



DRONE USAGE RULES & REGULATIONS

Revised June 1, 2019

*The following requirements apply to **all Drones** [including Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles] used in connection with USA-WSWS sanctioned events.*

Created: June 1, 2019

The following requirements apply to the use or operation of Drones during any USA-WSWS sanctioned event:

- **FAA Compliance:** Drone owners and operators will follow the requirements set forth by the FAA in the Unmanned Aircraft rules: Small UAS rule (14 CFR part 107):
- **Pilot Certification:** All pilots operating a Drone during USA-WSWS sanctioned events must comply with the FAA's Small UAS Rule (Part 107), and must obtain and maintain a Remote Pilot Certificate from the FAA. This certificate demonstrates that the pilot understands the regulations, operating requirements, and procedures for safely flying Drones. For more information, please refer to FAA Remote Pilot Certification: www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/part_107/remote_pilot_cert/
- **Drone Weight Limitation:** Drones must weigh less than 55 pounds, consistent with FAA regulations listed above.
- **Drone Usage Form:** Before usage of any Drone in a USA-WSWS sanctioned event, a Drone Usage Form must be completed and submitted to USA-WSWS headquarters.
- **Safety Requirements (for use of Drones):** Clubs and event organizers are responsible for establishing and implementing policies for the safe use of Drones at their events. Please take time to understand the rules and note that this is not the duty of the Chief Judge (CJ). However, the CJ (and athletes) should be properly briefed prior to the event by the event organizer. The event Safety Director, with the agreement of the Chief Judge, shall have the authority to request all flights be stopped if it is determined that it poses a safety hazard to competitors or spectators.
- **Venue Permits (for use of Drones):** You must verify that the venue permits the use of Drones and where exactly it is safe and allowed for Drones to fly. Some sites may restrict the use of Drones at certain areas and others may completely forbid it. Also, make sure that the flying path of your Drone does not pass through high-security areas which is illegal and might cause you many problems (or interference with electronic equipment).
- **Minimum Insurance Requirements:** Drone Owners/Operators must provide and maintain at least \$1,000,000 of primary aircraft liability insurance for the operation of any Drone during any USA-WSWS sanctioned event, with USA Water Ski & Wake Sports, its sponsors,

directors, employees, volunteers, members, clubs, associations, sport disciplines & divisions included as Additional Insureds. Drone Owners/Operators must provide a certificate of insurance confirming compliance with these minimum insurance requirements prior to operation of a Drone at any USA-WSWS sanctioned event.

- **Other Considerations:** Choose the right times for using Drones at your events. Understand that Drones can be disruptive and distracting for both participants and spectators. It is recommended that Drones should be flown behind and no closer than 50m from a competitor. Visual and auditory distraction could be detrimental to a competitor's performance and result in an unfair situation causing a potential re-ride, time out or other action determined by the Chief Judge. As each venue is different, it is recommended that competition organizers develop a plan on where Drones may be used at their sites and announce and post detailed information. The number of drones in operation at one moment in time in the same location should be limited. At sanctioned tournaments, the Chief Judge will determine the number of Drone will be used and when. At other USA-WSWS sanctioned events, the Club Official will make this determination.
- **Compliance with Applicable Laws:** All Drone operators MUST comply with all local, state and federal regulations.