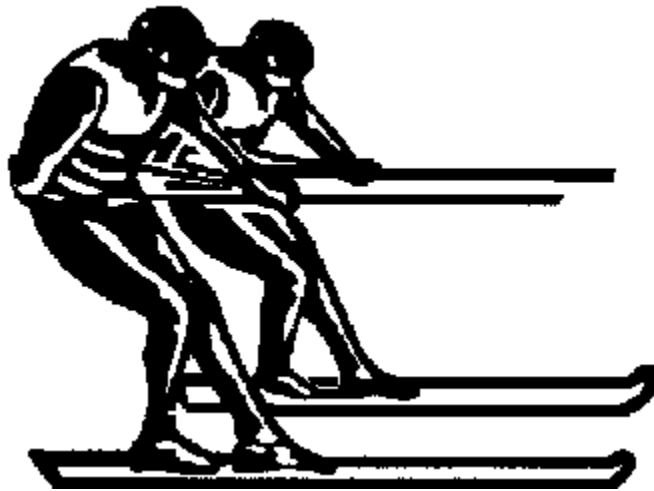


NATIONAL
WATER SKI RACING
ASSOCIATION



2003 - 2004
RULE BOOK

Published by
USA Water Ski
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Polk City, FL 33868

Notice

The National Race Committee, unanimously decided that these rules shall remain unchanged in any way until at least November 1, 2003. The National Race Committee has reserved the right to make such changes as may be necessary should these rules directly cause or contribute to a safety hazard. This book supersedes previous rule books and working motions. The rules and or regulations set forth herein are designed to provide for the orderly conduct of racing events and to establish minimum acceptable requirements for such events. These rules shall govern the conditions of all sanctioned NWSRA/AWSAUSAWS events, all members are deemed to have complied with these rules.

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NWSRA Hot Line: (714) 994-4572 Fax Line: (714) 523-0507

Unless otherwise indicated within this rule book or mandated by the National Executive Board, any violations of these rules will result in the minimum penalty of disqualification and loss of points earned for the race the violation occurred. Driver, observer and skier are considered a team, violations occurring on the race course will result in forfeiture of points earned by each team member in that race. Further action may be taken by the Region Race Committee and or the National Executive Board.

* Revised or added rules.

I. PARTICIPANT'S RESPONSIBILITY

1. All participants must be current members of USA Water Ski and the National Water Ski Racing Association. All participants must sign a release absolving USA Water Ski, the NWSRA, and the sponsoring group of liability upon joining the association.

2. Membership in NWSRA for sanction race purposes shall be obtained by completion of an application, and payment of a fee, prior to normal race registration. The NWSRA may grant a reduction in this fee to individuals who are members of a paid up NWSRA member club in good standing at the time of the sign-up. Proof of age must be given: drivers license shall be considered proof for adults, birth certificates for children. No points will be given, resulting in disqualification, if not a member of the NWSRA at the time of participation in a sanctioned event.

3. Any participant hospitalized or treated by physician for any injury sustained while participating in a sanctioned NWSRA event must present a physician's release in writing to the Region and or National Race Chairperson before they will be allowed to participate in another sanctioned event.

4. It is the responsibility of all drivers, observers, and skiers 16 years of age and over to be qualified referees and to provide the necessary assistance to effectively run the Regional and National sanctioned events. It is the responsibility of each skier 16 and over to be a referee or to supply the name of an individual 16 and over to be a qualified referee. (Referee's must be a member of NWSRA & USA Water Ski).

5. All members 16 and older must pass an open book rules test which will be mailed out with membership application packets in order to receive membership status with NWSRA. Those participants who do not pass must take the test again and pass. 70% or higher is considered passing.

6. All drivers will be a minimum of 18 years of age. It is mandatory for all drivers to have a current physical examination on file with the National Associations Sergeant-at-Arms prior to participating in their first event of the year. The physical examination will be a California Class II or equivalent. The original certificate must be mailed by the issuing physician directly to the National Sergeant-at-Arms:

Ron Ayala, 6251 Mahogany Ave., Westminster, CA 92683

A Copy of the certificate will be accepted by a Region Race Chairperson for verification of physical.

7. All observers in order to be qualified must be a minimum of 16 years of age, must have current American Red Cross First Aid Certification and a current American Red Cross CPR Card or equivalent prior to participating in their first race of the year. Teams without a qualified observer will not be allowed on the race course. Proper certificates must have date of issue. A certificate without an expiration date will be valid for one year from date of issue. No CPR certificate will be valid for more than two years from date of issue. Penalty to be disqualification from the race in which the infraction occurred. Additionally, the individual in violation of the rule will lose all of his or her points for the entire weekend in which the violation occurred.

8. All drivers, observers and navigators riding in a boat during a sanctioned event will be required to wear foot protection. Open toed shoes and sandals will not be allowed.

9. All drivers, observers, navigators and skiers equipment (life jackets, helmets, wetsuits, ski vests, etc...) must be marked with a permanent name tag to discourage borrowing. Equipment inspections will be mandatory three times each year.

10. Race participants shall be free to choose their "home" region. Home region declaration must be made upon joining the NWSRA. Participation in more than one region during any given season is allowable. However, participants can only qualify for the National Championships in their home region unless a transfer in writing is approved by the National Race Committee. If such transfer is approved, the participant will forfeit all points earned in all regions prior to the transfer being approved.

11. Any participant causing a sanctioned organization in good standing involved in a sanctioned event to pursue an individual for monies due to excess of 30 days and so notified will be required to make payment of the debt with a 100% penalty or be banned from future participation in any NWSRA/USA Water Ski events until paid in full.

12. Any falsified documents submitted to NWSRA will warrant a minimum penalty of non-participation in the next two (2) sanctioned marathon and the next two (2) sanctioned circle race events following the discovery of the falsified documents.

13. All participants must sign the "race day/event" general release. This release must be signed at registration on the day of or day immediately prior to participation. This release must be signed by a parent or legal guardian for participants under age eighteen. Failure to sign this release prior to participation at any NWSRA/USAWS sanction event will result in disqualification from the event in which the infraction occurred. Two violations of this rule will result in suspension from all remaining events that calendar year.

II. SPONSORING GROUP RESPONSIBILITY

1. The entire obligation of the sponsoring group will be to follow the rules and regulation of "Race Procedure" as outlined by the National Body. Sponsoring groups shall see that three (3) scoring teams are on duty at all times during the races. One team to be on the beach, perpendicular to the race course and in line with the two remaining teams on the finish boat.
2. The results of each sanctioned point ski race, along with two (2) sets of score sheets for that event, will be neatly and accurately presented to the Region Points Chairperson no more than seven (7) working days following that event.
3. It shall be mandatory that the sponsoring group insure communication be maintained between turn judges, finish barge, start boat and beach officials.
4. No sponsoring group shall change its point race date within 45 days of the event without approval of Regional and National Race Committees.
5. The sponsoring group putting on the race shall mail flyers with first class postage and date stamped by the post office thirty (30) days prior to the date of the event. The sponsoring group may not charge late fees if the flyers are not date stamped by the post office and mailed with first class postage thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled day of the race. Late fees shall not exceed \$20.00 (twenty) dollars for circle events and \$40.00 (forty) dollars for marathon events.
6. An official application form for an NWSRA sanctioned event must be completely filled out and approved by the NWSRA Executive Board before any sponsoring club, region, individual or group, etc..., will be allowed to host an NWSRA sanctioned event. This form must be submitted to the NWSRA Executive Board for approval a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the event. All parts of this form must be completed before approval will be granted. The official application form must be accompanied by:
 - A. Copy of the race flyer
 - B. Copy of application for race permit
 - C. Copies of any other required permits (ie. Coast Guard, Harbor Patrol, Park Rangers)
 - D. Once approval has been granted, the race promoter must pay sanction fees a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the event. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
7. The Sponsoring Race Chairperson will submit to the National Race Committee a "Post Race Follow-up Report" by the following National Executive Board meeting.
8. Sponsoring organizations will be responsible for completing and submitting the NWSRA Race Report and signed "race day/event" release forms within 30 days following the event.

III. REGION RESPONSIBILITY

1. Upon receipt from the Region President, the Region Race Chairperson shall insure that the sponsoring group receives the forms required to effectively run the event.
2. The Region Points Chairperson shall receive the score sheets from the sponsoring group, post the points, and publish a sheet indicating points order and novice race finishes within ten (10) days of receipt from the club points chairperson. Distribution shall be as follows:
 - A. National Points Chairperson - who logs it and checks for mathematical errors.
 - B. National and Regional Officers and Club representatives.
 - C. Interested parties at the next sanctioned points event.
3. Each region may hold its sanctioned points events in either one or two days.
4. It shall be the responsibility of the Region Race Chairperson to educate novice drivers and observers to the rulebook and race procedures before they are allowed to participate. Novice drivers shall take the outside pole position until approved by the Region Race Chairperson.
5. It shall be mandatory that the Region supply a sign reading "STOP - RACE IN PROGRESS" for every patrol boat on the race course. Lettering on the sign to be red on white and the word "STOP" is to be a minimum of 12" high. The National Body shall supply the patrol boat signs for each region.
6. The Region Vice-President or Region Race Chairperson shall also act as Chief Referee. He or his appointed alternate must be available at all times.
7. Each region shall have the responsibility to determine its own region fees and registration procedures.
8. It shall be the responsibility of the region to assure that all skiers equipment is adequate and in good condition.
9. It is the responsibility of the National Body to collect all National dues. All monies collected for National dues must be submitted in seven (7) days.
10. It shall be the responsibility of all Region and National Officers at each event to try and ensure all participants equipment is adequate and in good safe condition. It is also the responsibility of all Region and National Officers to be aware and bring to the attention of the Race Chairperson any infraction of the rulebook, ie. drinking of alcoholic beverages or using illegal drugs by participants in the designated pit areas, equipment violations or unsportsmanlike conduct.
11. Regions hosting races are responsible for keeping track of skiers who are eligible to ski the Recreational Class.

IV. REFEREE'S RESPONSIBILITY

1. The Chief Referee and his committee shall be responsible for interpreting and enforcing the rulebook. It is required that the incoming chief referee (or a responsible designated alternate) for the following year from each Region attend the Bi-annual National Rules meeting.
2. All referees shall familiarize themselves with the rules and be capable of making a positive decision immediately upon observing an infraction.
3. Referees are to meet with the Race Chairperson to get their assignments. The Chief referee shall post a schedule of working referees at drivers meeting. If a referee is not available to fulfill their assignment, the skier is automatically disqualified. The referee must be a member of the NWSRA/USA Water Ski, at no time will the referee be considered a scorer or a flagger. Each regional commodore shall have the right to designate six (6) non-participant volunteers whose sole purpose is to judge, score or referee as national sponsor members. These members will be required to pay USA Water Ski dues only. Additionally, these volunteers will be sponsored members into the NWSRA and region in which they work.
4. The Chief Referee shall close sign-up sheets at the close of registration and ensure the pole position draw is implemented in a fair manner. No participant will be allowed to sign up late without approval of the Race Chairperson. No driver or observer shall be allowed to compete during the day if he or she did not attend that day's driver's and observer's meeting.
5. There will be a minimum of four (4) Referees on the course at all times: One (1) at each turn (not including the boat operator), one (1) on the finish float, and one (1) on the announcer's stand.
6. The finish line referee shall ensure that the race is run for the prescribed and pre-announced number of laps, and that all flagging is done correctly.
7. The Chief Referee or his alternate shall be available to the official's stand and will resolve any infractions committed on the beach and on the race course. At no time will the announcer be an acting referee or Race Chairperson.
8. There shall be a referee in the start boat who shall be advised on the pole positions and shall insure the line-up is correct. He may double as turn judge once the race has started.
9. The Region Referees must disqualify a boat or driver demonstrating poor handling ability or creating a safety hazard.

10. The Referees have the authority to stop any race where conditions are judge unsafe to continue.

11. When a violation on the course occurs, the referee may display the blue flag and alert the other judges to do likewise. While an attempt to notify the involved boat may be made during the race, he may continue to the finish, this is to prevent a non-involved boat from stopping. Any team must, however, be notified of violation within an hour of violation.

V. PROTEST PROCEDURES

1. The region shall form a committee to resolve any protest. This committee shall be comprised of the Region Race Chairperson,(or Vice-President or Acting Chief Referee), and those region representatives or alternates who are present at the event site and appointed by the Region Race Chairperson prior to the start of the event.

A. A race committee shall hear any pending disqualification or infraction called in by a referee in the event of a protest.

B. This committee shall exist primarily to solve what administrative conflicts may occur, BUT MAY ONLY MAKE A DECISION ON A PROTEST WHEN THE REFEREE INVOLVED FEELS IT WAS A DEBATABLE ITEM OR FAILED TO MAKE A DECISION AT ALL.

C. A decision shall be made after a meeting with only the participants concerned, away from any crowd, and after a vote has been taken in private. No member of any race committee shall take part in the decision in which he or she is directly involved.

D. A protest may be filed within thirty (30) minutes of the last race of the day. It must be an accurate account of the infraction using rule and page number from the rulebook whenever possible. This protest must be given to the Race Chairperson and a protest meeting must be held the same day as the race in which the infraction or disqualification occurred.

E. A protest must be accompanied by a Thirty Dollar (\$30.00) deposit which will be returned if the protest is allowed. If a protest is disallowed, money paid under section V., I., D., shall be retained by the race's sponsoring organization.

F. All decisions by the Race Protest Committee will be final. These decisions cannot and will not be withdrawn, appealed or overturned at a later date.

VI. CLASSES AND RECOMMENDED LAPS

1. (not required to be run in this order)

CLASSES		LAPS	CLASSES	LAPS
0-12	Girls	2	Jet Boat	4
0-12	Boys	3	Men's Flatbottom	4
13-16	Girls	4	Women's Flatbottom	4
13-16	Boys	4	Outboard	4
17- 29	Women	5	Stock Boat	4
17-25	Men	5	Men's Novice	4
30-39	Women	4	Women's Novice	3
26-32	Men	5	Social	3
33-42	Men	5	Pro-Social	3
40 & over	Women	4	Hands Out Front**	5
43-50	Men	5	Tournament Boat**	4
51 & over	Men	4	Women's Open	6
			Men's Open	8

** Non points Class

2. The age of a skier as of December 31, midnight (12:00 am), prior to January 1, of the current year determines the age class they will ski in all year.

3. Every class must be run regardless if the number of entrants, classes may be run simultaneously at the discretion of the Race Chairperson and agreed to by all participants involved.

4. To qualify as a NOVICE Skier:

A. He or she shall not have skied in a sanctioned class points race (with the exception of the Social or the Pro-Social classes) during the previous five (5) years.

B. This rule is retroactive.

5. To qualify as a SOCIAL Skier:

A. He or she shall not have ever skied in a sanctioned circle or marathon points race other than in the Social Class.

B. Skiers must ski on a ski that is 69" (inches) or shorter.

C. Skis must be tapered back with concave bottoms. After first being approved by the National Race Committee, a participant may use their own ski(s).

1) Ski taper must NOT EXCEED NWSRA approved template. (Enclosed in center of rulebook)

2) All skier's skis will be painted bright international fluorescent orange on the tip, nine (9) inches minimum, both top and bottom sides.

D. Rear binding may have a full boot.

E. The skier must put ski on in the water, UNASSISTED.

F. Skiers must ski entire race with hands extended out in front of their body.

G. Tow ropes will **NOT** exceed 100' (feet) including handles and burn lines.

6. To qualify as a PRO-SOCIAL skier:

A. He or she shall not have ever skied in a sanctioned circle or marathon points race during the previous five (5) years other than in the Social, or Pro-Social.

B. Skiers must ski on a ski that is 70" (inches) or shorter.

C. Full boot bindings are acceptable.

D. All skiers skis will be painted bright international fluorescent orange on the tip, nine (9) inches minimum, both top and bottom sides.

E. Skiers must ski entire race with hands extended out in front of their body.

F. Tow ropes will **NOT** exceed 130' (feet) including handles and burn lines.

7. For skiers in the Social and Novice Classes, once they qualify and are invited to participate in the National Championship races and finish 1st, 2nd or 3rd, the next year they must move up to the next class.

A. Order of classes for moving up:

1) Social

2) Pro-Social

3) Novice

4) Age class, Boat class or open

8. Once a skier moves up in a class they may not move back down.

9. Skiers in the Pro-Social Class may remain in the class indefinitely.

10. Independently, each region may conduct its Men's, Women's Open, Social, Pro-Social, and Novice class ski races as best suits the region. The boat, driver and observer will receive points for pulling these classes.

A. Each region shall document and make available to all of its participants the complete rules by which these classes will be run.

B. A procedure, once established for a season, shall remain unchanged for that season.

11. All skiers must declare their age class and one boat class prior to the closing of registration on Saturday morning of the last circle points event weekend.

VII. RACE COURSE

1. Race Course:

Minimum linear distance - One and one half miles (1-1/2)

Maximum linear distance - Two and one quarter miles (2-1/4)

Recommended: Minimum width of course shall be 300 feet, with three buoy turns.

2. Four buoys per straightaway, recommended at the discretion of the Chief Referee, marking pole line of course, and exclusive of turn buoys. Straightaway buoys shall be of visible contrasting color other than turn buoy color and a minimum of 18 inches high.

3. Each turn must be clearly and adequately marked to insure a safe race course. Turn buoy color and a minimum of 18 inches high.

4. A buoy shall be designated as a start line buoy, recommended to be 100 yards clear of race course.

5. The finish line will be designated at driver's meeting.

VIII. FLAG CODE

Green - Start	White - One more lap
Yellow - Caution	Blue - Violation
Red - Stop	Checkered - Finished
Black - Closed Course, return to pit area	

1. Only turn boats will display green flag during race indicating that there are no downed skiers in their immediate area and the course is clear and open.

2. Turn boats and finish barge will display yellow flag when a skier is in the water or when any interference is indicated in the immediate area (immediate area defined as "Boat closest to the problem").
3. Turn boats and finish barge will display red flag to stop the race and give assistance if required.
4. No boat shall leave the race course unless a black flag is displayed.
5. The blue flag will be displayed if possible when a racing rule has been violated. This does not necessarily mean a disqualification.
6. The White or Checkered flags will be displayed at the finish line only.
7. Official flags are to be a minimum of 30" x 30".
8. Once a red flag is shown, a race must be stopped.
9. All start, finish and turn boats shall show a green and red flag to indicate an immediate restart.

IX. HEATS, SCORING AND POINTS

1. If heat races are required, both heat races will be run. Then with a minimum of a two-race interval, the run-off will follow. Points for skiers, observers and drivers shall be given as follows:

EXAMPLE: 21 skiers entered. Course conditions allow only 12 skiers to run at one time.

- A. Two heats shall be run - 11 in first heat, 10 in second. (Greater number shall always be run in the first heat)
- B. First five (5) in each heat will run in the final race, competing for positions one (1) through ten (10). Skiers and their teams qualified for runoff, nor competing in or completing their final race, still receive 10th place points.
- C. Sixth place in each heat will receive 11th place points.
- D. Seventh place in each heat will receive 12th place points.
- E. And so on down to 10th place in each heat receiving 15th place points, and 11th place in the first heat which receives 16th place points.
- F. Skiers disqualified in the main event will **NOT** receive heat points.

Note: Regardless, if one or more of those skiers qualified for run-off do not compete or do not complete their main race, heat points for 6th through 10th places will be given the same as described in paragraph C, D & E. *Chief Referee shall determine how many skiers qualify for the main event.

2. Skiers must complete heat race to receive points for that event.
3. No heat races will be run to eliminate a single skier from main event. One skier may be eliminated from a heat race.
4. Maximum number of skiers in a race can exceed 12 at the discretion of the Region Race Chairperson.
5. In the event a skier is unable to compete in the final race, an alternate skier will **NOT** be allowed to participate in the final race in place of the other skier.

6. POINTS SYSTEM:

1st - 800	9th - 80	17th - 8
2nd - 600	10th - 60	18th - 6
3rd - 450	11th - 45	19th - 4
4th - 338	12th - 34	20th - 2
5th - 254	13th - 26	DNF - 1
6th - 190	14th - 19	DNS - 0
7th - 142	15th - 14	DISQ - 0
8th - 106	16th - 11	

7. Regions may award bonus heat race points.
8. Overall finishes may be determined by time without a final event being run, at the discretion of the race committee. When finishing places are determined by time, points will be awarded based upon placing by time. This must be determined prior to the start of the event.
9. Points for pulling ski races go to the boat.
10. The owner of a boat may change boats without forfeiting the earned points to date in the following manner only!!!
 - A. The displaced boat forfeits its racing number and all points to date go to the replacement boat.
 - B. The replacement boat shall have no points at the time of transfer.
 - C. The transfer shall take place between sanctioned point events, with prior notification to the National Race Committee.

D. The reason for the transfer is due to selling, trading, or total destruction of the displaced boat. Once a boat is deemed destroyed it is ineligible to ever again compete in an NWSRA sanctioned event.

E. Points for Outboard Ski Race, Jet Boat Ski Race, Flatbottom Ski Race and Stock Boat Ski Race shall be credited to those boats separately.

11. A race will be declared official if the lead boat has completed 50% or more of the race in question, according to the official score sheets. The only exception is at the National Championship Race where all laps must be completed and are timed.

12. Race result shall be posted after each sanctioned event by the Region Points Chairperson or their alternate.

X. BOAT SIZE

1. The maximum length of a boat must be less than 22'0" as long as the boat model is sold commercially to the public by that particular manufacturer as a 21' model. The method of measurement will be a horizontal measurement from the centerline tip of the bow determined by a dropped plumb line from the tip to the transom junction with the centerline of the hull (or in the case of boats with outdrives, to the junction of the outdrive gimbal and the transom at the bottom-most location on the gimbal) with a dropped plumb line. Cavitation plates, trim tabs, swim steps, rudders and rub rails are not included in the measurement. **FOR WORLDS CONSIDERATION:** If the boat will be used for World's competition, the length will be strictly held to 21.35' (6 1/2 meters) by the method of measurement as required by International Rules. The Stock Boat Ski Class is an exception which has a 23' maximum length limit. Set-back jacks and gimbal extension boxes that are not part of the stock gimbal configuration as manufactured are not permitted.

XI. SAFETY

1. REQUIRED MEDICAL SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT

A. Sponsoring group shall have on hand at each sanctioned race, a first aid kit, assembled for emergency use to include splints, plus have at the race site the following:

- 1) A certified paramedic or American Red Cross First Aid person, licensed ambulance, equipped with oxygen, and a Physician (M.D.) on call.
- 2) The rescue litter must be available on the race course in a designated rescue boat at all sanctioned events. The Chief Referee shall designate the location on the course.
- 3) The rescue boat must be equipped with a certified Emergency Medical Technician Level One (EMT1) or higher. This person should have been familiarized with water

rescue techniques. Two (2) attendants shall be in the water at the same time to assist with the injured participant.

- 4) The rescue boat must be equipped with a "Miller Board" or other type of water rescue device designed so when utilized, it will remain in place with the injured participant through transportation to the hospital and during X-ray procedures.

2. REQUIRED BOAT EQUIPMENT

- A. Fire extinguisher - secured to boat, accessible, Coast Guard approved, fully charged and validated within one year. There must be at least one (1) 20 BC Fire extinguisher on the beach with extra gas supplies.
- B. Paddle - not a water ski.
- C. Safety collar on propeller shaft.
- D. Safe and positive steering, with safety collar on rudder. Bronze or steel quadrants only will be accepted. Only steel tiller arms are acceptable. Boats with exposed cable steering shall have a minimum $\frac{3}{16}$ " diameter cable.
- E. All V-driven boats built after January 1, 1983 and used for circle and/or marathon racing will be required to have a 1- $\frac{1}{8}$ " rudder shaft of 4130 Chromeoly Steel and $\frac{1}{2}$ " rudder blades of 4130 Chromeoly Steel. Shafts and blades to be properly welded and normalized. Welded unit to be treated to 36-40 Rockwell hardness. The manufacturer is to provide a certificate of heat treatment and magnaflux inspection for each rudder. There must be no chrome plate or other plating material that would interfere with future magnaflux inspection. A new certificate of magnaflux shall be due each year before participation in the circle or marathon National Championships and current within 30 days of the event. If you do not participate in the circle or marathon National Championship event, current certification must be presented at your first race the following year. Rudders made from minimum 1" shaft with $\frac{3}{8}$ " rudder blades are acceptable on flatbottom class boats only. Rudders fabricated from stainless steel will be permitted on a case by case basis in compliance with aforementioned dimensional specifications tested and certified by x-ray and die chemical penetration inspection. Out drives and Jet drives are exempted.
- F. All boats built prior to 1983 may keep current size rudder unit but will be requested to present a certificate of magnaflux which shall be due each year before the National Championship races.

G. Safety guard on engine to "V-drive" and drive line to be fully enclosed with a minimum of 1/8" steel or 1/4" aluminum.

H. All boats participating in sanctioned NWSRA races will be required to have a kill switch installed and in use during all times when on the race course. It is recommended that you mount it in a position where it is effective, but safe. All drivers must be hooked up to their kill switch. Failure to do so will result in disqualification and lost of all points for the event.

I. It is mandatory to have a blower drive guard to fully enclose the blower drive for blowers mounted on the front of the motor. It is mandatory to have a blower drive guard to fully enclose the upper half of the blower drive for blowers mounted on the rear of the motor. It is mandatory to have a drive guard to fully enclose any and all belts, pulleys and or flywheels mounted on the front of any type motor to prevent any entanglement.

J. Stationary handhold (no ski lines) and foot rests are required for observers. Hand hold and foot rests shall be located to prevent entrapment of observer.

K. All seat cushions must mechanically lock in place or be so designed that the seat cushions cannot slide forward.

L. Foot throttle is mandatory in all boats, with the exception of marathon boats with stand-up bolsters.

M. Any time a boat is under power, outside the pit area, as designated by the Race Chairperson on race day, all occupants will wear full race gear as intended.

* N. NUMBERS

Numbers must be displayed in black on a background of white, by means of a waterproof material, in such a manner they are visible from both sides of the boat when planing. On a white or light colored boat, it is suggested a thin framed edge be placed around the background a minimum of 25mm from the number edge. The minimum dimensions of the individual numbers will be height of 12 inches (300mm), width 8.8 inches (225mm), thickness 2 inches (50mm), and recommended spacing of 5 inches (125mm). Flatbottom boats are exempt from size dimensions of this rule.

1) Three digit maximum - 0 to 999, with precedent to boats with points earned the prior race season or participation in a special sanction event.

2) To hold an NWSRA number, the owner must be a NWSRA/USA Water Ski member in good standing.

3) Numbers must be renewed yearly at registration. It is the responsibility of the Sergeant-at-Arms to provide a list to each Region prior to the beginning of each

race event. All boats must have an approved NWSRA issued number in order to participate and receive sanction points.

O. FUEL - GASOLINE ONLY. no alcohol or nitrous oxide.

3. LIFE JACKETS AND SKI VESTS

A. All drivers, observers and navigators shall be required to use unaltered jackets which includes the proper use of leg straps. Life jackets must be equipped with material high on the chest and must follow APBA guidelines with the exception of color restrictions. Life jackets must be certified every three (3) years.

B. Skiers shall have a life jacket with a minimum of three (3) functional buckles.

C. Skiers ski vests must have a satisfactory method of attaching to body to insure it will not come off as a result of a fall. The following methods are approved:

1) Two (2) leg straps connected to existing jacket and legs.

2) Vest connected securely to both sides of protective bathing suit.

3) Vest (step in or twist locks on crotch straps) over wet suit.

4) Flotation wetsuits will be inspected and approved or disapproved by the National Race Committee prior to use in any sanctioned NWSRA event.

D. Skiers outerwear must be of a bright color on 50% of the upper body front and back. Acceptable colors will be safety orange, yellow or an outstanding fluorescent color (not blue or black).

4. RACE HELMETS

A. Drivers, observers and navigators helmets must be a racing competition type and must cover the lower back of the head and ears. No half-shell or sports car racing type helmets will be permitted. Helmets must have a minimum of an 85 Snell rating.

B. All crash helmets and skier head gear must be painted bright international fluorescent orange. Head gear is defined as: helmet or nylon cap which provides coverage for the ears and fits securely on the head.

NOTE: All participants must race with all safety equipment intact and worn as intended and required from start to the completion of the race or the entire team will be disqualified for that event and they will not earn any points.

5. The National Body will appoint a team of three (3) boat inspectors to inspect boats at all marathon races and at the National Championship Races. In addition, each region will

appoint a team of three (3) to inspect all boats at region circle races. Boat inspectors must be individuals with a working knowledge of the equipment and the NWSRA rulebook. Enforcement of the safety rules will fall upon the inspectors alone. These decisions are final and may not be overturned by any other race official.

6. Anyone running so close to the course during a race so as to interfere with the race in progress shall be disqualified from racing for the remainder of that day's scheduled event.
7. A driver or observer shall acknowledge the yellow flag or a downed skier by putting their hand up and must hold the hand up until they have passed the yellow flag and/or the downed skier. Failure to acknowledge a yellow flag during a circle race will result in the loss of two (2) finishing positions per violation. A maximum of two (2) violations per race. Upon a third violation, the "team" will be disqualified. Failure to acknowledge a yellow flag during a marathon race will result in the addition of two (2) minutes being added to the finishing time per violation. A maximum of two (2) violations per race. Upon a third violation, the "team" will be disqualified.
8. There will be no more than two (2) people allowed in a race boat during any race (except Marathon races which allows for three (3)).
9. All skier's skis will be painted bright international fluorescent orange on the tip, nine (9) inches minimum, both top and bottom sides.
10. The Chief Referee has the responsibility to take any necessary action against any participant using unsafe equipment at any time.
11. There shall be no drinking of alcoholic beverages by any participants or officials until the conclusion of all race days business. The use of non-prescribed drugs is prohibited. Violators will be disqualified for the entire season. This does not pertain to trophy presentation. All participants shall be subject to disqualification for violation of drinking alcoholic beverages or use of illegal narcotic drugs and they shall be subject to a test to be determined and policed by the Regions.
12. Participants 21 years or older who test .04 or higher on the breathalyzer will not be allowed to participate in any events that day. Minors under age 21 will have a 0 tolerance level of enforcement. Testing will be random.
13. Any participant who intentionally disregards the safety rules shall be suspended from participation in any NWSRA sanctioned event for thirty (30) days, marathons and circle races inclusive. A meeting will be held on the Region level for circle race violations and on the National level for marathon or National Championship race violations to determine participant negligence; the participant must be present at this meeting. Suspension period to begin at time of infraction.

XII. RACE PROCEDURE

1. All participant's registration requirements (with the exception of the social and pro-social classes) must be completed prior to the closing of that race days registration and the start of the first race.

2. Starting positions for all races, except heat finals, will be determined at registration.

3. Procedure for starting a ski race:

A. A five minute warning will be sounded prior to the start of each race. At the end of this period, an additional warning will be sounded. No boat may leave the pit area after the second warning. The pit area shall be defined by the Race Chairperson at each days driver's meeting.

B. A skier may change boats after the first five-minute warning, but not after the second warning, provided the judges stand has been notified prior to the start of the race.

C. Start Boat after passing pit area with a red flag raised (signifying the first warning has been sounded), proceeds to the start position at the start buoy. The red flag remains on display for the entire five minute period;

Then the yellow flag shall be displayed for a maximum of two (2) minutes or until all drivers are in their proper pole positions and signify they are ready by raising their hands;

The green flag will be raised and dropped at the starter's discretion.

NOTE: In the event that all boats are present and in their proper pole positions and have signaled they are ready before the five minute period ends, the starter may go directly on the green flag. Under no circumstances should any boat pass the start boat before the green flag is dropped.

D. No skier will be allowed to race if he or she is not up and skiing towards the start line or in the water at the start line when the green flag is dropped. No boat may cross the race course after the green flag has been dropped. Late starters must go around the start line buoy before entering the race course.

E. There will be no restarts without approval of referees.

F. Dead water starts, with engines off or at an idle.

G. Any boat, due to driver's negligence, causing another boat not to be able to start the race will be disqualified. Any team whose tow line is rendered useless by another

team, after the sounding of the five (5) minute warning and prior to the start of the race, may require the offending team to exchange ropes. Starter shall allow sufficient time to make the exchange, then start the race at their discretion.

H. The start boat must start all circle and marathon sanctioned races from in front of the race boats. The race boats must provide a "safe lane" that must be at least one boat length to the left and right of the start boat when passing at the start of the race.

4. Procedure for finishing a ski race:

A. The finish of the ski race shall be determined by the skier; however, the skier must be up and skiing, under tow, when crossing the finish line.

B. The white flag will be raised at the finish line when the leading skier has one lap remaining. The white flag will remain displayed signifying to all ski teams following, that they are on their last lap.

C. The checkered flag will be raised at the finish line when the lead skier has passed the finish line and all skiers following will be scored in order of finish and laps completed as they pass the finish line.

D. The drop-off area for a ski race will be determined by the Chief Referee prior to the meet and announced at driver's meeting. Skiers must hang onto the tow rope until reaching drop-off area.

5. Skiers must ski in the wake of their own boat throughout the entire race. Skiers must ski to the outside of each turn buoy.

6. Passing during a ski race shall be on the right-hand side only. Passing a fallen skier can be done on either side, whichever is safer. (Fallen skier is defined as any skier not clear of the water and under tow, but still on the race course.)

7. A pass is complete when the skier doing the passing is 200 feet ahead of the boat being passed.

8. No boat shall follow directly behind a skier closer than 200 feet or they will be automatically disqualified.

9. When a pass has been completed, the boat and skier must move in toward the pole position as soon as possible.

10. Any blocking, turning wide or running wide, shall be cause for disqualification.

11. When picking up a fallen skier, you must slow down, yield right-of-way to oncoming boats, then turn either direction, whichever is safer. Ski line must be kept as parallel to the course as possible.

12. A driver receiving two (2) disqualifications for violations during a single sanctioned point weekend event will be disqualified for the rest of that entire event. Any driver disqualified for violations four (4) times during a calendar year will be disqualified for the remainder of the sanctioned races for that year.
13. Penalties for moving violations will apply to an entire team (skier, driver and observer).
14. Any participant exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct in the opinion of any Referee or race official shall be disqualified, as determined by the Region Protest Committee for circle races and by the National Race Committee for any marathon or National Championship Races.
15. No course shall be black flagged while a skier is attempting to complete their race.
16. A person drawing for a participant, other than for themselves, shall state who they are drawing for and for which event, prior to drawing.
17. Only race officials and official scoring teams will be allowed on the finish barge and turn boats, unless authorized by the Chief Referee.
18. Adequate side clearance shall be maintained. A minimum of twenty (20) feet is recommended.
19. The violation of running on a course that is closed will result in automatic disqualification of the boat and the driver for that race weekend.
20. Any boat causing a race to be stopped, for any reason, shall cause the entire team (skier, driver and observer) to be disqualified and will receive no points for that race, and no member of that team will be allowed to run in the re-start.
21. In the event any race is stopped by a red flag, only those teams competing at that time will be allowed in the re-start. For any boat otherwise qualified to compete in the re-start that is disabled in a subsequent race prior to the re-start, a boat change may be approved by the Race Chairperson. Competing is defined as having entered the race course, past the start line running and capable of completing said race.
22. If a boat misses a turn buoy through driver error, the driver must pick up the buoy or they are deemed to be down one (1) lap.
23. Any boat accepting a tow will not be allowed to restart and or finish a race. The team will receive DNF (Did not finish)
24. The Race Chairperson (Regional and National) shall not solely be responsible for a single decision. Sponsoring Group representatives or Region representatives shall vote on any decision effective to the majority of participation. The Region Race Chairperson shall

determine a meeting with club representatives, the best procedure to expedite races for the best interest of participants and spectators.

25. An orange flag must be raised by a boat with a down skier or a penalty may be assessed. The flag will remain up until the skier is up and skiing again or the skier AND their ski line are completely in the boat. Penalty will be 2 positions for the first offense and a disqualification for the second offense in circle races. For marathon races, penalty will be 2 minutes added to the finishing time for the first offense and a disqualification for the second offense.

XIII. OUTBOARD DIVISION

1. All rules and provisions set forth in sections I through XII of the preceding text shall apply to the outboard division except as specifically added to, deleted from, or altered by the following section XIII paragraphs.

2. Where applicable, all safety rules in section XI will pertain to this class.

3. The Outboard Ski Race shall consist of any age skier, male or female.

4. Hulls must be factory production and will be no greater than 21' feet models sold or advertised through normal channels. Light lay-ups from the factory will be allowed. Owners may be allowed to make modifications to hull as he so desires.

5. A stock single engine may be modified but must appear to be a stock production motor. The use of transom jacks is allowed.

6. Fuel may only be gasoline, no alcohol or nitrous oxide.

7. A foot throttle is required.

8. There must be seating for a least two people.

9. All weights or ballast must be securely fastened by bolts or screws.

10. Dual steering is required. Center steering is permitted. Offshore type hydraulic steering is acceptable.

XIV. FLATBOTTOM DIVISION

1. All rules and provisions set forth in sections I through XIII of the preceding text shall apply to the Flatbottom Division except as specifically added to, deleted from, or altered by the following section XIV paragraphs.

2. Where applicable, all safety rules in section XI will pertain to this class.

3. The Flatbottom Ski Race shall consist of any age skier, male or female.
4. The hulls will be no greater than 21' feet in length with a five (5) degree angle. The combined total length of the two decks shall not be less than $\frac{1}{5}$ th of the overall length. Concavity: Hulls shall have no more than 2" concavity (hollow) from keel to chime, from trailing edges to amidships.
 - A. Measurements shall be taken from a straight edge placed from keel to right and left Chimes, or to the lower edge of any spray rails attached to Chimes.
 - B. Any portion of the bottom width that exceeds 2" to concavity (hollow) shall be declared illegal.
5. A single engine can use gasoline only. No nitrous oxide.

XV. JET BOAT DIVISION

1. All rules and provisions set forth in sections I through XIV of the preceding text shall apply to the Jet Boat Division except as specifically added to, deleted from, or altered by the following Section XV paragraphs.
2. Where applicable, all safety rules in Section XI will pertain to this class.
3. The Jet Ski Class shall consist of any age skier, male or female.
4. A single engine will use gasoline only, no alcohol or nitrous oxide.
5. The jet lower unit must be equipped with a rudder capable of safely controlling the boat in the event of engine failure.
6. The jet driveshaft and U-joints are to be fully enclosed with a minimum of $\frac{1}{8}$ " steel or $\frac{1}{4}$ " aluminum.

XVI. STOCK BOAT DIVISION

1. All rules and provisions set forth in Sections I through XV of the preceding text shall apply to the Stock Boat Division except as specifically added to, deleted from, or altered by the following Section XVI paragraphs.
2. Where applicable, all safety rules in Section XI will pertain to this class.
3. The Stock Boat Ski Class shall consist of any age skier, male or female.
4. This class will be open to all types of drives. (V-drive, Stern-drive [I-O], Jet drive or Outboard motor)

5. Must have an engine cover, full carpeting and upholstery with seating for four (4).

6. STOCK BOAT RESTRICTIONS

A. There shall be no alterations or modifications to the factory installed carburation or fuel injected systems, intake or exhaust manifolds.

B. NO alterations or modifications may be done to the factory installed outdrives or outboard lower units with the exception of a nose cone. Water pick-up modifications will be allowed on outdrives and outboard lower units only - NO jet drive water pickup modification is allowed.

C. Cubic inch displacement for inboard motors will be limited to 502 for Chevrolet, 460 for Ford and 455 for Oldsmobile.

D. Outboards must have factory installed stock exhaust and power heads.

E. Maximum attainable speed will be 70 MPH. Any modifications made to the powerplants or to the drive unit with the intent of gaining an unfair advantage will result in removal from this class.

F. No tunnel hulls.

XVII. STOCK DAY CRUISER DIVISION

1. All rules and provisions set forth in Sections I through XVI of the preceding text shall apply to the Stock Day Cruiser Division except as specifically added to, deleted from, or altered by the following Section XVII paragraphs.

2. Where applicable, all safety rules in Section XI will pertain to this class.

3. The Stock Day Cruiser Ski Class shall consist of any age skier, male or female.

4. Hulls shall have a step-deck and be nineteen (19) feet or over as advertised, Jet, V-drive or Stem-drive (I-O).

5. Single engine, gasoline only, no alcohol or nitrous oxide. Naturally aspirated with a stock intake manifold maximum and an 850 cfm manufacturers rated single carburetor or single throttle plate factory installed stock fuel injection, no wedges, no plate fuel injection and no tunnel rams. Through the transom water cooled exhaust manifolds (cast).

6. Must have an engine cover, full carpeting and upholstery with seating for five (5).

XVIII. HANDS-OUT-FRONT CLASS

1. Skis and ropes may be any length.

2. Skier can be male or female.
3. Skier must race the entire race with their hands in front of their body and not be assisted by any type of device. This includes harnesses or "helpers".
4. This class is a non-points class.

XIX. TOURNAMENT BOAT CLASS

1. Boats must be USAWS approved center mount towboats.
2. Hand throttles will be allowed but must have spring returns.
3. All current NWSRA safety rules will apply.
4. Skis must be unaltered and fit inside the social class template in the center of this book.
5. Production skis only (no home-made skis). Skis must meet safety specifications.
6. Maximum rope length will be 75 feet including handles/bridles.
6. Skier can be male or female.
7. This class is a non-points class.

XX. NATIONAL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP GUIDELINES

1. A firm guideline will be drawn up by the National Race Committee, which will assist Regions in the presentation and hosting of the National Open Championship Races.
2. The race shall consist of two timed heats per class with dead water starts, run over a two or three day program. The National Anthem shall be played to denote the start of each racing day.
3. Participation shall be by invitation to:
 - A. The top six (6) skiers in each class from Region II, the top four (4) skiers in each class from Region I and the maximum field of 12 to be filled by the top three (3) (max.) skiers from Region V who received region points in no less than one race in their declared class during two (2) separately scheduled race weekends.
 - B. Classes at Nationals will be filled, up to a maximum of 12 per class, with qualified skiers who did not originally receive an invitation (i.e. not in the top 6 in their class in Region II). Skiers must have a minimum of two races in their designated class(s).

C. Qualified drivers and observers who have received points in at least two (2) region races may be invited as alternates.

D. Any boats which have earned region points for the current racing year.

4. Skiers will be allowed to ski a maximum two classes at the National Championships. One age class and one boat class. Skiers must pay an entry fee for each class. Declared open skiers may only ski the open class.

5. Should any of the qualified skiers be unable to participate, or fail to return their invitations by the deadline set by the National Race Chairperson, the next qualified skier will be allowed to compete. This rotation, to the next place qualified skier, shall continue at the discretion of the National Race Chairperson.

6. Each skier will draw for his own pole position for the first heat. This pole shall be reversed for the second heat. Skiers may ski behind any qualified boat from any region.

7. All scoring and judging will be accomplished by qualified individuals from the Regions. No two judges from the same region shall work the same location on the race course. No two (2) two person-scoring teams from the same region shall be used at the same time. There must be a judge from each region in each turn boat and on the finish barge, no exceptions.

8. Combined heat totals shall determine the participant's final position, as calculated by the National Points Chairperson. Tie-breaking will be determined by an independent time keeper provided at the expense of the National Association.

9. Any protests will be handled in a private meeting held by the National Race Committee, made up of the National Race Chairperson, the Chief Referee and the Region Race Chairpersons, or designated alternates.

10. The National Race Chairperson shall ensure that a qualified physician or an ambulance with emergency trained personnel is present at all times and that the closest hospital has been alerted as to what emergency could arise. It is recommended that an additional standby ambulance or designated emergency vehicle be on call.

11. The National Race Chairperson shall ensure that no race starts prior to the seven-minute mark, unless all eligible competitors are at the starting area and signal they are ready.

12. The National Race Chairperson shall run the classes in the order he deems best for spectator, newsmedia or television coverage, provided competitors are notified prior to the event. No class shall be required to run twice on the same day.

13. Recommended order of classes and number of laps,

CLASSES		LAPS	CLASSES	LAPS
0-12	Girls	2	Jet Boat	4
0-12	Boys	3	Men's Flatbottom	4
13-16	Girls	4	Women's Flatbottom	4
13-16	Boys	4	Outboard	4
17- 29	Women	5	Stock Boat	4
17-25	Men	5	Men's Novice	4
30-39	Women	4	Women's Novice	3
26-32	Men	5	Social	3
33-42	Men	5	Pro-Social	3
40 & over	Women	4	Hands Out Front**	5
43-50	Men	5	Tournament Boat**	4
51 & over	Men	4	Women's Open	6
			Men's Open	8

** Non points Class

14. National trophies shall utilize the ski figure on a base, keeping in tradition with past awards. Terminology shall be "National Champion", Second, Third, etc. No National Championship Race trophies shall be presented to workers, sponsors, or to participants in non-points classes, etc., under any circumstances.

15. The NWSRA will furnish the Trophy Mold for the National Championship Races each year.

16. A bond of \$200.00 will be submitted by the Trophy Company accepting the bid for the National Championship Race trophies. This is to ensure that the mold will be kept in good working condition. Inspection will be made by the company that created the mold.

17. Trophies shall be awarded as follows:

- A. First three (3) finishing skiers in each class.
- B. First three (3) finishing drivers in each boat ski class (Outboard, Jet, Flatbottom and Stock Boat).
- C. Top ten (10) ski boat drivers.
- D. Top ten (10) observers.
- E. Any driver who pulls a skier placing in the top three (3) in a class race and not qualifying for the top ten (10) shall be presented with a placing trophy.

18. At the National Championship Races, Region I will be required to provide one (1) paid referee and the Region II will be required to provide two (2) paid

referees. Three (3) days of lodging and per diem will be paid for by the National Association.

19. It is mandatory that all participants be given a hat, patch or a tee-shirt free of charge at the National Championship Races.

20. The finish line must be at a perpendicular angle to the race course.

21. All racing shall be conducted in harmony with the spirit of the Race Rules Book and with prime consideration being given to the safety of the competitor.

22. Unsportsmanlike conduct at any NWSRA/USA Water Ski sanctioned event shall result in disqualification for all sanctioned points events the following year a determined by the National Race Committee. This includes trophy presentations. disqualification shall be a probationary period and the National Race Committee shall vote at the following year's Rules Meeting whether or not to reinstate the offender(s) disqualified under this section.

23. In all disciplinary action, the offending region or individual(s) shall be given written notice, on the nature of the complaint and the action taken by the National Race Committee, within two weeks.

24. Skiers in the Social and Novice classes who place 1st, 2nd or 3rd at the National Championships must move up to at least the next class up the following year. (Social to Pro-Social , Novice, Age or Boat Classe; Novice to Age, Boat Class or Open)

XXI. MARATHON RACE RULES

1. All rules and provisions set forth in Sections I through XVIII of the preceding text shall apply to the Marathon Division except as specifically added to, deleted from, or altered by the following Section XIX paragraphs.

2. PARTICIPANT'S RESPONSIBILITY

A. All participants must sign a release absolving USA Water Ski and the National Water Ski Racing Association (NWSRA) and the sponsoring group of any liability upon joining the USA Water Ski and the NWSRA.

B. All participants must be paid in full members of USA Water Ski and the NWSRA.

1) An Associate NWSRA membership fee of \$25.00 for a one (1) time only participant will be available. This participant must also be a full USA Water Ski paid member. If that participant chooses to participate again within the same calendar year, the remainder of the full NWSRA membership fee will be due.

C. It is recommended that all participants have a physical examination by a qualified physician each year.

D. All participants must abide by the NWSRA Rules Book for the current year.

3. SPONSORING GROUP'S RESPONSIBILITY

A. The entire obligation of the sponsoring group will be to follow the rules and regulations of "Race Procedure" as outlined by the National Association. Clubs and/or sponsoring groups shall see that three (3) scoring teams are on duty at all times during the races. One team to be on the beach, perpendicular to the race course and in line with the two remaining teams on the finish boat.

B. It shall be mandatory that the sponsoring group insure communications be maintained between turn judges, finish barge, start boat and the beach.

C. No sponsoring group shall change its race date within sixty (60) days of the event without approval of the National Race Committee.

D. The sponsoring group putting on the race shall mail flyers with first class postage and date stamped by the post office thirty (30) days prior to the date of the race. The sponsoring group may **NOT** charge late fees if the flyers are not date stamped by the post office and mailed with first class postage thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled date of the race. Late fees shall **NOT** exceed \$20.00 (twenty dollars) for any sanctioned marathon event.

E. All marathon races shall fall under the jurisdiction of the National Race Committee.

F. The sponsoring group shall post a list of boat numbers entered into each class prior to the start of each heat.

G. The sponsoring group shall time each finishing entry and post the time for each team as well as their finishing position (place).

H. It shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring group to assure that all skiers equipment is adequate and in good condition.

4. REGION RESPONSIBILITY

A. The race chairperson shall insure that the sponsoring group receives the necessary forms to effectively put on a race.

B. The National Race Committee will resolve any protests. The committee shall be comprised of the National Race Chairperson, The Region Race Chairperson, and those Region representatives present. This committee will meet in private and no participant involved in the protest may be a part of the committee.

C. Each region is permitted only two (2) sanctioned point weekends per calendar year.

D. Only two (2) sanctioned point marathon events may be run on any given weekend or consecutive two (2) day period.

5. REFEREE'S RESPONSIBILITY

A. The sponsoring group putting on the race shall see that there are adequate referees located on the race course to insure safety.

6. CLASSES

Juniors	15 and under Boys and Girls
Intermediates	16 to 24 Men and Women
Seniors	25 to 35 Men and Women
Veteran Women	36 and over
Veteran Men	36 to 44
45 and over Men	
Mixed Doubles	One Male and One Female
Outboard	Men and Women
Jet	Any age, Male or Female
Stock Day Cruiser	Any age, Male or Female
Unblown Prop	Any age, Male or Female
Open	Men and Women

A. Any skier choosing to ski in both heats may do so without losing points in either heat.

B. Heats may be run. In the event heats are utilized, the following combination of classes will be used:

HEAT A	HEAT B	
Junior Boys	Junior Girls	(Under 15)
Intermediate Men	Intermediate Women	(16 to 24)
Senior Men	Senior Women	(25 to 35)
Veteran Men	Veteran Women	(36 to 44)
45 and over Men	Mixed Doubles	
Men's Open	Women's Open	
Unblown Prop	Stock Day Cruiser	
Men's Outboard	Open Jet	
	Women's Outboard	

7. MINI MARATHON

A. Classes:

- 0-12 Boys and Girls combined
- 13 to 16 Boys and Girls combined
- Women's Novice
- Men's Novice
- Double-up

Recreational
51-60 Men and Women
61 & over Men and Women

- B. Skiers who have earned points during the current racing season in Heat A or B, may only ski in the mini marathons double-up with someone who has not skied in Heat A or B (with the exception of the 51-60 and the 61 & Over Class).
- C. Points will be awarded to the driver, skier and observer, using the circle race point structure (i.e. 800, 600, 450, etc.). Points will be awarded by finish in each class.
- D. To be eligible for a mini marathon hi-point trophy, a skier must ski a minimum of 3 out of the 5 mini marathons in the same class.
- E. Mini marathon hi-point trophies will be different from the traditional marathon hi-point trophies.
- F. Mini marathon will be run on Saturday during a NWSRA Marathon Points weekend.
- G. Recreational class is restricted to skiers who have only participated in social or pro-social classes in NWSRA events. Ski length not to exceed 70 inches. Rope not to exceed 130 feet including bumlines and handles.

8. BOAT CLASSES

- A. All are restricted to single engines.
- B. Fuel must be gasoline only, no alcohol or nitrous oxide.
- C. Outboard – as defined in Section XIII.
- D. Open Jet – as defined in Section XV.
- E. Stock Day Cruiser – as defined in Section XVII.
- F. Unblown Prop – any V-drive or Stern-drive (I/O) which is naturally aspirated.

9. BOAT SIZE

- A. Boat length not to exceed 27' for marathon or mini marathon races. Boats will be measured from bow to lowest part of the transom.
- B. Boat length not to exceed 39' feet in any class for special sanctioned non-points marathon races. Boats will be measured from bow to lowest part of the transom.

10. SAFETY

- A. The sponsoring group shall have on hand at each race, a first aid kit, assembled for emergency use to include splints, plus have at the race site one of the following:

- 1) A certified paramedic, an American Red Cross first aid person, or a physician (M.D.) with a designated emergency vehicle.
 - 2) or a licensed ambulance, equipped with oxygen, and a physician on call.
- B. A rescue litter must be available on the race course in a designated rescue boat at all sanctioned race events. The Chief Referee shall designate the location on the course.
- 1) The rescue boat must be equipped with a certified Emergency Medical Technician Level One (EMT1) or higher. This person should have been familiarized with water rescue techniques. Two attendants shall be in the water at the same time to assist the injured participant.
 - 2) The rescue boat must be equipped with a "Miller Board" or other type of water rescue device designed so when utilized, it will remain in place with the injured participant through transportation to the hospital and during x-ray procedures.
- C. Required equipment:
- 1) Boat Numbers - all NWSRA numbers will have precedent over non-registered numbers.
 - 2) To keep your number, your number must show proof of participation the previous year.
 - 3) All drivers, observers and navigators shall be required to use unaltered jackets which includes the proper use of leg straps. Life jacket must be equipped with material high on the chest and MUST follow APBA guidelines with the exception of color.
 - 4) Life jacket and helmet inspection may be required. International fluorescent orange helmet is mandatory.
- D. It is mandatory that all boats carry a flare gun to be used in case of medical emergency.
- E. All boats participating in a sanctioned NWSRA/USA Water Ski marathon event must be equipped with a working VHF marine radio.

11. RACE PROCEDURE:

- A. Participant's sign-up time shall be at the discretion of the sponsoring group; however, NWSRA/USA Water Ski membership must be signed prior to driver's meeting. Time zone for selected race site will prevail.

B. No boat shall follow directly behind a skier closer than two hundred (200) feet. Any boat following closer than 200 feet will automatically be disqualified.

C. When picking up a fallen skier, you must slow down, yield the right-of-way to oncoming boats, then turn either direction, which ever is safer. Ski line must be kept as parallel to the course as possible.

D. Failure to acknowledge a yellow flag during a marathon race will result in the addition of two (2) minutes being added to the finishing time per violation. A maximum of two (2) violations per race. Upon a third violation, the "team" will be disqualified.

E. Penalties for moving violations will apply to an entire team (skier, driver and observer).

F. Any participant exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct in the opinion of the referees shall be disqualified, as determined by the National Race Committee.

G. Starting Procedure:

1) A five (5) minute warning will be sounded prior to the start of each race. The start boat will pass the pit area with a red flag raised, and then proceed to the start area. The red flag will remain raised for the five minute period. At the end of this period, an additional warning will be sounded and a yellow flag will be displayed for a maximum of two minutes. At the discretion of the starter, a flare will be shot into the air to signify the start of the race.

2) The International start may be utilized with an individual team or a pre-determined group of teams starting and going on the clock every thirty (30) seconds.

3) The type of start will be chosen by the sponsoring group and declared in their advance mailed race flyer. Once mailed, the type of start cannot be changed.

H. All boats twenty-four (24) feet and over shall start at the far right or far left of the staging area as determined at driver's meeting.

I. Any boats accepting a tow will not be allowed to re-start and or finish a race. The team will receive a D.N.F. (did not finish).

12. RACE COURSE

A. The Race Committee will set up the course. It will be adequately marked, and all participants should remain on said course or be disqualified.

13. POINTS

- A. All marathon races will be scored utilizing the International 1000 points system. The first place overall finishing skier in each marathon heat race will receive 1000 points, each skier finishing afterwards will receive a percentage of the 1000 points depending upon how far behind the first place overall skier they finish. DNF=1 point. DNS= 0 points.
- B. Individual class positions will be determined by each skier's point total. A skier's point total will be based upon the total number of points received in one less race than the maximum number of races in the series. (i.e., if there are 10 marathon races, only 9 will count towards hi-point).
- C. In order to qualify for the year end Marathon Hi-point trophy, each participant shall have received points in no less than five (5) sanctioned points Marathon heat races.
- D. All points awarded will be final. No points will be given to any team with a competitor who is not **BOTH** a USA Water Ski and an NWSRA member, even if that competitor was to join the associations at a later date.

XXII. MARATHON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GUIDELINES

1. A firm guideline will be drawn up by the National Race Committee, which will assist regions and divisions in the presentation and hosting of the National Marathon Championships.
2. The Race shall consist of two heats per class run over a two day program. The National Anthem shall be played to denote the start of the racing day.
3. Participation shall be by Invitation to the top six (6) skiers in each class who have received points in their declared class in no less than five (5) sanctioned points Marathon heat races. Skiers shall declare their class prior to the start of the last scheduled sanctioned points marathon race, before the National Marathon Championships. Any boat with Marathon points for the current racing year will be eligible to pull skiers at the National Marathon Championships.
4. Should any of the six (6) qualifying skiers be unable to participate, or fail to return their invitation by the deadline set by the National Race Chairperson, the seventh place qualified skier will be allowed to compete. This rotation, to the eighth or ninth place qualified skier etc., shall continue at the discretion of the National Race Chairperson.
5. All scoring and judging will be accomplished by qualified individuals from the regions. No two judges from the same region will work the same location on the course.

6. Combined heat point totals shall determine the participant's final position, as calculated by the National Marathon Points Chairperson. Tie-breaking will be determined by an Independent time keeper provided at the expense of the National Association.

7. Any protests will be handled by the National Race Committee. This committee will comprise of the National Race Chairperson, the Region Race Chairperson, the Chief Referee or their designated alternates, and the referee calling the infraction.

8. The National Race Chairperson shall ensure that a qualified physician and or ambulance with emergency trained personnel is present at all times and that the closest hospital has been alerted as to what emergency could arise. It is recommended that an additional standby ambulance or designated emergency vehicle be on call.

9. All racing shall be conducted in harmony with the spirit the Race Rules Book and with prime consideration being given to the safety of the competitor.

10. Recommended Distances:

Minimum of thirty-five (35) miles

Maximum of seventy-five (75) miles

11. Unsportsmanlike conduct at any National sanctioned event shall result in disqualification for all remaining sanctioned events during that year and the following year as determined by the National Race Committee. This includes trophy presentation. Disqualification shall be a probationary period and the National Race Committee shall vote at the following years Race Rules meeting whether or not to reinstate the person and or people disqualified under this section.

12. For the National Marathon Championships each region and division will be required to provide a paid referee. Lodging and per diem shall be paid for two (2) days by the National Association. Rate determined by the rate at the race headquarters host hotel.

13. Mandatory that all participants be given a hat, patch and or a tee-shirt free of charge at the National Marathon Championships.

XXIII. SPECIAL SANCTION GUIDELINES

1. A special sanction may be given to any event requiring special consideration - or an event that is not covered in the NWSRA race rules book.

2. Each event shall be considered individually upon previous record and special circumstances.

3. Each participant in a special sanctioned event MUST be a member of BOTH USA Water Ski and the NWSRA.

*XXIV. WORLD TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURES

1. The selection committee shall convene prior to the World Water Ski Championships. This committee shall consist of:

- A. One (1) representative from Region I and two (2) representatives from Region II.
- B. The International Chairperson.
- C. And the World Team Captain.

2. Method of selection:

- A. Marathon results since the last World Championships.
- B. Overall finishes in all USA Water Ski/NWSRA sanctioned point marathon races since the last World Championships. Skiers (junior, senior and F2) must start a minimum of 10 sanctioned point marathon races during the selection period. This rule to begin following the 2003 World Championships. In 2003, F2 skiers must start a minimum of 4 sanctioned point marathon races prior to the team selection. For world team selection purposes, Men skiers must race in Heat A and Women skiers must race in Heat B.
- C. Graphs obtained from Marathon and National points Chairpersons.
- D. Past International racing experience to be considered.
- E. May be from any open, age, or boat class.
- F. Skiers the selection committee feel are the most capable to assist in the winning of the OVERALL TEAM title.
- G. Ability to represent the United States Team with dignity and pride.
- H. All skiers seeking consideration for selection to the Senior or Junior World Team must race in all preliminary races for the next World Championships behind a boat which is no longer in length than 21' feet. (World Rules permit boats no longer than 6-1/2 meters or 21.35 feet.)
- I. All skiers seeking consideration for selection to the World Team in the F2 Men or F2 Women's Class will only be evaluated in sanctioned point marathon races in which they race behind boats that meet the following rules:
 - 1) Engines limited to a maximum of [3] liter outboards only. Stock engine as listed / advertised in basic catalog. No factory racing engines or de-tuned racing engines.

- 2) Engine capacity limited to a maximum of 300 horsepower as measured at the prop shaft. Horsepower will be tested with a portable dyno at the prop shaft.
- 3) Stock exhaust only (must be part of the original engine package).
- 4) All motors must have an operational forward-neutral-reverse (must be operational while the boat is running).
- 5) No modified lower units (i.e. no "quick feet"). Standard lower unit only that is part of the original engine package.
- 6) No mechanical means of height adjustment for engine (no "jacking mechanisms").
- 7) Engine mounting and transmissions must meet the following rules:
 - Engine brackets shall be secure and in satisfactory condition.
 - Engine mountings shall be attached to the transom with at least four bolts.
 - All bolts shall be adequately tightened.
 - To restrict the height a single outboard is mounted on the transom with the outboard trimmed so the prop shaft is parallel to the bottom of the hull, the center of the prop shaft will be no higher than the bottom of the hull (plank or vee). No removal of metal from the skeg and no modification to the water intake.
- 8) No after market nose cones. All nose cones to be standard as part of original engine package.
- 9) Only skiers who have not placed in any race of the last three world championships [97,99,01] and/or have not placed in a top three position in the final results of the last three world championships shall be eligible to compete.
- 10) F-2 hulls shall be a minimum of 5.48 meters (18 feet) and a maximum of 6.5 (21.35 feet) meters.

XXV. WORLD TEAM MANAGEMENT

The U.S. World Team will be lead by a team captain and managed by the team captain, a co-captain and a team manager (triumvirate).

The team captain will be selected by a vote of the members of the immediate preceding team and the International Committee. The team captain must have had prior experience either as a team member or as an official at the World Championships. The team captain must also be a member of the NWSRA and USA Water Ski in good standing.

The team captain will submit a proposed co-captain and team manager to the International Committee Board of Directors for approval. The International Board of Directors has the power to veto proposed co-captains and team managers. If a veto takes place, the NWSRA Executive Board shall have the power to override said veto.

The triumvirate must be selected a minimum of eight months prior to the World Championships. Upon their selection they become non-voting members of the International

Committee and are required to attend and participate in all international meetings, World Team planning and fundraising activities.

The triumvirate of the team captain, co-captain and team manager will be responsible for but limited to the duties listed below:

Attend all required meetings both domestic and international

- Organize and coordinate any boat shipments needed by the U.S. Team
- Organize and coordinate racing fuel needed by the U.S. Team
- Organize and coordinate any and all trucks and misc. transportation required by the U.S. Team
- Organize team travel from the U.S. to the world venues and return
- Be responsible for U.S. Team members and their International Racing Licenses
- Provide adequate communication to all team members before leaving for the worlds and while there
- The triumvirate may delegate any of these tasks they see fit, however they are responsible for the adequate completion of them
- As a group, determine and apply fines to team members in non-compliance with Team Code of Conduct

The team captain, co-captain and team manager will have their airfare, rental car, hotel and team uniform paid for by the World Team. If any of the three are also competitors on the team, they will pay the difference between the aforementioned costs and the total team obligation amount.

XXVI. WORLD TEAM MEMBER RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Team members will be required to sign and adhere to a Team “Code of Conduct”
2. All U.S. Team members will travel to the World Championships together and lodge together unless excused by the triumvirate.
3. The three (3) competing men and three (3) competing women skiers (no alternates of juniors), and the captain, co-captain and team manager will have a meeting and select the team drivers and boats.

XXVII. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE’S RESPONSIBILITIES

The International Committee will support the triumvirate’s decisions on any fines levied on non-compliant team members and collect those fines.

In the event a team member fails to pay a fine, the International Committee will present their name and summation of their violation to the National Board and request that they not be allowed to race in any International or NWSRA-sanctioned event until such fine is paid.

XXVIII. FEES AND PROCEDURE GUIDELINES

1. Membership fees for the current race year (January 1 through December 31).

Full NWSRA Member	\$ 70.00
Family Maximum	\$ 220.00
Associate Member (One Weekend)	\$ 25.00
Social Skier	\$ 35.00

2. The NWSRA Executive Board will impose penalties if these fees are not paid and membership is not completed by the published membership fee schedule.

3. A new TEAM, (DRIVER, SKIER AND OBSERVER) can participate in ONE (1) sanctioned marathon race event for \$ 30.00 a TEAM. National dues will be waived until such time as the individual members of this team wish to participate in another meet. These team members must still join or be members of USA Water Ski before competing. NO POINTS SHALL BE GIVEN TO ANY PARTICIPANT UNDER THIS PROVISION.

4. NWSRA fee to be waived for first-time ever participants.

5. The NWSRA Associate club dues are due and payable on or before December 31 of each calendar year. Fee is determined by membership as of the November club roster.

A. Fees to be:

0 - 50	\$ 120.00
51 - 10	\$ 160.00
101 - over	\$ 200.00

Fees are to be mailed along with club roster to the National Water Ski Racing Association, c/o Cheryl Ruston, Business Manager, 5291 Sorrento Circle, LaPalma, California 90623.

6. Sanction fees (fee paid by the club or sponsoring group putting on a race) are due and payable 30 days prior to the date of the race. Each club is responsible for sending monies and a copy of the application to the National Business Manager prior to the deadline. Failure to comply with this deadline will result in the loss of sanction race privileges. Sanction fee to be announced annually by the National Executive Board.

7. The National Secretary will see that the National Meeting minutes are mailed to all National Officers, The President and Vice-President of each region, the President, Vice President and Paper Editor of each member club, and chairperson of each sponsoring group.

8. It will be the duty of the National Secretary to notify each sanctioning body of any suspension or probation of any participant. Further, it will become the duty of the National Secretary to inform any club or region that they have been disallowed from further

participation in any race sanctioned by the NWSRA/USA Water Ski for non-payment of dues, sanction fees, insurance or fines.

9. Stationary, envelopes, race paperwork, rule books, etc., will be mailed by the National Body to each Region President. It is the Region President's responsibility to see that this information is distributed to each club and/or sponsoring group hosting a sanctioned event.

10. The Sergeant-at-Arms is responsible for verifying boat numbers. Deadline for renewal is March 1 of each calendar year.

11. Each Region President is requested to bring with them to the National rules meeting:

A. Eighteen (18) copies of his Region's proposed rule changes.

B. Two (2) copies of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of his Region's upcoming year Officers.

C. A tentative Region race schedule for the upcoming year.

12. The rules meeting shall be held every other year, commencing in 1996. Any rule changes must be suggested and submitted in writing to the National Executive Board no later than the September National meeting.

13. All "working motions" implemented by the NWSRA Board of Directors during the two years preceding a "rules change year" will automatically be submitted for consideration at the regularly scheduled National Rules Meeting.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS:

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INTERNATIONAL

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**IN MEMORY
OF THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AND THEIR COMPETITIVE SPIRITS
WE HONOR THE FOLLOWING FORMER PARTICIPANTS
AND RETIRE THEIR RACING NUMBERS**

GLEN GIL	267
FRED STEELE	49
PAT BENJAMIN	660
GARY STEELE	111
FLOYD FUNDERBERG	5
BILL MYER	48

National Water Ski Racing Association
Social Ski Template

