

**2012
WAKEBOARD UK RULES**



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Rule 1 GENERAL

Applicability of the Rules: The rules set forth here govern wakeboard competitions sanctioned by Wakeboard UK (WUK) which is part of British Waterski & Wakeboard. It is requested that confederations 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.

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 Chairman of WUK 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.

Drug Testing: All competitors must agree to be subject to doping control. Specific policies and procedures regarding doping control shall be under the control of the Medical Commission of the IWWF.

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.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Any rider (or his representative) or official whose conduct is deemed unsportsmanlike or whose conduct may cause discredit to WUK or British Waterski & Wakeboard 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.

f) 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 sites.),, 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.

Each rider, prior to participating, will sign a code of conduct as a condition of entry.

Rule 2 : COMPETITION SITE DURING WAKEBOARD UK NATIONALS

Organisers choose to hold an unofficial practice all riders must be given equal time on the water.

The organizers of the event will hand the site over to the Chief Judge one full day prior to the first day of the event for inspection.

Use of the site is under the authority of the Chief Judge until the completion of the competition.

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 DURING WAKEBOARD UK NATIONALS

Safety Director: The Chief Judge is also deemed as the Safety Director and has authority to also appoint such assistants as appear necessary. The Safety Director shall be responsible for the safe conditions of all equipment, facilities and operation of the event; but this shall not prevent him from delegating specific responsibilities to his assistants as approved by the Chief Judge. He shall have the authority to take whatever action is necessary, including stopping the event, whenever he observes a condition he believes unsafe. The Chief Judge may overrule any contemplated action or decision of the Safety Director on his own responsibility.

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.

Safety Boats: Two safety boats shall be used during the event. The suggested positioning of the safety boats is operating outside the wakeboard course buoys facing a rider during his pass. The final position of the safety boats on course will be determined by the chief judge.

Safety Boat Personnel: Each safety boat will be manned by:

An experienced driver who is familiar with the conduct of all practice and competitive events.

A swimmer, who is fully trained in First Aid, Emergency Resuscitation and Water Rescue Techniques. The swimmer will wear a life jacket at all times and, in the event of a serious fall, will jump into the water to assist the rider. If the injured rider is unable to climb into the safety boat with little or no assistance, the rider will be floated to shore and lifted from the water on a suitable board or stretcher. Under no circumstances will an injured rider be lifted passively over the side of the safety boat. It is emphasized that, in international competition, language difficulties may interfere with communication; and, for this reason, the swimmer **MUST GET IN THE WATER** to assist the injured rider.

On Site Medical Facilities: The Safety Director will appoint a Competition Medical Officer who will undertake to provide the following services:

A suitably qualified medical officer will be in attendance during throughout the event.

A suitably equipped medical station prepared to deal with any sort of medical emergency will be conveniently located at the competition site.

Suitable transportation facilities that will allow an injured rider to be moved safely and promptly to the best local medical unit for further care.

A working relationship will be established between the local hospital or medical unit and the Competition Medical Officer, such that casualties will get prompt and expert treatment when required.

Rule 4 :CATEGORIES AT 2012 WAKEBOARD NATIONALS

Competition entry at the 2012 Wakeboard Nationals will be strictly by age with the exception of the Open category

There will be a minimum of 3 riders required to open a category. The Chief Judge will inform all participants as soon as feasibly possible if there are insufficient riders within a category.

A rider will only be allowed to enter one category.

The Chief Judge and/or Chief Calculator will ensure that all riders' passports are checked for verification of age.

For 2012 Wakeboard Nationals - a rider's age as of 1st. January 2012 will be used to determine age bracket

Junior Nationals

Youngsters (Groms)

9 years old and under. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

If a rider was born in 2002 and after.

Boys

10 to 14 years old. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

2001 - 2000 - 1999 - 1998 - 1997

Girls

10 to 14 years old. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

2001 - 2000 - 1999 - 1998 - 1997

Junior Men

15 to 18 years old. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

1996 - 1995 - 1994 - 1993

Junior Women

15 to 18 years old. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

1996 - 1995 - 1994 - 1993

Wakeskate Junior Men

15 to 18 years old. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

1996 - 1995 - 1994 - 1993

Wakeskate Junior Women

15 to 18 years old. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

1996 - 1995 - 1994 – 1993

Wakeskate Boys

10 to 14 years old. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

2001 - 2000 - 1999 - 1998 – 1997

Wakeskate Girls

10 to 14 years old. If a rider was born in the following years, then they qualify for this category:

2001 - 2000 - 1999 - 1998 - 1997

Open Nationals

Open Division – Men

No age restriction

Open Division – Women

No age restriction

Masters – Men

30 years old and over: If a rider was born in 1981 and before.

Masters – Women

30 years old and over: If a rider was born in 1981 and before.

Masters 2 – Men

39 years old and over: If a rider was born in 1972 and before.

This category can only be opened if there are enough riders to open both Master - Men and Masters 2

Masters 2 – Women

39 years old and over: If a rider was born in 1972 and before.

This category can only be opened if there are enough riders to open both Master - Women and Masters 2

Men.Wakeskate Open – Men

No age restriction

Wakeskate Open – Women

No age restriction

Rule 5 HEAT SYSTEM

Wakeboard competitions will use a heat system. The running order for the first round of competition will be randomly selected by either computer or drawn from a ballot in order to compete in individual heats. The number of riders in each is dependant on the total number of riders entered.

No heat shall exceed 6 riders, where possible heats of 4 or 5 are preferred.

An equal amount of riders from each heat will then advance to the semi-finals and finals. The LCQ, Semi-finals and Finals will be selected from placement **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

The number of riders in each heat is dependent on the total number of riders entered. There will be a maximum of 6 riders in each heat. A percentage of the riders from each heat will then advance to the semi-finals and finals. The running order for the LCQ, Semi Finals and Finals will be selected from placement and NOT scores.

All Finals will comprise of 6 riders, in the event of a withdrawal, injury or disqualification the rider will not be replaced or substituted. The final heat will proceed with fewer riders.

The Last Chance Qualification round may or may not be used within the competition, dependent on time and numbers.

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 DISQUALIFICATIONS

Should a rider be disqualified for any reason, he will not be permitted to participate in the remainder of the competition, i.e. 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 must score (more than 0) in the qualifying round to advance to the next round of competition.

Rule 9 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Rider Eligibility: You must be a member of Wakeboard UK and/or British Waterski & Wakeboard & have a current Boarding pass for the 2012/13 season.

Rule 10 RANKING

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. The relevant placing points will therefore be given to each individual.

Please note that points are not awarded after each qualification round. Each rider will be awarded the following point's dependant on his place in the final, semi final or LCQ.

1st place	100 points
2nd place	80 points
3rd place	65 points
4th place	55 points
5th place	45 points
6th place	35 points
7th place	30 points
8th place	25 points
9th place	20 points
10th place	17 points
11th place	14 points
12th place	11 points
13th place	8 points
14th place	6 points
15th place	5 points
16th place	4 points
17th place	3 points
18th place	2 points
19th place	1 point

20th place and all subsequent riders receive 1 point each.

Rule 11 - EQUIPMENT

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 to attempt a double-up must dispose of his helmet in a safe and timely manner. A rider will be disqualified if he removes his helmet for any other reason.

e) Boats: The total additional weight in the boat will be determined by the Chief Judge and a representative from the World Wakeboard Council. If a representative from the WWC Council is not present, then the decision will be at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

F) 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/her while competing, he/she will be disqualified from the tournament.** No modifications of bibs or addition or deletion of lettering or logos on bibs are permitted.

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 ride in the wakeboard course or before the start of his second pass to repair his 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 12 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 13 PROTESTS

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.

Protests must be accompanied by fee (to be determined by the Chief Judge at the start of the event). 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.

The Chief Judge will handle protests and the 3 judges involved in the respective event. In the case of other protests, i.e. 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 14 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 15 COMPETITION FORMAT

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 double-up (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.

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

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 riders 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, as well as the successful completion of the routine with a minimum number of falls.

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

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.

Calculation scores will be cross-referenced to the judges' placement of the rider. The judges' placement of the rider will always override the total score of the rider.

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 16 WAKEBOARD COURSE

Course Buoys: Buoys to be used for the wakeboard course must be of the following specifications:-

Only inflatable buoys may be used, and they should be made of a lightweight, pliable material with smooth exposed surface.

Color of buoys shall be selected for maximum visibility. A fluorescent orange paint must be used for the start buoy and fluorescent green paint is recommended for the cut-off buoy

Start buoys shall not stand be more than 1 metre high above the waterline.

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.

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

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.

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.

A rider's routine will begin when he performs his first trick at, or after the start buoy.

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.

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 17 DOUBLE-UP

Each rider who qualifies for the finals may be given a double-up. It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to communicate to the driver before leaving the dock whether he would like a left or right double-up (see Diagram 2), and where the double-up will occur in the course. Re-rides will not be granted due to any miscommunication between the rider and driver. In the event that the boat provides a double-up in an incorrect direction, the rider must wave off the double-up and not attempt any manoeuvre. If any manoeuvre is attempted, which includes cutting at the wake, the rider will be deemed to have accepted his double-up. If a rider waves off the double-up, the boat will then turn around, and proceed with a double-up in the correct direction. Re-rides will not be granted for turbulent

water in this instance. If a rider's first fall occurs beyond the cut-off buoy, the boat will then immediately proceed with a double-up for the rider.

Rule 18 OBSTACLES

Organisers are encouraged to use obstacles that are symmetrical in design and where practical and possible, subject to site conditions and logistics.

The obstacles may comprise of the following:

Flat Bar
A-Frame
Symmetrical Kicker

Obstacles must be manufactured with the following prerequisites:-
structural integrity
safety
adequate floatation and stability

The Chief Judge will make a final decision on whether the obstacles meet the above criteria.

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 their routines.

The obstacles may also signify the beginning of each routine depending on where they are placed.

Rule 19 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 20 FALLS

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 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.

An out-of-course fall or handle throw before the start of the second pass will count as one in-course fall.

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.

Obstacles: each rider will receive one obstacle and one wake fall only.

Example one: A rider falls on the slider, and then falls 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 water trick.

Example two: A rider falls off the rainbow slider, and then falls off the kicker but has no previous water falls. His pass ends

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.

RULE 21 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

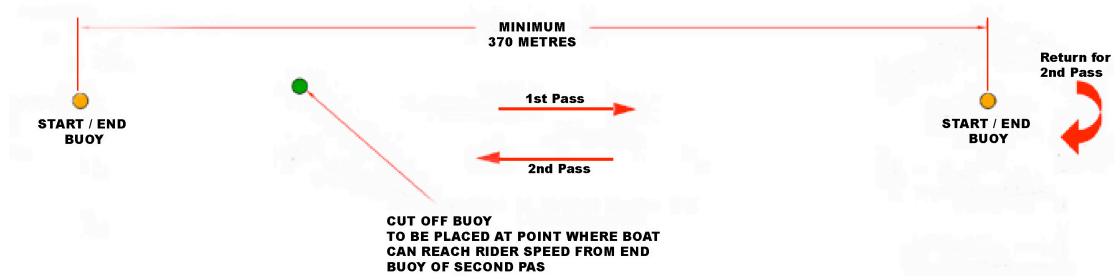


Diagram 2 - DOUBLE-UP ILLUSTRATION

