



## **2017 OFFICIAL CABLE WAKEBOARD & WAKESKATE RULES**

updated 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017

## 1. **GENERAL**

- a) **Applicability of the Rules:** The rules set forth herein govern cable wakeboard competitions organized and sanctioned by the Singapore Waterski & Wakeboard Federation (SWWF). It is requested that organizers in Singapore establish rules as close to these rules as possible. 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' meeting, and by posting. The Chief Judge shall send a report to the SWWF to explain these changes to the rules. Where the rules are definite and feasible, a vote of the Judges to decide whether to enforce any provision is prohibited.
- c) **Unsportsmanlike Conduct:** Any rider (or his representative) or official whose conduct is deemed unsportsmanlike or whose conduct may cause discredit to the SWWF, 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 SWWF, by a two-thirds majority vote of the Judges. 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, consuming alcoholic beverages during the competition, competing under false pretenses, concealing significant injuries or health problems.
- d) **Alcohol:** No alcohol is to be consumed by Athletes prior to or during the day's event. The day's 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.

## 2 **SAFETY**

- a) All participants ride at their own risk; they are expected to pay attention to any potential site-specific risks and to perform a routine within their abilities.
- b) **Unsafe Rider Disqualification:** No rider shall be allowed to compete or to continue to compete if, in the opinion of the Safety Director and the majority of the 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 Judges in regard to a rider's actions or conditions. Whenever practical, the advice of a doctor should be obtained.

### 3 CATEGORIES / DIVISIONS

#### **Singapore National Championships**

*\* entry open only to Singapore Citizens/Passport Holders*

<b>Divisions</b>	<b>Air Tricks</b>	<b>Obstacles</b>
Junior Men/Women Wakeboard- 19 years and under (born in 1998 or later)	No Restrictions	
Open Men/Women Wakeboard		
Open Wakeskate – No age restriction		

#### **Ability-Based Events**

<b>Divisions</b>	<b>Air Tricks</b>	<b>Obstacles</b>
Groms (14 years & under)	No restrictions	No Restrictions
Novice Women & Men	Maximum one (1) inverted trick and Maximum one (1) 360 degree spin per- mitted	No Restrictions
Intermediate Women & Men	Maximum three (3) in- verted air tricks or maxi- mum (3) rotational tricks (not more than 540 de- grees) permitted off an obstacle such as kickers or sliders.  Tricks can be mixed:  2 inverts & 1 spin or 1 invert and 2 spins	No Restrictions
Open Women & Men	No Restrictions	
Open Wakeskate		

*\*\* A rider's division may be decided at the discretion of the judges \*\**

#### **4 HEAT SYSTEM / RUNNING ORDER**

- a) Cable wakeboard competitions will use a heat system.
- b) In qualifying rounds, the running order will be determined randomly or by previous placement in a competition of National or International level. The Chief Judge and Chief Calculator will check and adjust the start lists to ensure the heats are fair and balanced, riders that have switched categories or any other reasons.
- c) The number of riders in each heat is dependent on the total number of riders entered. A percentage of the riders from each heat will then go through to the semi-finals and finals.
- d) The riders that do not qualify will have a Last Chance Qualification (LCQ) round. The heats and starting order in the LCQ will be drawn from the qualification results.
- e) If a rider fails to be on hand and ready to ride when the cable is prepared to start, the Dock Marshall may recommend his disqualification to the Chief Judge; however, the Dock Marshall may grant up to one additional minute of time for emergencies developing or discovered just prior to the rider's turn to ride.
- f) In the case where a rider has been disqualified or has been scratched, a one- minute delay shall be granted to the next rider in the starting order if he was not on the starting dock at the time of disqualification. If more than one rider has been disqualified or has scratched, the time allotted to the next rider shall be one minute for each rider disqualified or scratched.

#### **5 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.

#### **6 COMPETITION AREA**

The start of the course will take place when a rider's board touches the water and will finish their run right after they have thrown their last trick either before a buoy or off an obstacle marking the end point of the course.

#### **7 TOW LINES**

Only standard length lines provided by the site shall be used (not to be less than 17.80m). Standard length lines are that which are used for public and daily cableway use.

## **8**     **OBSTACLES**

- a) All Obstacles in the course will be used at the rider's own risk.
- b) Riders will be judged on their equal use of both air tricks and obstacles.
- c) If a rider falls in front of an obstacle he has to let go of the handle or he will be disqualified.
- d) The Chief Judge will consult the Cable Management and Organizers to decide on the use and placement of the obstacles. The final decision rests with the Chief Judge, but the responsibility does not lie with him. In the interest of safety, the Chief Judge has the right to exclude obstacles for any reason he deems. Where during the training or the competition an obstacle is found to be defective, the organizer will make every effort to fix it as quickly as possible and inform riders of any potential problems with the obstacles. If an obstacle damaged during the competition can't be repaired quickly, it gets taken out and that heat will be restarted. A decision as to whether the obstacle is placed back will be made by the Chief Judge.

## **9**     **EQUIPMENT**

- a) **General:** All personal equipment is subject to the approval of the Chief Judge or a suitable official.
- b) **Boards:** Only wakeboards and wake skates will be allowed. Both must float.
- c) **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:
  - It must float the rider
  - It must be constructed so as to provide adequate protection from impact, and damage to the ribs and internal organs.
- d) **Helmets:** Riders must wear a suitable helmet in the wakeboard course at all times. If a rider performs his routine without a helmet, he will be disqualified from the competition.
- e) **Damaged Equipment:** A rider is fully responsible for his personal equipment. If a rider has damaged equipment when he's due to start, he will be granted maximum **four** minutes to repair the equipment. The Chief Judge will have the final say as to whether the equipment has failed. The rider must have both feet back in his bindings before the 4 minutes elapses. Once the rider is on the water, if his/her equipment fails, he/she can't get a rerun (for example a ripped binding, broken board or a lost helmet).

## 10. **FORMAT**

- a) Riders will be judged in a FREERIDE format only.
- b) There will be a minimum of three rounds: a Qualification, Last Chance Qualifier (LCQ), and a Final Round. Semi-Finals will be run depending on numbers and time available. Every rider has two chances to qualify through to the Semi-Finals or Final (from Qualification round and/or LCQ). The Last Chance Qualification round may or may not be used within the competition, dependent on time and numbers.
- c) One round will consist of ONE (1) run (pass/lap) through the course, consisting of combinations of inverts, grabs, rotational tricks, and obstacles. Riders may perform any tricks they choose in any order they wish.
- d) The scoring of the run will begin immediately off the dock and end at a buoy or obstacle designated as the end point of the course.
- e) If it is necessary to shorten the competition, the Chief Judge can decide to have only one Qualification Round. Especially if all riders proceed to finals and the qualifying run is used only to determine the final start order.
- f) Wild Card tricks may be permitted, in this format, at the discretion of the Chief Judge.
- g) Sliders, Kickers, or other obstacles may be used subject to the category/division.
- h) Speed is at the discretion of the rider but must be within the maximum and minimum tolerances allowed for the site. The speed must remain constant while the rider is in the course. Exceptions being the small cables, where the cable slows down and accelerates automatically while rider is making a turn.
- i) Re-rides may be granted at the sole discretion of the Chief Judge for failure of the cable system only.

## 11. **FALLS**

- a) Riders in wakeboard divisions will have no pick ups after a fall within the competition scoring area.
- b) Riders in the wakeskate division will be given two (2) tries off the dock to encourage a variety of dock start maneuvers. If the rider immediately falls on their dock start, they will be given a second opportunity without penalty. The dock start trick will count in the rider's overall score. Riders in wakeskate divisions will have no pick ups after a fall within the competition scoring area.
- c) A **cut off buoy** will be placed near the end of the course. This buoy

will mark where the rider can have their last fall. Depending on the size of the cableway, the motor tower may also be used as the last fall point. If the rider's first fall is past this buoy or tower, the fall will end the rider's run.

- d) Judges will only score tricks that are successfully landed. Falls are simply a missed trick and course time is lost. Riders will not be judged down for falls, however, this can take away from the overall look and flow of a rider's run.
- e) If a rider falls and drags on the cable (where either their stomach or back touches the water) but is able to recover and continue the run, the trick the rider fell on will NOT be scored. All tricks performed before and after, however, will be scored.

## **12 JUDGING CRITERIA / SCORING**

- a) Judging will be SUBJECTIVE only. There will be no predetermined points for any tricks and no attack sheets.
- b) Points in the form of "style points" will be given and based on technical performance and impression.
- c) The scores awarded will reflect each run (pass) with a single combined score from 0-100.
- d) Each rider shall be allowed one run through the wakeboard course with one pick-up in case of a fall, during which time he may perform any routine he chooses. He will be judged on two subjective categories, to arrive at a single score.  
Riders are encouraged to perform a smooth flowing routine with a wide variety of tricks. Each manoeuvre should be executed as cleanly as possible and taken to its limit.

### **Scoring:**

Judges will award a maximum of 100 points to each rider based on their overall impressions of each run performed. The judges will score each rider in the following categories:

#### **Technical performance = 50 points**

(Level and variety of tricks performed – what did the rider perform)  
Judges look for the variety and diversity of tricks in a flowing creative sequence. In the judge's eyes, a better rider is one who throws a balanced variety of inverts, spins, heel side, toe side, switch, blind tricks, and handle passes etc, using both air tricks and obstacles.

#### **Impression = 50 points**

(Airtime, master, style and control of tricks = how did the rider perform)

How impressive was the routine, how big did the rider go? For Slider and Kicker: How controlled and balanced is the rider? The judges look for the degree of effort in each manoeuvre performed and of the overall run. Does the Rider show his personal style in the trick performed?

Is the trick grabbed, boned, tweaked, shifted? Are the tricks landed clean? Good body position in the air? How long was the trick grabbed? How good is the approach /cut of tricks, the flow in the run.

For each judge team a Head judge will be appointed. After the first rider in the heat, the Head judge will give a range for the scoring of the first rider. This will give a solid base for judging of this particular heat

### **Calculation of scores:**

The Average method of calculating will be used. Scores from the two categories (Technical performance and Impression) 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.

Judges should ensure that all scores given on the scoring sheets are scored out of 10. The necessary conversions will be made at the calculation stage to ensure that the above system is adhered to.

- e) Repetition of tricks is not allowed during the run.
- f) Any trick performed outside of the course or using the pull of a deflection pulley will NOT be scored.
- g) The results may be displayed live during the competition, however they are not official until they're complete and approved by the Head Judge of the heat.

## **13 WAKESKATE**

The Wakeskate competition will follow the identical format and rules as wakeboard. The only exception will be that the riders will get two attempts at a dock start.

## **14 PROTESTS**

- a) Protests shall be made to the Chief Judge. Protests must be made in writing, must state the reason(s) for the protest, and must be filed as soon as possible, but no later than 10 minutes after the occurrence or 10 minutes after the results are announced.
- b) Protests will only be allowed for non-compliance of the rules that may have had an adverse effect on a rider, not if you simply disagree with the results.
- c) A correction of an error in the computation of scores is no grounds for a protest. If such an error occurs, it will be corrected as soon as possible.
- d) During your run, if you have any reason to request a rerun, you must stop performing any further tricks and raise your hand immediately.
- e) Due to the subjective scoring nature and spirit of wakeboarding, video



footage of any kind will not be used by Judges or to resolve any disputes. Judges can only use the video footage before scoring a rider's routine.

## **15 SCHEDULE CHANGES**

- a) Changes in the schedule during the competition will only be made for adverse weather or water conditions, safety, or similar reason. Such changes will be announced at a riders meeting and by posting.
- b) The finals of each category must be completed to determine a winner, even if the Judges are obliged to continue them 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.

For more information, please contact SWWF's Cable Wakeboard Council's Chairman, Argyrios Daskalopoulos <[d.argyrios@gmail.com](mailto:d.argyrios@gmail.com)>