



## Championship Rules 2012 – Wave Performance

### 1. Number of Eliminations

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- i. No more than 1 single elimination shall be run on an event
- ii. No more than 1 double elimination shall be run on an event
- iii. Single and Double Elimination may be replaced by one Dingle or other form of elimination

### 2. Definitions

- a. Possession: The first rider on a wave is in possession of this wave. If two riders are subject to the above at the same time and there is risk of interference, the one which is deeper in the wave (or windward of the other), possesses the wave.
- b. Interference: A rider is interfering with another rider if
  - i. he is reducing the right of way riders scoring potential on the wave or
  - ii. he is breaking down a section that the Right of Way surfer would have used as scoring potential.
- c. Competition Area: means the area of the surf that has been officially designated and may be indicated by buoys, flags or banners as the area where competitors may catch waves that can be scored.

### 3. Rules

#### a. Right of Way:

A rider in possession of the wave has unconditional Right of Way on this wave over a rider that is not in possession. During that time, all other right of way rules do not apply.

#### b. Interference Penalty:

If a majority of judges feel that a rider interferes with another rider by taking his right of way, violating wave possession or priority, or acting dangerously, without making any possible attempt to avoid the interference, his second best score will be cut in half. In addition, if the interference occurs while both riders are on the same wave, this wave will be scored with zero points for the interfering rider. In this case, the interfering rider is allowed one additional wave over the maximum wave count.

If a rider gets a second interference penalty in the same heat, he shall be disqualified from that heat.

If a second Interference Penalty is allowed, this penalty shall be to cut the two best waves into half, otherwise his penalty shall be a disqualification from that heat.

#### c. Re-Running a heat:

If a right of way rider cannot continue his heat due to an interference caused by



another rider, the contest director may re-run the heat or stop the heat time (in case of a tangle) and then resume the heat. The interfering rider is carrying the interference penalty forward to the re-run of the heat.

d. Heat time adjustment:

The contest director may adjust the heat time by stopping the countdown and resuming the heat as soon as e.g. a tangle between a rider and an interfering rider has been resolved

e. Scoring a Wave:

Wave rides shall be scored in the competition area only.

If the judges do not score the wave, or score only parts of it, the competitor does not have the right to protest. The decision whether a competitor is inside the competition area or not is made by the head judge.

f. Outside help:

Outside help inside the competition area is only allowed in case of equipment malfunction and after consulting with the Head Judge /Contest director. Any other change of equipment is only allowed outside the competition area. If a rider receives outside help inside the competition area, he will not be scored anymore from that point onwards in the heat.

g. Tie-Break:

A Tie-Break shall be broken in favor of the rider with the higher individual wave score. If the tie remains, it shall be broken by summarizing the best 3, best 4 etc waves of each rider

h. In the competition area when not competing:

A rider shall not be in the competition area except during his heat. A competitor infringing this rule is subject to a discretionally penalty, which may be to not penalize the rider, penalize the offending rider with an interference penalty to be carried forward to the next heat, or to disqualify the offending rider from the previous heat, next heat or whole competition.

i. Right of way rules when not riding a wave:

The normal right of way rules of the RRS apply. In case of an incident, the judges panel may impose a discretionary penalty, which may be to not penalize any rider, penalize the offending rider with an interference penalty, or disqualify the offending rider from the heat.

j. Identification:

Riders must comply with the identification system outlined in the contest instructions (e.g. registering their kite details with the beach marshal, wearing the correct colored lycra assigned to their heat slot)

#### 4. Scoring

a. Number of Judges:

Recommended are 5 judges + head judge. In preliminary rounds, 3-person judging



panels may be used. In exceptional circumstances where the chances of finishing an event are in jeopardy, split 3 judge panels may be used.

b. International Judging Panel:

On world and continental championship level, all judges (except the head judge) shall be from different countries and, in case of world level competitions, from at least 3 different continents.

c. The scoring will be based on the judging criteria stated and result in an overall impression, scoring points from 0.1-10, meaning:

- i. 0.1-1.9: bad wave
- ii. 2.0-3.9: poor wave
- iii. 4.0-5.9: average wave
- iv. 6.0-7.9: good wave
- v. 8.0-10.0: excellent wave

d. Missed Wave:

If a judge misses a wave, or part of a wave, he will put an M on the manual sheet, and that score will be calculated by the tabulator

e. Counting a Wave:

Dropping into a wave and dropping out again without initiating a ride will not be scored and does not affect the max wave count of the rider in question. In general, a wave is ridden when a bottom turn is completed and a top turn initiated.

f. Tabulating:

- i. Computer Based Tabulating (recommended for world and continental level)
  - 1. If 4 or more judges are used, the highest and lowest score per judged wave is eliminated and the remaining scores are averaged.
  - 2. If 3 judges are used, the scores of all 3 judges are averaged.
- ii. Manual Tabulating
  - 1. On every judges scoring sheet, the best counting waves of each competitor are added.
  - 2. The competitor per judge with the highest points wins, and all others are ranked accordingly. If a tie occurs on a sheet, the points awarded to each of the tied riders will be the average of affected placing points added together.  
E.g. if tied for 1st: Add 1st & 2nd = average is 1.5
  - 3. The rankings are then transposed to a master sheet with all judges rankings.
  - 4. If 4 or more judges are used, the high and low judge's rank for each competitor is eliminated and the remaining places added. The lowest total first, next lowest second etc.
  - 5. If 3 judges are used, all judges rankings for each competitor are added. The lowest total first, next lowest second etc.

Master Tabulation sheet							
Name	J1	J2	J3	J4	J5	TOTAL	PLACE
Red	<del>2</del>	<del>1</del>	1	2	2	5	2 <sup>nd</sup>
White	<del>1</del>	2	<del>2</del>	1	1	4	1 <sup>st</sup>
Yellow	4	3	3	<del>3</del>	<del>4</del>	10	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Blue	<del>3</del>	<del>4</del>	4	4	3	11	4 <sup>th</sup>



## 5. Judging Criteria

- a. Competitors must perform according to the below judging key elements to maximize their scoring potential. Riders are scored by OVERALL IMPRESSION. Judges analyze the following major elements when scoring waves:
  - i. Commitment
  - ii. Degree of difficulty
  - iii. Innovative and progressive maneuvers
  - iv. Combination of major maneuvers
  - v. Variety of functional maneuvers
  - vi. Speed, power and flow
- b. Riding strapless, switch, unhooked or displaying any combination thereof is considered more technically difficult.
- c. However, variety without function and flow does not benefit the competitors overall impression.
- d. Simply riding switch, unhooked and strapless will not produce an excellent wave score if it is not providing functionality, combined with other key elements such as commitment, speed, power, flow, combination, variety and innovative/progressive maneuvers.

## 6. Start and Finish

- a. Heats shall be started with the following system:

red flag up	Warning	Begin of Transition
red flag removed, yellow flag up	Preparatory	1 minute to the start
yellow flag removed, green flag up	Starting	start
- b. Heats shall be finished with the following system:

green flag removed	Warning	1 minutes to the finish
red flag up	Finish	Begin of next Transition

## 7. Heat Duration, max wave count, number of waves to be scored:

The heat time and flag intervals, max wave count and number of waves to be scored shall be announced at least 30 minutes before the heat in question.

Recommended heat times are 15 minutes (with 5 minutes transition) and a max wave count of 15 waves, scoring the best 2 waves.

A minimum of 2 waves should be scored.

The minimum heat time should be 10 minutes.

## 8. Re-Running of Heats

The Head Judge may re-run heats in case of discrepancies in the judging sheets. Whenever possible, the decision to re-run heats shall be made before announcing a winner of the heat in question.



9. Judging Sheets availability for Competitors

Competitors may check their own judging sheets only in the presence of the head judge.

10. Appeals, Request for redress

The judge's decision cannot be appealed. However, riders have the right to request redress if their score has been made worse through no fault of their own, and no other penalty has been applied.

The contest director may then decide to adjust the score, re-run the heat or take any other appropriate action to secure the fairness of the competition.

11. Appeals against Judges

If competitors feel to be disadvantaged by certain judges they shall report this in writing to the Organizing Authority or their representatives at the end of the competition day.

12. Age Divisions

- a. Youth: under 18 years of age in the year of the competition
- b. Senior: open to competitors of all ages
- c. Master: between 35+ years of age in the year of the competition
- d. Grand Master: 45+ years of age in the year of the competition

A minimum of 5 entries in an age division is required to constitute this division.

A competitor must not be older than the maximum age limit in the relevant age division by December 31st in the year of competition.

A competitor must have reached the minimum age limit in the relevant age division by December 31st before the year of competition.