief Judge and Chief Boat Driver. The cut-off buoy will not be used in finals where there is a double-up.
- d) Proceeding through the two wakeboard passes: The boat shall follow as closely as possible the path specified by the Chief Judge for the event, such path to include the preparation time before each pass. The second pass shall be in the opposite direction from the first pass.
- e) A rider's routine will begin when he performs his first trick at, or after the start buoy.
- f) A rider's routine will end: when he falls for a second time or when he passes the end buoy. A rider's last trick will be scored if he leaves the crest of the wake before passing the end buoy.
- g) Any rider who swims down the course to gain advantage over a fellow competitor will not be picked up. This will be the end of his routine.

#### **Rule 18 WILD CARD TRICK**

Each rider who qualifies for the finals will be given a wild-card trick after their second pass, unless advised otherwise by the Chief Judge. This Wild Card trick will be scored as part of the run. The wild-card trick has been put in to encourage the riders to try maneuvers they wouldn't normally try in their routine.

#### **Rule 19 OBSTACLES**

Organisers are encouraged to use obstacles that are of structural integrity, adequate in floatation and stability & safe in design. The Chief Judge will make the decision where to place these obstacles in the wakeboard course. Riders are encouraged to hit these obstacles to add variation to the routines. The obstacles may also signify the beginning of each routine depending on where they are placed. Obstacles must be approved prior to the event and a diagram or picture circulated in a bulletin.

#### **Rule 20 BOAT SPEED & ROPE LENGTH**

Each rider shall receive his choice of a constant speed through the course for each pass, and preferred rope length. The boat speed, assuming it is held constant before entering the course, is the rider's responsibility.

#### **RULE 21 FALLS**

- a) Out-Of-Course Falls: A rider may have one out-of-course fall only before the start of his first pass.
- b) Handle-Throw: The rider may also have one handle-throw before the start of his first pass which will also count as one out-of-course fall. If a rider throws the handle once he enters the wakeboard course, it will be deemed as an in-course fall.

If a rider throws the handle prior to the start of his first pass to indicate that his rope was incorrectly put on the wrong loop by the officials or Judges in the boat, it will not count as an out-of-course fall.

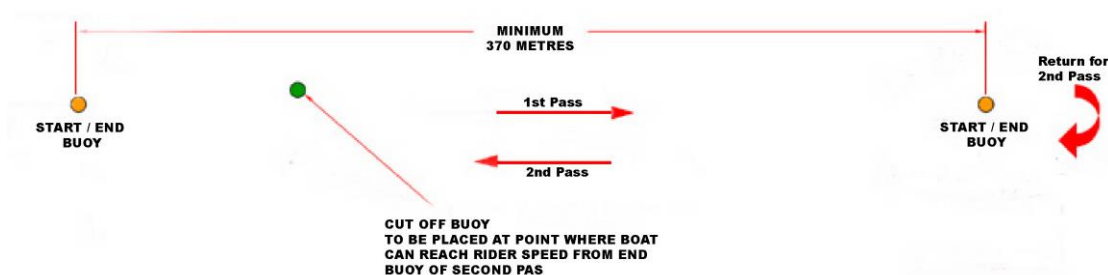
- c) An out-of-course fall or handle throw before the start of the second pass will count as one in-course fall.
- d) Two Falls: A rider may have a maximum of two falls during a routine. Should a fall occur, the boat will pick up the rider to proceed with the routine. The rider will not be picked up after a second fall, or after a fall that occurs beyond the cut-off buoy in the second pass.
- e) The rider must be ready to ride immediately upon the boat's return after the first fall, an out-of-course fall, or handle-throw.
- f) Obstacles: If obstacles are included, each rider will receive one obstacle and one wake fall only. A rider may have a maximum of two falls during a routine. Should a fall occur, the boat will pick up the rider to proceed with the routine. The rider will not be picked up after a second fall, or after a fall that occurs beyond the cut-off buoy in the second pass.
  - Example One: A rider falls on the slider and then fall on his first manoeuvre off the wake, the rider will be picked up. But his pass will end if he falls on either an obstacle or wake/water fall.
  - Example Two: A rider falls off the rainbow slider and then falls off the kicker but has not previous water falls. His pass ends.

## **RULE 22 SCHEDULE CHANGES & CANCELLATION OF EVENTS**

Changes in the schedule during the competition shall be made only for weather, water conditions, safety, or a similar reason. All riders must be on-site one hour before their scheduled event time. Such changes will be announced at a riders' or team captains' meeting, and by posting on the official notice board“

The finals of each category must be completed to determine a winner, even if the Judges are obliged to continue it at a different site. If a final cannot be completed, all riders from the event will compete again where and when possible, until a winner is determined

### **Diagram 1 - OFFICIAL WAKEBOARD COURSE**



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