

**ABC BAREFOOT
TECHNICAL
RULES**

2018 ABC Rulebook



American Barefoot Club Rulebook
Edited February 19, 2018

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Rule 1. General Rules

USA 101) Amendments to the Rules

The American Barefoot Club (ABC) rules may be amended at any time by a 2/3rds majority of the ABC Board of Directors (ABC BOD).

USA 102) Application

These Rules govern Barefoot Ski Tournaments held in the United States and supplements the 2017 Barefoot Water Ski Technical Rules (“WBC Rules”).

USA 103) Definitions

- A. A “Closed” tournament is one which limits entry.
- B. “Division” means the group of skiers that a skier competes against. The Divisions are described in Rule 105.
- C. “Juniors” means skiers aged 17 and younger at the beginning of the calendar year.
- D. “Organizers” are the people who organize and put on a tournament.
- E. “Rating” shall be based upon a skier’s prior best personal performance within the applicable Ski Year and the two prior Ski Years.
- F. “Record” is the highest score ever by any skier within a Record Category at a RC tournament. Unless the context indicates otherwise, “Open” includes Open and Open Pro.
- G. “Record Category” means groupings of skiers for Record purposes as described in USA 301.
- H. “Seniors” means skiers aged 60 and over at the beginning of the calendar year.
- I. The “Ski Year” shall begin and end at midnight on the last day of the National Tournament.

USA 104) Skier Qualifications

Skiers must be an active member in USA Water Ski & Wakeboard Sports, Inc. (“USA-WSWS”).

USA 105) Divisions of Competition

The Divisions of Competition for any Regional or National Tournament shall be as follows. Divisions determined by scores are “ability-based.” Divisions determined by age are “age-based.”

Female Divisions				
Division	Age	Slalom Scores	Tricks Scores	Jump Scores
Open Women	All Ages	≥ 10	≥ 1600	≥ 10.5
Girls B	0 to 12	< 10	< 1600	< 10.5
Girls A	13 to 17	< 10	< 1600	< 10.5
Women B	18 to 59	< 6	0 to 799	
Women A	18 to 59	6.00 to 9.99	800 to 1599	< 10.5
Master Women	60 to 64	< 10	< 1600	< 10.5
Senior Women	65 to 69	< 10	< 1600	< 10.5
Veteran Women	70 to 74	< 10	< 1600	< 10.5
Super Vet Women	≥ 75	< 10	< 1600	< 10.5

Male Divisions				
Division	Age	Slalom Scores	Tricks Scores	Jump Scores
Open Men	All ages	14.00 to 15.99	3000 to 4499	15.0 to 19.9
Open Pro Men	All ages	≥ 16	≥ 4500	≥ 20
Boys B	0 to 12	< 14	< 3000	< 15
Boys A	13 to 17	< 14	< 3000	< 15
Men C	18 to 59	< 6	0 to 799	
Men B	18 to 59	6.00 to 9.99	800 to 1599	< 10.5
Men A	18 to 59	10.00 to 13.99	1600 to 2999	10.5 to 14.9
Master Men	60 to 64	< 14	< 3000	< 15
Senior Men	65 to 69	< 14	< 3000	< 15
Veteran Men	70 to 74	< 14	< 3000	< 15
Super Vet Men	≥ 75	< 14	< 3000	< 15

USA 106) Ratings

- A. Any Rating except Open Rating shall be effective immediately upon completion of the tournament where achieved. Any Rating will be valid for the remainder of the current ski year plus two additional ski years. Any Rating not so maintained will lapse.
- B. **Open Ratings must be performed twice at a "RL" tournament or once in an "RC" Tournament.**
- C. If a skier's Rating lapses due to not competing, the skier may choose to compete:
 - 1) in the Division in which the skier last competed; or
 - 2) in the skier's appropriate Division.

USA 107) Divisions

- A. **Except for Juniors and Seniors, Divisions of competition shall be determined by a skier's Rating. Skiers must compete in the appropriate Division except when Divisions are not scheduled.**
- B. Any Junior or Senior skier who is eligible for both an ability based and age based division must declare, at the time of signing up for the tournament, which Division he or she intends to compete in, and such declaration shall be binding on the skier for the remainder of the tournament. The Chief Judge may combine Divisions by assigning skiers who are in an incomplete Division to a Division which most nearly matches the skier's Rating.
- C. **Divisions shall not be combined at Regionals and Nationals.**
- D. Divisions may be combined for the purposes of scheduling.
- F. Open Division Eligibility
 - 1. Open Division entry in any one event is mandatory for each skier who holds a valid Open Rating in that event.
 - 2. Open Division skiers shall ski in accordance with IWWF Rules for RC Record.
- G. Entry Level Division
 - 1. Repeat tricks are allowed one time with a 50%-point reduction for the trick. Reverses must immediately follow the basic. A reverse, following a repeat basic trick, scores 50%.
 - 2. Boom skiing is permitted: Scoring for boom skiing shall be:
 - a) directly on the boom: 25% credit

- b) on the 5-foot extension: 50% credit
3. Scores in performed in Entry-level competitions are not eligible for a Rating for any other purpose.
 4. Entry level skiers may not jump.
 5. A skier who falls before entering the course will be allowed an optional re-ride for that pass.
 6. Skiers who have not surpassed the Entry Level Division maximum scores during the previous two ski years and the current ski year may ski in Entry Level. Once a skier exceeds the maximum Entry Level score that skier must ski in his/her respective Division. Scores exceeding the maximum Entry Level Scores shall be valid for Entry Level Division placements and trophies in that tournament.
 7. An Entry Level Competition will have, at minimum- separate men's and women's Divisions.
 8. The maximum rating score for Entry Level skiers is 2.3 in slalom and 250 in tricks.
 9. Entry Level scores are not eligible for Standings Lists.

USA 108) Overall Scores – Placing

A. General.

In tournaments, skiers place in individual events (slalom, trick jump), and overall. Overall placements are determined by accumulating the scores of skiers at the individual events.

B. Open Placement

Skiers who ski in 2 or more Open Division events shall be placed in the Open Division for overall placement.

Skiers who ski in 1 Open Division event shall be placed in their Division for overall placement. If in any event an Open skier's score exceeds that of any Division Skier, they shall receive a score of 1000 points in that event. Otherwise, they shall receive the applicable score.

C. Ability-Based Divisions

1. Skiers who ski in 2 or more of the same Ability-Based Divisions, shall be placed in that Division for overall placement.
2. Skiers who ski in only two Ability-Based events shall be placed in the lowest of the two Divisions for overall placement.
3. Skiers who ski in 3 different Ability-Based events shall be placed in the "B" Division for overall placement.

Rule 2. ABC Tournaments Rules

USA 201) Tournament Classification

There are 4 types of tournaments:

- A. RC: Record Capable
- B. RL: Rankings List but not RC
- C. C: Tournaments that are not RC or RL
- D. E: Entry Level: A type of C Tournament that is focused on skiers new to the sport.

USA 202) RC and RL Tournaments

RC and RL tournaments shall follow the technical requirements of the WBC Rules and Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines of the World Barefoot Council.

USA 203) Class "C" Tournaments

It is recommended that C level tournaments have at least Level 4 officials. A USA-WSWS qualified safety director is required. Compliance with the technical requirements of the WBC Rules, particularly regarding events, is recommended but not required.

USA 204) Safety Director

A USA-WSWS trained Safety Director shall be appointed for each ABC sanctioned tournament.

USA 205) Class "E"

In order to promote uniformity, the following format is recommended for an Entry Level Tournament:

1. Repeat tricks are allowed one time with a 50%-point reduction for the trick. Reverses must immediately follow the basic. A reverse, following a repeat basic trick, scores 50%.
2. Boom skiing is permitted: Scoring for boom skiing shall be:
 - a) Directly on the boom: 25% credit
 - b) On the 5-foot extension: 50% credit
3. Scores performed in Entry-level competitions are not eligible for a Rating for any other purpose.
4. Entry level skiers may not jump.
5. A skier who falls before entering the course will be allowed an optional re-ride for that pass.

6. Skiers who have not surpassed the Entry Level Division maximum scores during the previous two ski years and the current ski year may ski in Entry Level. Once a skier exceeds the maximum Entry Level score that skier must ski in his/her respective Division. Scores exceeding the maximum Entry Level Scores shall be valid for Entry Level Division placements and trophies in that tournament.
7. The maximum rating score for Entry Level skiers is 2.3 in slalom and 250 in tricks.

USA 206) "Closed Tournaments"

ABC RC Tournaments may be open or closed. If "closed," a minimum of two Appointed Judges shall be from outside the region in which the tournament is held.

USA 207) Towboats

- A. Speed Requirements - USAWS/ABC tournament approved towboat minimum top speeds must be obtained with a crew of five officials and towing a heavy barefoot skier and engine trimmed as tested.
 - 1) Elevations =<3,000 feet above sea level USAWS/ABC tournament approved towboats are required to achieve minimum top speed of 45 M.P.H. or greater.
 - 2) Elevations =>3,000 feet above sea level USAWS/ABC tournament approved towboats are required to achieve minimum top speed of 43 M.P.H.
- B. Non-Open Divisions shall have their choice of towboat for the slalom and trick events from ABC eligible towboats made available.
- C. Towboats at RC and RL tournaments shall meet the requirements established by the WBC. Towboats at other tournaments may be selected by the Organizers on any reasonable basis.

USA 208) Accidents

Accidents with a towboat should be investigated under the direction of the Chief Judge.

USA 209) Ramp Inspection

The Jump ramp shall be inspected if any part of the skier's body other than the feet strikes the ramp.

USA 210) Scheduling

The ABC National Tournament will normally be held during the month of August annually unless the ABC BOD determines otherwise. The ABC Regional Tournaments shall be held prior to the Nationals.

USA 211) Divisions Scheduled

A. National and Regional Tournaments must schedule all Divisions except Entry Level.

B. Other tournaments may schedule any or all Divisions.

USA 212) Schedule of Events

A. Nationals

The Nationals schedule shall be completed by the Chief Judge with input from the Organizers. After ABC Board approval, the schedule shall be submitted to USA-WSWS for publication in the July Water Skier Magazine.

B. Other tournaments

The schedule may be published for distribution at the event only.

USA 213) Ties-Towboat

Runoffs shall use the same boat used in the applicable event.

USA 214) ABC Regional Tournaments

A. Skiers must be U.S. citizens, or declared permanent residents. If the skier does not have a "U.S." passport, he must prove residence in the USA for at least 5 years and membership of the ABC. The skier must not have represented another Federation in a World or Region titled event in the past 24 months, unless the former Federation agreed to the transfer, in which case the period of 24 months is reduced to 12 months.

B. A skier's region shall be the region where more than half of his or her practice and competition is accomplished during the 10 weeks prior to the Regional Tournament. If more than half of the barefoot skiing is not done in any single region, he or she shall compete in the Region in which the most barefoot skiing has been done. If a skier is in doubt about the qualified Region, such skier shall present all the facts to the Executive Regional Director ("ERD") of the skier's legal residence, and that ERD's decision shall be final. Such ERD shall, if applicable, provide written authorization for competition as a nonresident, and notification to the appropriate ERD.

USA 215) ABC National Tournament Competition

- A. Skiers must be U.S. citizens, or declared permanent residents. If the skier does not have a "U.S." passport, he must prove residence in the USA for at least 5 years and membership of the ABC. The skier must not have represented another Federation in a World or Region titled event in the past 24 months, unless the former Federation agreed to the transfer, in which case the period of 24 months is reduced to 12 months.
- B. Skiers must compete in their own Regional Tournament the same year as the Nationals, in each corresponding event as entered in the Nationals, except by waiver by the ERD for reason of sickness of the skier or in the immediate family, or for other good and sufficient cause.
- C. Skiers who do not qualify under 215(A) (international skiers) shall compete in separate Divisions.
- D. National Tournament entries should be received by Local Organizing Committee by midnight, 14 days prior to the start of the Nationals. Late entries shall be accepted, with an additional entry fee of \$10.00 per 24-hour period, or portion thereof, after the deadline. Entry fee must accompany entry form. Entry fee less applicable filing fee will be refunded for early entries not qualifying at the Regionals.

USA 216) National Tournaments - Advancement to Second Round

- A. Non-open skiers

There will normally be one round of skiing only for all but Open skiers, subject to modification by the Organizers.

- B. Open Division skiers

- 1) The number of Open & Open Pro Division skiers advancing to the second round will be cut in half with a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 12. To advance into the second round a positive score has to have been posted in the first round.
- 2) If there is an odd number of skiers posting a positive score in the first round, the number of skiers who advance will be rounded up to the next whole number.
- 3) In the case of a tie for the last position all skiers with that score will advance.
- 4) The first round of the corresponding division will be eliminated at tournaments with four or less skiers in an open division.
- 5) Medals will be awarded based on the results of the last completed round for an event.

USA 217) World Participation

Individuals must participate in all US Barefoot Nationals (“Nationals”) in the 18 months prior to the World Championships to be eligible to participate in the World Championship. An exception maybe granted by ABC Board of Directors, for death of immediate family, pregnancy or injury. The ABC Board may grant exemptions for any appropriate reason with a 2/3 majority (8 votes). Although individuals should compete at Nationals whenever possible, an individual may “participate” in Nationals without being present or competing. Any individual who is not able to be present or compete at Nationals should make arrangements with the ABC Board of Directors to participate in some other manner.

USA 218) RC and RL Tournaments

RL and RC tournaments shall adhere to WBC Rules with the following administrative exceptions:

- A. To the extent inconsistent with these Rules.**
- B. Familiarization at the site may or may not be available.
- C. A team representative is not required.
- D. Protest procedures and inquiries shall be determined according to those Rules or as determined by the Chief Judge.**
- E. A protest fee is not required.
- F. Skiers shall use the protest form attached as Addendum B.

Rule 3. ABC Records

USA 301) Record Recognition

ABC shall recognize Records as follows:

- A. IWWF World and Region Records as specified in the IWWF Rules.
- B. ABC U.S. National Records shall be maintained for each Record category listed below achieved in Record Capability (RC) tournaments as specified in Rule USA 202, for skiers who are U.S. citizens at the time of the Record setting performance.

Record Categories:

Boys 1/Girls 1 9 years and under
Boys 2/Girls 2 10-12 years inclusive
Boys 3/Girls 3 13-16 years inclusive
Men 1/Women 1 17-24 years inclusive
Men 2/Women 2 25-34 years inclusive
Men 3/Women 3 35-44 years inclusive
Men 4/Women 4 45-52 years inclusive
Men 5/Women 5 53-59 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 and over
Open Men/Open Pro/Open Women

USA 302) Verification

Verification of U.S. Records shall be based on the "World dossier form", with accompanying video of the passes constituting the Record in slalom or tricks. When application is made for both a World Record and a U.S. National Record for the same performance, the U.S. Record shall be recognized as follows:

- A. If a World Record score is verified as submitted, the U.S. Record shall be valid as submitted.
- B. If a World Record score is downgraded, the lower score shall be valid for a U.S. Record, if still applicable.
- C. If the World Record application is rejected completely, the U.S. Record application shall also be rejected.

USA 303) Record Maintenance

A master list of U.S. Records shall be maintained by the ABC Records Committee annually for each calendar year including the date of the achievement of each Record in each division.

USA 304) Division Records

- A. National Records shall be the top score set within a Record Category for that event. One Record shall be listed for each Record Category. Only Records from RC tournaments will be recognized.
- B. Once a skier has achieved an open Rating in an event that skier is no longer eligible to set any other Division Record in that event.

USA 305) Record Capable ("RC") Tournaments

IWWF and ABC Tournaments at which ABC National Records may be accomplished and certified are as follows:

- A. IWWF World Championships
- B. IWWF Pan American Region Championships
- C. International Championships
- D. ABC RC Tournaments

USA 306) Record Submission

It shall be the responsibility of the skier to collect and submit the following items to the ABC record committee within 14 days of the record occurring:

- A. Signed and completed record dossier;
- B. Video of the record performance for Slalom and Tricks;
- C. Scores sheet written by the judges;
- D. Video jump setup drawing, Computer setup file and image from the Jump Program.

Rule 4. Towboats

A) TOWBOAT REQUIREMENT

- 1. Towboats for RC and RL Tournaments shall meet the requirements of the WBC Rules
- 2. Towboats for all other tournaments shall be defined by the Organizers.

B) NUMBER OF TOWBOATS

For the ABC Nationals, there shall be one boat per lake plus an additional towboat.
At all other tournaments, there shall be one or more towboats.

C) TOWBOAT AVAILABILITY

Any towboat that is to be used in the tournament shall remain available until the end of the tournament unless released by the Chief Judge for earlier departure. Once a towboat has been received, inspected, approved and calibrated for that tournament, it

may not be used except for regularly scheduled events in that tournament. Joy-riding or being used as a utility boat will require re-inspection and calibration.

D) CORRECTION FOR SUB STANDARD PERFORMANCE

If a towboat is observed to have substandard performance at a tournament, the Chief Driver may elect to stop usage of the towboat in question until the cause of the problem is determined and corrected.

Rule 5. ABC Teams

USA 501) Team Composition

The U.S. Open Barefoot Team, U.S. Sr. Barefoot Team and U.S. Jr. Barefoot Team (including reserves) shall be selected by the ABC Team Selection Committee and ratified by the ABC Board of Directors. Thereafter, no protest shall be allowed. If the Committee's recommendations are not accepted, the proposals must be sent back to the Committee with a written explanation of the reasons for any rejections from any dissenting voters for further consideration. The Board shall not name any team member not recommended by the Committee, except by 2/3-majority vote.

1. Any skier wanting to be considered for membership on the U.S. Open Barefoot team must ski in the Open Division for the season, once qualified, after January 1 preceding selection of the U.S. team.
2. Team manager and coach shall be selected by the Committee and recommended to the Board for approval under the same conditions as the team members. Final selection and approval for U.S. Barefoot Team to be at odd year Nationals and U.S. Jr. Barefoot Team to be at the even year Nationals.
3. Removal and replacement of team members (including appointing or changing the reserve members) once the final selection of team members has been accepted by the Board shall be made by unanimous approval of a committee composed of the Coach, Manager, and the President of ABC.

ADDENDUM A

Endurance & Figure 8 Rule Addendum

A) SANCTIONING AND OFFICIALS

1. Endurance tournaments shall be sanctioned by the USA-WSWS as F class tournaments for non-cash-prize events. Cash prize events shall be sanctioned as a Class X (Experimental format) under the USA-WSWS/ABC sanctioning process.
2. All skiers, officials, and support personnel shall be USA-WSWS insured members for an "X Rated tournament and "F" Class tournaments.
3. Chief Judge shall be a minimum of Level 3 judge for an "X" tournament. "F" class tournaments only require a minimum of a USA-WSWS Trained Driver and a competent Chief Judge.
4. All USA-WSWS-ABC safety rules will be enforced by an USA-WSWS rated Safety Director for an "X"; or a USA-WSWS Safety Coordinator for an "F" classification.

B) COMPETITION

1. There shall be a minimum of one division for male and one for female or the Tournament Organizers may, at their discretion, divide the male and/or female divisions according to age, performance, or any other determining factor.
2. There may be more than one round.
3. The order of contestants shall be determined by the Organizers in conjunction with the Chief Judge.
4. The shape and size of the course will be determined by the Organizers in conjunction with the Chief Judge and the Safety Director.
5. One re-ride may be allowed for a missed start. This will be decided by the Organizers in conjunction with the Chief Judge and announced before the start of the event. No rest period will be allowed for re-rides on failed starts.
6. Timing will be by a minimum of two independent timers. One timer may be placed on shore in a position so as to be able to see the entire course. A minimum of one timer will be in the towboat.
7. Timing will commence when the skier achieves BSP and end when BSP is lost.
8. Total time for each skier per round will be the average of all timers.
9. Boat path, speed, or the failure of one or more timers will not be sufficient cause for a re-ride. The failure of all timers will be sufficient cause for a re-ride. Re-rides due to

timer failure will take place at the end of the current division or round, or after a ten-minute rest period, whichever is longer.

10. Head to head elimination competition, having more than one skier behind the boat simultaneously, will be allowed.

11. The winner will be either the skier with either the highest total combined times from all rounds; the skier with the highest total time from a single round; found by head to head elimination. This will be stated before the start of the competition

12. Tournament Organizers will supply USA-WSWS approved towlines, handles, towboats, and safety boats. Safety boats must be inspected and approved by the Safety Director prior to the start of the competition.

13. Devices such as, but not limited to, skis and kneeboards may be used for the start. These devices must be inspected and approved by the Safety Director prior to the start of the competition.

C) SAFETY

1. The Safety Director may at any time take whatever actions necessary to correct an unsafe condition, including temporarily stopping the tournament. The Chief Judge may overrule the Safety Directors actions or decisions, but only on his/her responsibility.

2. Either a neoprene wet suit with an incorporated PFD or neoprene wet suit pants and a Coast Guard approved PFD must be worn during the event. A dry suit that depends on contained air for flotation or any inflatable device does not comply. The Safety Director shall have the final decision, ordering a practical test in the water if necessary.

3. The Safety Director shall monitor whether all safety rules are being observed. Failure of a skier to comply with these rules will result in immediate disqualification from the event. At any time during the competition the Safety Director may request the Chief Judge to stop the event to poll the event judges as to whether a skier should be allowed to ski. A majority vote of the judges and the Safety Director that his/her competing would be a danger to him/herself or to other skiers will be sufficient cause for disqualification.

4. The safety boat will be responsible for picking up fallen skiers and start devices.

5. Tournament Organizers in conjunction with the Chief Judge and the Safety Director may determine the speed or limit the top speed for the competition.

ADDENDUM B—Protest Form

ABC Official Protest Form

TO: The Contestant

FROM: The Chief Judge of the Tournament

Instructions: Please read the appropriate section of the rule book before completing this form. Be sure you are filing a protest and not requesting a re-ride. Note that a protest is never allowed in a judgment decision and that you must identify the rule or rules that were violated. Once completed and signed, return this form to the Chief Judge for action **with \$10.00**.

Tournament Name _____ Sanction Number _____

Tournament Location _____ Tournament Date(s) _____

Contestant's Name _____

Event _____ Division _____

Rule Number(s) Affected _____

Reason _____

Contestant's Printed Name: _____

Contestant's Signature _____

Date Filed _____ Time Filed _____ Time Results Posted _____

Official Action (as voted by the appointed judges of the tournament) _____

Chief Judge's Printed Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

For corrections or omissions contact:

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