

2010 Summary of AWSA Rule Changes

Changes shown In ***Bold Italics***

1.02 Tournament Classification (Also see Interpretations)

Sanctioned tournaments shall be designated: Closed (limited to residents within a certain locality or to certain classes or groups of skiers except as limited by Rule 3.01); Open; or Collegiate (National Collegiate Water Ski Association). All tournaments are further classified as Record Capability tournaments (Class R, L and E) in which World or National Records may be set; Class C - Standard local tournaments in which all Ranking List Performances other than Open may be earned; Class N (***Grass Roots***), primarily for beginning skiers, which allow wide variations from the requirements of the other classifications. ***To Add jumping to a Class N(Grass Roots) classification a minimum of a State Safety director and Regular Driver is required.***

Tournament classifications may be combined. For example, a Class R tournament may be run in conjunction with a Class C (or other).

A skier may not ski in more than one class in the same event in the same round at one tournament and may not ski more than three rounds in an event at a tournament. (See Rule 1.09 and Rule 13)

3.03 Elite Division Competition

a. Divisions. There shall be two Elite Divisions of competition. The Masters Division may be entered by any skier age 35 or greater who is Masters Qualified. The Open Division may be entered by any skier of any age who is Open Qualified. Entry into either Elite Division is optional.

b. Qualification and Duration.

1. A skier of any age shall be Open Qualified in an event (or in Overall) if their ranking score in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the Open Cutoff ranking score for that event on any date within the past 12 months.

2. **Skiers age 35 or greater shall be Masters Qualified in an event (or in Overall) if their ranking score in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the Masters Cutoff ranking score for that event on any date within the past 12 months.**
 3. **A skier will maintain their Open or Masters qualification status for 12 months from the last date they held a Level 9 ranking.**
 4. **An Elite Skier qualified by Overall Ranking may compete in the elite division in a single event.**
- c. **Determination of Level 9 Elite Cutoff Scores.**
1. **WHEN: The Open and Masters Cutoff ranking scores shall be determined each day, from the distributions of ranking scores in each event on that day.**
 2. **GOVERNANCE: The percentile targets for Level 9 shall be set by the Skier's Qualification Committee, in accordance with directives approved by the AWSA board.**
 3. **OPEN CUTOFF: The Open Cutoff ranking score for each event shall be the lowest ranking score in Level 9, of the collection of skiers in that event with ranking scores in the M1, M2 and OM divisions for men, and the W1, W2 and OW divisions for women.**
 4. **MM CUTOFF: The Masters Cutoff rankings score shall be the lowest ranking score in Level 9, of the collection of skiers in that event with ranking scores in the M3, M4 and MM divisions for men.**
 5. **DUAL RANKINGS: If a particular skier has rankings in more than one of the divisions in either of these collections for an event, that skier shall only be counted once for that collection, with the higher of those ranking scores.**
 6. **JUMP VARIATIONS: Where jumping speed and/or ramp heights differ between the divisions which contribute to one of these collections, suitable adjustments (as defined by the Skiers Qualification Committee) shall be made to those scores to put them on a common basis for the applicable Elite Division.**

4.03 Regional Tournament Qualifications

- (a) General: Each Region shall determine the required qualifications for its own Regional Tournament.

In any year, a skier shall be qualified to enter only one Regional Tournament for placement. ***A skier shall ski for placement in the Region where he does more than half of his tournament skiing, during the ten weeks prior to the Regional Tournament.*** A skier has the option to return to his Region of legal residence to ski for placement.

5.03 Overall Scoring

- (a) In scoring for overall positions within each division, each competitor shall receive a NOPS (Normalized Overall Performance Score) for each event, calculated from his performance in that event, relative to standards for that specific division and event, using a smooth curved mathematical fit to those standards.
1. The standards for each division and event shall be set annually by the Skier's Qualification Committee, based on the distribution of scores for the skiers in that particular division and event, over the preceding 12 month period.
 2. The smooth curved function for each division and event shall be formulated such that:
 - a. In slalom and tricks, a raw event score of zero will produce a NOPS score of zero.
 - b. In jumping, a raw event score of less than 15% of the National Record Jump Score for that division will produce a NOPS score of zero.
 - c. A raw event score that equals the Median (50th percentile ranking) score for that division and event shall receive a NOPS score of **exactly** 500 points.

- d. A raw event score that equals the National Record score for that division and event shall receive a NOPS score of **exactly** 1500 points.
 - e. The smooth curved function for each division and event shall be based on the ratio of the skier's raw performance score in that division and event, divided by the standard score for that division and event, with that ratio raised to a specified power. The specified power values for each division and event shall be computed to best fit provisions a-d above.
3. The Skier's Qualification Committee shall annually publish a table of the NOPS standards, and the associated computational formulas and power factors, for each division and event for the next ski year.

All three performances for an overall score **shall be achieved in the same division** and must be performed in the same round of a multi-round tournament (i.e. first time skied **in a division** per event = round 1, second time skied **in a division** per event = round 2, etc.)

6.01 National Tournament

- b) Other Appointed Judges (~~two~~ from each region)....
- e) Boat Drivers (~~two~~ from each region).....
- g) Scorers (~~two~~ from each Region).....

6.13 Chief and Appointed officials

Chief and appointed officials for any tournament shall hold the required rating level for all events that are scheduled in that tournament, and these officials shall remain available on the site throughout the entire tournament. **If a tournament is sanctioned for more than 5 days the appointed officials may be split. This change in appointed officials must be**

announced in the tournament announcement at least 30 days prior to the start of the tournament.

7.04 Protest Procedure

Protests shall be made to the Chief Judge and shall be considered by the Appointed Judges. Protests must be in writing, give the reason for the protest, be signed by the contestant, and be filed no later than 30 minutes after the results of the event are posted and the judges' scoring forms are available for inspection. ***If there is a tie vote of the appointed judges on a protest resolution, the Chief Judge shall break the tie.***

8.02 Boats

- d) National and Regional Tournaments: The selection of boats The same boat and driver shall be used by all contestants in each Slalom and Jumping event, except in an emergency situation such as where time is a factor and similar boats and drivers of similar abilities are available and the Appointed Judges, by majority vote, may elect to use two boats and drivers in the same event in an alternating manner. *Alternating manner* shall mean the next available towboat will be used. However, in Jumping and Slalom tie run-offs only one boat and driver shall be used. For the Tricks event, the skier may select a boat from any of the designated towboats. ***For the 2010 Nationals the Chief Judge and Chief Driver may at their discretion schedule jump events using alternating boats.***

8.04 Ropes

(e) Class E, L, and R events pulled with alternating ropes shall use lines of the same model and manufacturer, ***except in the B1,G1 divisions, when Junior towlines are available.***

9.06 Boat Speed

The boat speed for each attempt shall be chosen by the skier from those listed in the table in the Appendix, up to the maximums listed below. In addition, the skier shall be given a choice of having the speed control deliver

a faster speed throughout the second segment, or having the speed control return to the baseline (RTB) speed for the second segment. The speed control shall be engaged before the 180m (590 foot) buoy.

- (a) Open Men; Masters Men; Men 1, 2: 57 kph /35.4 mph
- (b) Open Women; Women 1, 2; Men 3, **M4 (effective following 2010 Nationals)**: 54 kph/ 33.6 mph
- (c) Women 3; Men 4, 5; Boys 3; Girls 3: 51 kph/31.7 mph

11.03 Trick Pass

Positioning tricks at the start of a pass must be done before the entrance gate. **Any trick completed before the entry gate will be treated as a positional, out of course trick. Any trick completed after the entry gate will be treated as an in course trick.**

- (a) After passing the approximate position of the entry gates the beginning of the trick pass shall begin:
 - (1) For a surface trick, at the first discernable rotation of the ski from the tracking direction (or position).
 - (2) For a wake trick, at the earliest of the following to occur:
 - (i) At the first discernable rotation of the ski from the tracking direction (or position) as the skier approaches the wake, or;
 - (ii) When the ski under the binding of the leading foot leaves the water surface no longer supporting the weight of the skier, or;
 - (iii) When the binding of the leading foot crosses the crest of the wake.

- (3) It is the skier's responsibility to start their pass within 15 meters after the entry gate buoys. Re-rides will not be granted for reasons caused by a skier's late start.

11.08 Officials

a) Shore Judges: There shall be five judges responsible *(at the option of the Chief Judge, 3 may be used for Class C tournaments and below)* for independently deciding the following:

- (1) Judgments regarding Rules 7, 11.03, 11.04, and 11.12.
- (2) Deciding with respect to each trick if it was performed according to the rules for that trick.
- (3) Deciding if a trick is started after the beginning or completed before the end of the pass.
- (4) Deciding if a fall or handle throw has occurred. (Rules 11.04 and 11.11)
- (5) Deciding if a reride is to be given when requested by a skier.

b) When video review is available for scoring tricks as described in 11.20, the following are required:

- (1) 3 Shore Judges as described above (5 Recommended for major tournaments).**
- (2) 1 Boat Judge, or at the option of the Chief Judge, a Reg/Sr Driver. (see 11.08.c)**
- (3) One immediate video playback may be permitted on each pass (see Rule 11.20).**

c) Boat Judge: An additional.....

11.11 Handle Throws

A contestant may refuse to enter the official trick course on either pass by throwing the handle in the air or by being released by the quick release operator by means of a prearranged signal before passing the **start gate**. He shall not be

11.12 Trick Descriptions Credit and Point Values

(d) A wake turn is a trick performed in mid-air while crossing the crest of the wake. A wake turn not executed in mid-air and across the crest of the wake scores zero. ***The ski will edge towards the wake, then the push/pop comes first then the rotation, or the push/pop and rotation come at the same time. The rotation cannot come before the push/pop. An inadvertent touch of the water with the ski tip during the rotation is acceptable on tricks with 540 degrees or more of rotation. Definition of a Pre-turn: A pre-turn is a turn off of a flat ski where the push/pop comes after the rotation has started.***

(p) BFL5F and BFL5B must be done hand-to-hand. The rope may not be wrapped around the body to assist the turn. This does not prohibit the simple back position wrap where the rope does not go around the body.

11.20 Video The Tricks event shall be recorded at all Record Capability tournaments ***(and other tournaments whenever possible)*** by a video camera from a suitable shore judging position ***(Class E), or from the boat (Class E, L & R)***. If more than one video camera is used, the Chief Judge shall declare one as official prior to the start of the event. (See Rules 11.08(a), ***(b)*** and ***(f)***)