



# Trained Boat Driver Program Description

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USA Water Ski & Wake Sports (USA-WSWS) rated Trained Boat Drivers may drive sanctioned GrassRoots tournaments, Basic Skills clinics and club practices/exhibitions. **Show Ski club practices/exhibitions, however, must use NSSA (Show Ski) rated drivers only.**

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. All drivers of towboats, pick-up boats and any other watercraft in USA-WSWS sanctioned events must comply with and meet all requirements for boater's training and/or licensing under state law applicable in the driver's state of residence.
2. In addition to the above, boat drivers who tow skiers in USA-WSWS sanctioned events shall possess a current USA-WSWS Trained Driver or sport discipline driver's rating and must:
  - be a current Active member of USA-WSWS (**does not include GrassRoots Active membership**)
  - have a current and valid motor vehicle operator's license at all times while they hold a driver's rating (or, in the case of a rated driver who does not currently hold a motor vehicle operator's license, demonstrate that the reason that he/she does not currently hold this license is not due to the fact that his/her motor vehicle operator's license privileges have been suspended or revoked)
  - immediately report to USA-WSWS any suspension or loss of their motor vehicle operator's license
  - meet minimum "safe driving" standards established by USA-WSWS and its sport disciplines at all times while they hold a USA-WSWS or sport discipline driver's rating

## HOW TO BECOME A USA-WSWS TRAINED BOAT DRIVER

In addition to the General Requirements outlined above, aspiring USA-WSWS Trained Boat Drivers must be a **minimum of 16 years old** and complete the steps outlined below.

### Step 1 – Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) Review:

- [Click here](#) to log into your "Members-Only" section of our Web site using your membership number and password
- Click on the "[Drivers' Programs](#)" link from the navigational menu on the left-hand side of the page
- Click on the "[Purchase and Authorize a Motor Vehicle Record \(MVR\) Review](#)" link and follow the instructions to pay the screening fee
- **Important:** Click on the link provided on your payment receipt to go to the screening agency's Web site to submit your authorization

Typically it takes at least two to three business days for the results to be returned. The screening agency will only notify the applicant if they fail the review. USA-WSWS will send passing notification via e-mail from [officials@usawaterski.org](mailto:officials@usawaterski.org).

### Step 2 – Online Course and Testing:

- [Click here](#) to log into your "Members-Only" section of our Web site using your membership number and password
- Click on the "[Drivers' Programs](#)" link from the navigational menu on the left-hand side of the page

- Click on the [“USA Water Ski Online Trained Boat Driver Course”](#) link from the submenu and follow the instructions to register and pay the \$20.00 course fee

**Note:** In lieu of the Online Trained Boat Driver Course and Written Exam, drivers may attend an in-person USA-WSWS Trained Boat Driver or Sport Discipline Driver Clinic and take the Trained Driver written and practical evaluations at the same time. To locate a sanctioned drivers’ clinic in your area, go to the home page of our Web site ([www.USAWATERSKI.org](http://www.USAWATERSKI.org)) and click on the [“Officials’ Resources”](#) link from the navigational menu on the left hand side of the page and click on the [“Officials’ Clinics”](#) link from the submenu.

### Step 3 – On-Water Practical Evaluation:

- May be conducted by any current USA-WSWS Trained Boat Driver or Sport Discipline-rated driver
- To locate a qualified driver in your area, go to the home page of our Web site ([www.USAWATERSKI.org](http://www.USAWATERSKI.org)) and click on the [“Officials’ Resources”](#) link from the navigational menu on the left hand side of the page
- Click on the [“Officials’ Directory”](#) link from the submenu
  - Select the applicable region or state(s)
  - Choose any sport discipline (use “USA” to locate a Trained Driver)
  - Rating Type: “Driver”
  - Level: “All”
  - Click on the “Search” button to retrieve the listing
- Set up a testing date/time with a qualified driver to administer the on-water practical evaluation (<http://www.usawaterski.org/pages/officials/TrainedBoatDriverPracticalEvaluationForm.pdf>)
- Upon successful completion of the practical evaluation, the test administrator should return the completed evaluation form to USA-WSWS’ Official’s Coordinator via e-mail, fax or mail
- USA-WSWS will verify that the applicant has met all necessary requirements, issue a USA-WSWS Trained Boat Driver rating and send the applicant a rating notification via e-mail from [officials@usawaterski.org](mailto:officials@usawaterski.org)

## RATING MAINTENANCE

In order to maintain a Trained Boat Driver rating, an individual must:

- complete one of the practical driving experience options listed below.
  - participate as a driver in at least one sanctioned GrassRoots tournament or Basic Skills Clinic per calendar year. Credit for work performed at these events is typically documented by the event organizer and submitted to USA-WSWS along with the post-event paperwork; **OR**
  - perform ten hours of practical driving experience at a camp, ski school or club practice/exhibition per calendar year

Practical experience should be documented and signed off on a [Trained Boat Driver Practical Experience Record](#) form located under the [“Officials’ Resources”](#) link on the home page of our Web site. **Completed experience record forms must be returned to the USA-WSWS Official’s Coordinator via e-mail, fax or mail by December 31st each year. Be sure to retain a copy for your records.**

- successfully pass a [Motor Vehicle Record \(MVR\) Review](#) once every two years; and
- successfully complete one of the following once every four years:
  - the [USA-WSWS Online Trained Boat Driver Course](#)  
**OR**
  - attend an in-person [USA-WSWS Trained Boat Driver or Sport Discipline Driver Clinic](#)  
**OR**
  - complete an on-water practical evaluation with a qualified driver using the form below (<http://www.usawaterski.org/pages/officials/TrainedBoatDriverPracticalEvaluationForm.pdf>)

USA-WSWS will notify you via e-mail when your MVR Review and clinic are due for renewal.