



Around the Buoys : No. 1 - February 2022

From the Chair



Welcome to our new occasional newsletter "Around the Buoys". We have over 400 International Officials in E&A and while we have a presence on Facebook and with our dedicated Waterski Council website, we believe that a more direct communication will be useful in keeping everyone up to date on Rule changes, Technology, Training etc. So, expect to see "Between the Buoys" dropping into your mailbox two or three times a year.

With Covid beginning to look less invasive in our lives we hope that season 2022 will be a more normal one for the sport. We have a full calendar of World and Europe Titled events plus the World Games and World University Championships to look forward to. But the political uncertainty in the Ukraine means that we may yet see some changes to the calendar. However, for the moment here are the key dates:

Calendar 2022

This is the published calendar so far for World and E&A events.

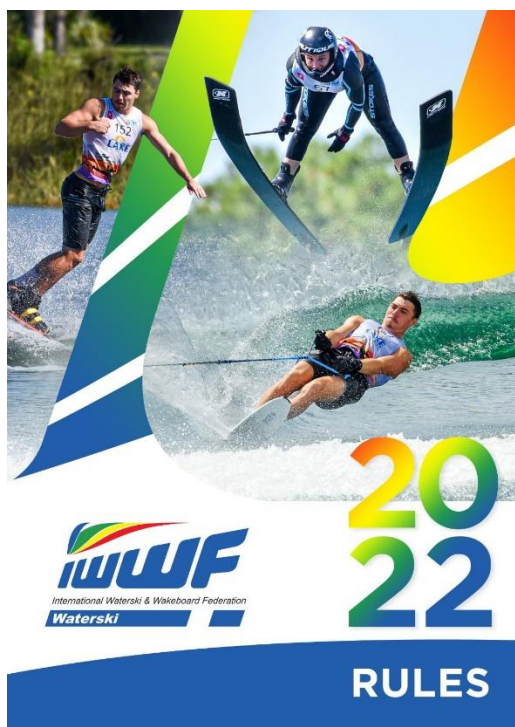
- 24/06 – 26/06 Botaski Pro Am, Sesena
- 01/07 – 03/07 San Gervasio Pro-Am, Italy
- 08/07 – 10/07 Malibu Open Pro-Am, Lacanau, France
- 08/07 – 10/07 Kaiafas Battle ProAm, Greece
- 14/07 – 16/07 World Games : Birmingham, USA
- 15/07 – 17/07 Slastad ProAm, Norway
- 20/07 – 24/07 E&A 35+: Ioaninna, Greece
- 23/07 – 24/07 The Duel, Pro-Tour , Cirencester, UK
- 02/08 – 07/08 E&A Youth : Ioannina, Greece
- 18/08 – 21/08 E&A Open, Ukraine
- 24/08 – 27/08 FISU University Champs: Minsk
- 31/08 – 03/09 E&A U21: Fischlam, Austria
- 12/09 – 18/09 World 35+: Baurech, France
- 01/10 – 02/10 Sesena, International Slalom

2023

- 25/01-31/01 2022 World U17: Chile

World Rules

The World Rulebook 2022 will soon be published. There are quite a few changes, some driven by technology, some by new tools such as the IWWF Event Management System (EMS) and the WSC has taken the opportunity to give some rules more clarity. Hopefully overall you will see the continuing improvements that we have tried to achieve since the major overhaul of the Rulebook in 2020.



E&A Waterski Council

There have been some changes to the E&A Waterski Council with James Timothy, Christophe Duverger and Donal Connolly retiring but staying available as consultants if needed. Replacing them we have Amanda Scherer, Aliaksandra Berazouskaya, and Gavin Kelly who will bring a mixture of experience and skills to assist the work of the Council. We would like to thank James, Christophe and Donal for their work on the Council.

Officials Seminar 2022/2023

As there is still some uncertainty about travel and individuals' preparedness to travel the Council has decided to hold another virtual seminar via Zoom this year which will take place on 2nd/3rd April. Details will be published very soon. While the last two virtual seminars have been very successful the Council believes that there is added value in having a physical seminar where we meet face to face. So, for 2023, with Covid hopefully firmly in the rear-view mirror we are planning to hold a seminar from 24th/26th March at the Radisson Blue Hotel, located at Stansted Airport in the UK. So please put those dates in your diary and watch out for further information.

Please let us know what you would like to see in future Newsletters.

Candido Moz

Chair E&A Waterski Council

Judges Tower



Exams & Upgrades

We have received some requests for exams for Officials to upgrade. This is being worked on now and exams will be available shortly. As a result of Covid the normal 3 yearly re-exams and tests have been suspended but we plan to bring them back from 2024. In the meanwhile, all officials will retain their current status as long as they have been active in 2021 or will be given a bye for 2022.

Resources

On the Council Website you can find various resources including a CJ Competition Check List and Slalom and Jump Timing Charts. If you want to have other useful stuff there, please let us know and we will make it happen.

E&A Titled Events

As is mentioned earlier we have more than 400 International Officials in E&A and hundreds more National Officials. Despite this we sometimes struggle to get enough Judges for our World and European Titled events. This could be down to time constraints, or for some maybe a nervousness about working at a high-level competition. But please think about applying. It can be hard work and long days but ultimately helping to deliver a successful event can be very satisfying and rewarding experience. You also get to make new friends along the way as well as perhaps visiting a new country.

A particular problem is to find people prepared to be the Chief Judge at our Titled Events. This can be a challenging and demanding role, but we need some of our more experienced Judges to step up and give it a go. If you think you need more information before coming forward, please get in touch with one of the Council members. You can apply to officiate at this years Titled Events through the My Jury Panels section in EMS before 19th March.

Scorers Corner



Scoring & EMS

Following the introduction of the IWWF Event Management System (EMS) and the IWWF Skiers Licence processes and procedures have had to change for Scorers. We know that change can be difficult, and EMS is no exception. It is still a work in progress, but improvements and developments are ongoing. EMS Newsletters and Information Videos can be found at <https://iwwf.sport/#>. There will be a specific session on this subject in the Officials Online Seminar taking place on 2nd/3rd April, so if you are a Scorer be sure to attend.

Drivers Pulse



Surepath and End Course Monitoring

From a Competition Driving perspective the topic of the year has been BPMS (Boat Path Monitoring Systems) The technology in this area has been developing fast firstly with Splash Drive and more recently with Surepath. Surepath provides a learning tool for Drivers to help refine and enhance their driving skills by providing real-time feedback about their Boat Path in the Boat. When used in Competitions it helps ensure fairness and consistency of driving. Some aspects of the Rules (8.15) for using Surepath have been revised for 2022 and will be subject of a session at the Seminar

Homologation and Technology Hub



Technology continues to change the sport whether it is with boats, judging systems or administration. These changes inevitably lead to changes in the Rules which can sometimes be confusing. So, it is important for all Officials to stay up to date by reading online materials and by attending the Annual E&A Officials Seminar where any changes will be explained and discussed. Currently we are getting used to the IWWF Event Management System, (EMS) and Surepath technology.

There are also changes to the Rules that will affect Homologation this year so make sure that you attend the Homologator's session at the Seminar.

Get in Touch



Please get in touch with us if you have any questions, observations or suggestions about this newsletter or any other matter concerned with the Waterski Council activities. Email Sasha at aliaksandra.b@waterskieurope.com with anything on your mind.

and don't forget to visit the Facebook page and website for information and news:

<https://www.facebook.com/iwwfeatc>

<http://www.waterskieurope.com/>

If you would like to read the minutes of the Waterski Council Minutes you can find them here:

<https://www.iwwf-ea.eu/iwwf-ea/waterski.nsf/xEAOOfficeMailings.xsp>