

Rules Committee Proposed Rule Changes for 2019

Here are the Rules Committee's proposed rule changes. This is a brief summary of only the approved actions. The full report will come out with the BOD report. If you have questions, please ask your region representatives who also have the survey answers which helped make some of the decisions regarding the changes.

Proposal:

1.08 Amendments to the Rules

The rules may be amended at any time by the Board of Directors, on its own initiative or at the recommendation of the Rules Committee. ~~*Until such time as a new edition of the rules is published, the current rules, as amended by the Board, remain in effect.*~~ *After amendment by the board, the amended rules shall become effective immediately unless a different date is specified. A notice of the amendment shall be promptly posted on the official AWSA website.* An individual may submit to the Rules Committee, prior to August 31, proposed rule changes, including new tricks, to be evaluated for the next year's rules.

Rationale: Clarify wording; eliminate confusion stemming from "until such time as a new edition of the rules is published", and to clarify requirements for broadcasting notices of rule changes, establishing accountability for who does it and when.

RC: Motion to approve – Jeff S, Jazmine; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

1.13:

...Only skiers with a USA Federation code *and USA Citizenship* will be included in the Ranking list labeled "USA only". A competitor who skis in an international competition for another federation shall not be included in the USA Federation listing for two years following their performance in that international competition. At the end of the two years, it is the skier's responsibility to initiate a code change with the USA-WSWS HQ Staff.

Rationale: Skiers (Non US Citizens) will not be placed on the USA Federation list so their scores do not impact the ranking list. Send to EC and Membership.

RC: Motion to approve. Bob, Jeff; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

3.02 Age Divisions

- A. Competition for the three major events shall be separated into the following divisions as determined by the contestant's age. The "ski year" shall begin on the day after the conclusion of the Nationals, and shall end on the final day of the following Nationals. The contestant's age on December 31 of the ski year shall determine his division for the entire ski year. For example, if a skier's birthday within the "ski year" could result in an age division change and his birthday is between the day after the conclusion of Nationals and December 31 inclusive of that "ski year", he will ski in the older division, beginning the day after Nationals. Otherwise, he will remain in the younger division for one more season concluding with the end of the following Nationals.

Age Divisions	Age
Boys 1/Girls 1	9 years and under
Boys 2/Girls 2	13 years and under
Boys 3/Girls 3	17 years and under
Men 1/Women 1	18 - 24 years inclusive
Men 2/Women 2	25 - 34 years inclusive
Men 3/Women 3	35 - 44 years inclusive
Men 4/Women 4	45 - 54 years inclusive,
Men 5/Women 5	55 - 59 years inclusive,
Men 6/Women 6	60 - 64 years inclusive
Men 7/Women 7	65 - 69 years inclusive
Men 8/Women 8	70 - 74 years inclusive
Men 9/Women 9	75 - 79 years inclusive
Men 10/Women 10	80 - 84 years inclusive
Men 11/Women 11	85 and over
Elite Divisions	
Open Men/Open Women	any age
Masters Men/Masters Women	35 and over

RC: Change 3.02 from Age Divisions to Divisions. Approved (after Nationals). See proposal below which would change codes for junior divisions in chart.

Proposal:

3.02

ADD U10/12/14. Recommendation from Midwest

Motion to add U12 – Jazmine, Jeff; Approved unanimously (after Nationals)

Motion to change U18 (current B3) to U17 (14-16) and change M1 from 18-24 to 17-24 – Jazmine, Bob; Approved unanimously (after Nationals).

Final divisions: U10, U12, U14, U17, M1/W1 (17-24), M2/W2 (25-34)

Will need to work with programmers to see if the “U” will work with rankings list along with OLR. If not, will have to use naming of B/G1, B/G2, B/G3, B/G4.

Boys:

U10, 9 years and younger, no changes in speeds from current B1

U12, 11 years and younger, 45kph/28mph Ramp Height 5 Feet, Slalom 52kph/32.3mph

U14, 13 years and younger, 48kph/29.8mph Ramp Height 5 Feet, Slalom 55kph/34.2mph

U17, 16 years and younger, no changes in speeds/ramp heights from current B3

M1 Age 17-24, no changes in speeds/ramp heights from current M1

Girls:

U10, 9 years and younger, no changes in speeds from current G1

U12, 11 years and younger, 45kph/28mph Ramp Height 5 Feet, Slalom 52kph/32.3mph

U14, 13 years and younger, **45kph/28mph** Ramp Height 5 Feet, Slalom 52kph/32.3mph

U17, 16 years and younger, no changes in speeds/ramp heights from current G3

W1 Age 17-24, no changes in speeds/ramp heights from current W1

Motion to approve speeds/ramp heights as noted above-Jeff, Jazmine; Approved unanimously. ALL references to B & G will need to be changed in rule book. (effective after 2019 Nationals)

Proposal:

3.03C2.

Additionally, a skier age 18 or greater shall be REQUIRED to compete in the Open Division in an event (or in Overall) if his performance score(s) in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the Level 10 Cutoff rating score for that event by 3:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the first Thursday of July within the current ski year. This rating score for each event will be established annually by the Skiers Qualification Committee ~~provided there were at least five skiers in that event who met that qualification in the most recently completed preceding ski year; otherwise entry into the Open Division will remain OPTIONAL.~~

Rationale-Maintain the higher ratings but get rid of 5, otherwise you will have elite skiers that can ski in age group

RC: Remove requirement for 5 skier minimum for Open. Motion – Jaz, Ryan; Approved (after Nationals).

Proposal:

3.03D2

Additionally, a skier age 35 or greater shall be REQUIRED to compete in the Masters Division in an event (or in Overall) if his performance score(s) in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the Level 10 Cutoff rating score for that event by 3:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the first Thursday of July within the current ski year. This rating score for each event will be established by the Skiers Qualification Committee ~~provided there were at least five skiers in that event who met that qualification in the most recently completed pre-ceding ski year; otherwise entry into the Masters Division will remain OPTIONAL.~~

RC: Remove requirement for 5 skier minimum for Masters. Motion – Jaz, Ryan; Approved (after Nationals).

Proposal:

3.03E Revision during meeting,

3.03E: Duration

- 1. Skiers will maintain their Level 9 ~~or 10~~ Open or Masters qualification status *if their ranking score in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the Level 9 Cutoff ranking score for that event on any date within the past 12 months.***
- 2. Skiers will maintain their Level 10 Open or Masters qualification status through the National Tournament at the end of the ski year in which they attained that Elite status.**
- 3. Level 10 skiers shall not count towards the Qualification Levels and Cutoffs for their age division in that event.**

Rationale: The Level 9 duration was left off of the rule change in the rewrite of the rule unintentionally last year. However, this was still being maintained on the ranking list.

RC: 12 month rolling duration. – Motion Jaz, Kathy; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

Revised wording on BOD-approved clarification re LEVEL 10:

3.03F3: LEVEL 10: Skiers having an Elite Level 10 rating in Overall, and wishing to compete for Overall, may only do so in the Elite Division and shall be required to ski all three events in that Elite Division. **However, this does not prevent a skier with individual rankings below Level 10 in one or two events from competing in Overall Elite and also age division for placement in those single events.**

Rationale: The intent of the clarification approved at the BOD meeting with wording was approved with adding "However" to the sentence and combining into one paragraph.

RC: Motion to approve above. Motion Jaz, Bob; Approved

Proposal:

Ranking list:

Top jump score/distance vs made up scores for equivalencies on ranking list.

Currently, the setting in the Division Control file is 205 feet. In the Equivalent Scores process, a performance at 5.5 is artificially increased by 12-ft, which causes a performance of 193/0.255 (5.5') to be treated as if it were 205/0.275 (6') both from a rankings perspective as well as a Level 10 perspective.

Rationale: When equivalencies are used, a skier could be forced into Level 10 without having actually jumped the required distance.

RC: Recommendation to SQC to not use equivalencies for jump; actual scores should be used.

Proposal:

3.06 Performance Rankings Within each age division, each skier is ranked in each event and overall. The ability levels are 3 through 8 with 8 being the highest level in each age division. Level 9 **and 10 are** the elite ranking levels, as defined in Rule 3.03. The ranking list is continually updated.

Scores for inclusion in the ranking list may be obtained in any sanctioned tournament, in any of the first three rounds (see Rule 1.02); **or first four rounds (see Rule 1.09C)**. Exceptions include certain instances in elimination based competitions (see 13.02). A Class F (Grass Roots) score above zero may be included in the Ranking calculations if it does not exceed the Level 5 Cut-Off Average from the previous Ski Year Rankings. Those Class F scores which "exceed" the Level 5 Cut-Off Average from the previous Ski Year Rankings may be included but the score will be reduced to equal the Level 5 Cut Off Average for the purposes of inclusion in the Rankings calculations.

Rationale: Clean up item now that there is the option for four round tournaments

RC: Motion to approve modified wording above – Approved.

Proposal:

4.02B

The rankings average of the last ranked skier in level 8 at that time will be considered the Level 8 Cut Off Average for that event and division (See Ranking List

Section of Website for specific details). A skier may also qualify for Nationals after the Cut Off Date by increasing his Ranking List Average above the Level 8 Cut Off Average for his respective event and division between the Cut Off Date and Nationals; or by attaining a score equal to or greater than the Level 8 Cut Off Average for his respective event and division at the Regional Tournament or at any class C or above event between the Cut Off Date and the first day of Nationals or ***by being ranked Level 8 at any point between the Cut Off Date and the first day of Nationals***

Rationale: Now that COD is early, it is confusing for skiers to see themselves in L8 and not be qualified (Jeff).

RC: Motion to approve. – Jeff, Ryan; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

4.04

~~4.04 U.S. Open Qualifications The U.S. Open may be entered in any event by any skier meeting performance standards set by the AWSA Board of Directors for that event and providing proof of membership in a federation recognized by the IWWF. For detailed information on entry requirements, contact USA WSWs Headquarters.~~

Rationale: Not needed and should be included in tournament qualifications.

RC: Motion to approve (this should be in the tournament qualifications). – Dean, Jaz; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

5.04

~~5.04 Team Scoring A. In team competition, the overall points of each competing team member shall be totaled to obtain the team score. Alternatively, if the teams are not of approximately equal size, the number of overall scores credited to each team in each event may be limited (with the highest such scores being counted), or overall points earned below a specified placement in each event may be excluded. B. Any sanctioned tournament may include team competition. The tournament announcement must specify the team membership qualifications and, if applicable, any score eligibility limitations to be imposed in accordance with Rule 5.04.A.~~

Rationale: Do we still need this? Asked last year and there was a team scoring method for Regions but that has not been maintained, especially with the newer team scoring method.

RC: Motion to approve – Dean, Jaz; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

Rule 6

Integrate officials/drivers chart equivalencies with IWWF.

6.10 Defining Judge, Scorer, and Driver

The term "Judge" refers to an AWSA-rated Senior, Regular or Assistant Judge or any Pan American equivalent. The term "Scorer" refers to an AWSA-rated Senior, Regular or Assistant Scorer or any Pan American equivalent. The term "Driver" refers to an AWSA-rated Senior, Regular or Assistant Driver or any Pan American equivalent. Other federations' or confederations' judges', scorers', and drivers' ratings are equated to those of AWSA for use in assigning tournament personnel as noted in the IWWF Rule Book.

Rationale: Rule 6.10 only referenced judge. Headquarters has asked for equivalencies for all officials so that they can be tracked for working tournaments.

RC: Motion to approve the above text – Jaz, Dean; Approved unanimously. There is still a need to have the Driver's Committee review to set equivalent standards, and the chart will be updated.

Proposal:

6.01J: In addition to Chief and Assistant Chief officials, the following are suggested recommended quantities of officials **required per region for National Tournament sites: ~~where two, three or four lakes are used for the National Tournament competitions, this is not counting the Chief and Assistant Chiefs for each group.~~**

1. Four lakes, **per Region**: 5 judges - 2 Appointed, 3 Assigned; 2 drivers; 2 scorers.
2. Three lakes, **per Region**: 4 judges - 2 Appointed, 2 Assigned; 2 drivers; 2 scorers.
3. Two lakes, **per Region**: 2 Judges, both Appointed, 1 driver; 1 scorer.

It is also recommended for the National Tournament LOC to appoint per lake, 1 safety director, 1 technical controller and 1 announcer.

Rationale: The amount of officials to run a National tournament varies from site to site. A recommended number of officials should be in the rulebook. Some officials are appointed from their Regions and some officials might be better appointed by the LOC which might not put any extra monetary burden on the LOC.

RC: Motion to approve as modified above – Bob, Jaz; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

Change jump ratio

9.16C4 The following ratios of ramp height at take-off edge to ramp length out of water shall apply: Masters Men, Open Women, Men 1, 2 (and 3, effective ski year 2019) jumpers will have the option of choosing either the .255 or .235 ramp; Boys 3 shall use the .235 ramp unless they can show a certified result of a jump of 38 m (125 feet) on the .235 ramp, in which case they may opt to jump on a .255 ramp; Open Men will have the option of choosing either the .271, .255 or .235 ramp; and all other divisions will be set at .235. All of these ratios shall be set to within $\pm .003$ for all Record Capability tournaments, or to within **+.003/-0.005** for all other tournaments. (See Ramp Setting Chart in the Appendix) At the option of the sponsoring club, any division may jump at a ramp ratio of less than .235.

Rationale: We should not have a jump ramp slope ratio at a Class C Tournament greater than what is allowed for a RECORD tournament. This rule just changes the maximum slope ratio to match IWWF maximum slope ratio but keeps the minimum as is.

Also included is the .235 (5') ramp height for Open Men approved at the August 2018 BOD meeting.

(Technical Committee approval)

Proposal:

10.16B4 ADD a,b,c: Move from Clarifications to additional Rule 10.16B4a,b,c and delete from Clarification section:

4. DIFFERENT SIZE SLALOM ROPES THAT ARE ALLOWED: All slalom ropes are tournament supplied. Any or all of these ropes may be supplied. Skiers can check with the LOC before the tournament to see which ropes are available

a. 10MM (13/32") 16 Strands – Most common and exceeds the minimum elongation (8.04A).

b. 8 MM (5/16") 12 Strands - Meets the minimum elongation requirements, however, it is only recommended for B1, G1, B2, G2, G3, W6 and above. Not to exceed 39 off (10.75m).

c. 5 MM (3/16") 8 Strands - Light Line only meets the Light Line specification (8.04A optional) and can only be used in B1, G1, B2, G2, and W6 and above for CLASS E only. Not to exceed 35 off (12m). Does not meet the IWWF specification and cannot be used in Class L or R.

RC: Motion to approve clean-up – Bob, Dean; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

10.08D3d ADD:

The exit gate will be viewed directly, but the video may be used by one or both judges to resolve any questions.

Rationale: This wording is in Configuration 2 and also applies to Configuration 3.

RC: Motion to clean-up as noted above; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

10.08 F 4 and 11.09 D

Change AWSEF to USA-WWF in 10.08 F 4 and 11.09 D.

If the funds are not returned to the skier, they shall be forwarded to the **AWSEF USA-WWF** as a contribution in the skier's name.

RC: Motion to clean-up as noted above; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

10.10E2

If a reride is to be taken, the boat shall return through the course in an unscored pass, and the reride shall then be given in the original direction **and the original speed/line length** through the course. The boat will proceed to the proper end of the course, stop, and drop the skier into the water just as if the line were to be shortened, and then proceed.

Rationale: These follow the jump rule that does not let skiers get an unfair advantage and change their reride speeds now that they have already skied and know the conditions of the water or feel of the boat etc.

RC: Motion to approve clarification written above; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

10.10E4a. When weather, tournament-supplied equipment, or some other reason not the fault of the skier causes a delay of more than ten minutes between slalom passes, the skier shall be allowed an unscored warm up pass, in the opposite direction of the reride, with a protected score on passes already completed, or the skier may start over **at the original starting pass** without a protected score. **If the skier falls or misses on the unscored warm up pass, there shall be no penalty, and the skier's turn shall continue with the next pass.** However, the Chief Judge, with the approval of the majority of the Appointed Judges, may deny this option if there is reason to believe that further delays will preclude

finishing the tournament in a timely manner or otherwise work to the disadvantage of the remaining skiers.

Rationale: These follow the jump rule to not have skiers getting an unfair advantage of changing their ride speeds now that they may know the conditions of the water or feel of boat etc. Further clarify this rule and how this rule works. There is always confusion and/or a debate about "what if the skier falls on the warm up pass?"

RC: Motion to approve clarification; Approved unanimously.

Proposal:

11.03A Eliminate "approximate" in the sentence for the start of a trick pass

After passing the approximate-position of the entry buoy or after completing the declared positional turn, the beginning of the trick pass shall begin:

Rationale: AWSA and IWWF needs to remove the word "approximate" from their rules. It adds ambiguity to the actual starting position of the trick course. While the start buoy may not always be included on the video, tricks should not be scored that are clearly outside of the course.

RC: Motion to remove "approximate". Dean, Kathy; Approved. Also, make a suggestion to IWWF to remove as well.

Proposal:

11.12D & F4:

Separate BB from O, 5F, 5B, 7B, and 7F. The reverse of O, 5F, 5B, 7B, and 7F is still only a RO. (Preliminary wording, intent is O and BB may both be scored in a run)

Rationale: Felt that more skiers would enjoy tricking and have more options for their runs. While some of these tricks were not felt to be different then the basic trick, the O and BB will be separated so that both will be able to score.

RC: Motion to approve modified proposal above – Approved. AWSA will also submit to IWWF this proposal since there are more skiers who might be incorporating this into their runs with the junior and senior division ranking lists.

Proposal:

15.05 Qualifications of Officials

A. **Only** At Class E tournaments, the Chief Judge shall be a Senior Judge, and may serve as an event judge. The other Appointed Judges shall be either Senior or Regular Judges. The Chief Boat Driver shall be a Senior Driver. The Chief Scorer shall be a Senior Scorer. All chief officials (Chief Judge, Chief Driver, Chief Scorer, Chief Technical Controller and Chief Safety Director) shall be separate individuals.

Rationale: The language became confusing when IWWF wrote the Duplication of duties for their officials. Our rule intent is to have the Chief Judge be an overseer of the tournaments not a working official.

RC: Motion to add "Only" to 15.05A – Jaz, Dean; Approved unanimously.

Proposal 28:

15.05C

....Trick (5) should be (5 or **3***) *video available*

RC: Approved clean up.

Proposal 31:

Change per current rules

Tournament Classification Chart change:

M7- 8	L	E/L*	E/L*
W7-8	E/L*	E/L*	E/L*
M 8 9-10/W9-10	E	E/L*	E/L*

RC: Motion to approve chart above – Ryan, Kathy; Approved

B1/G1	E/L*	E/L*	--
B2/G2	E/L*	E/L*	L
M7- 8	L	E/L*	E/L*
W7-8	E/L*	E/L*	E/L*
M 8 9-10/W9-10	E	E/L*	E/L*

RC: Motion to approve chart above – Jaz, Jeff; Approved. With the new IWWF list including U10 and U14, it makes sense to offer this for those skiers wanting to be on that list. Will also revise if U12 is approved

Respectfully submitted,

Richelle Muhlitner, AWSA Rules Chair