

# **IWA Wave and Freestyle Championship Rules**

## **Introduction**

A Notice of Event will be published on the IWA website or through the e-group for each and every event.

These Championship Rules, where appropriate, cannot be amended by Sailing Instructions.

All competitors should understand and accept the rules before entering an event.

All competitors in IWA events, regardless of nationality or membership of another national organisation, must be a member of the IWA to compete in an IWA event and have adequate third party insurance. This measure is taken to ensure insurance cover at IWA events.

## **Event Organisation**

An Event Committee (EC), approved by the IWA, shall conduct an event as required by the rules. The EC will usually comprise of, but not be limited to: Event Organiser, Head Judge and IWA Representative.

## **Entries and Fleet definitions**

No entry will be accepted after the closing date as indicated in the Notice of Event or on the Entry Form except in exceptional circumstances which are at the discretion of the event committee.

The fleets may be defined as: Gold; Silver; Youth; Master; Women.

- In the event of enough entrants, a separate Youth fleet and separate Ladies fleet may be established.
- Silver fleet is aimed at newcomers to wave competition, and those wanting to just have fun while improving their windsurfing skills.
- Gold Fleet is aimed at top level competition, and producing International standard competitors.

See Appendix for further information regarding IWA Age divisions

## **Advertising**

ISAF Advertising Code-Regulation 20-applies. Competitors may be required to display official stickers on their sails and wear an advertising vest, provided by the organizer at registration, while competing and training at or near the event site.

## Equipment

There are no restrictions on the type or amount of equipment a sailor may use in an event or series

## Eligibility to be Irish Champion

### Irish Championships, Windsurfing

The Irish Windsurfing Association (IWA) awards the title of “Irish Champion” in the following windsurfing disciplines on an annual basis; Wave Sailing, Freestyle and Racing (Course or Slalom or a combination of both).

The titles are awarded by the Executive Committee of the IWA based on the results in appropriate events that are included on the approved IWA Calendar of Events for the season. The results from each individual race or round in the events count towards the results in the IWA Championships.

The decision on whether to award any specific “Irish Champion” national titles, or any sub-category (such as Junior, Youth, Lady, etc) rests with the Executive Committee of the IWA and will depend on the participation at the various levels in the relevant events.

### Eligibility to Compete in IWA Calendared Events

Events that are included in the IWA Calendar of Events are “Open” events. Any current member of the IWA or, in the case of entrants not permanently resident on the island of Ireland, of another National Windsurfing Association, may participate in such events. However, a windsurfer who is not permanently resident on the island of Ireland will NOT be eligible to be “Irish Champion”, even though he/she may be the top ranked competitor from the relevant events.

### Eligibility to be an “Irish Champion”

In order to be awarded the title “Irish Champion” by the IWA, a competitor must be

- A current member of the IWA, and, **EITHER**
- Hold an Irish passport or be eligible to hold an Irish passport, **OR**
- Be permanently resident on the island of Ireland (for at least a year before the final event of the Championships).

In a case of any dispute as to a windsurfer’s eligibility to be “Irish Champion” the matter will be decided by the Executive Committee of the IWA.

## Scoring and Prizes

### Minimum number of rounds for an event to count to the ‘Championship title’:

For an event to declare a valid title round, at least one round must be completed and valid title rounds must have been completed to the point where the fleet has been eliminated to the top 4 for a division. Where the round cannot be completed to decide the final 4 positions, joint positions will be awarded accordingly and with respect to a board’s heat results in the round in question.

### Minimum number of rounds to decide an event result:

For an event to declare a valid event result, at least one round must be completed and to be valid both semi-final heats shall have been sailed. Where the round cannot be completed beyond the point of both semi-finals, joint positions will be awarded accordingly and with respect to a boards heat result’s in the round in question.

Details of awards and prizes, if offered, will be published in the Notice of Event. In the event of not completing a full round of competition, the prizes will be raffled off to those competitors who attend the prize giving. There are no circumstances where there will be a refund of entry fees. (The costs the event incurs are the same with or without a result, sorry).

## **Ties**

### **Event Ties**

When there is a tie in total points of an individual discipline the tie shall be broken...

- (a) in favour of the competitor who has beaten the other more times. Award each competitor 1, 2, 3 etc. respectively, in each race/elimination and include the discarded scores. The lowest accumulated score wins. If the tie remains,
- (b) in favour of the competitor who has the greater number of firsts, seconds and so on, discard score included. Here the actual finishing positions of the competitors shall be considered. If the tie remains,
- (c) in favour of the competitor who has discarded a better result.
- (d) If the tie remains, a sail-off between the competitors in question may be permitted if reasonably possible.
- (e) If the tie still remains, it shall stand as the final result.

If after all relevant tie break rules have been applied, there is a tie between competitors ranked in the top 3 of an individual discipline at an event, the tie shall be broken in favour of the competitor who had the highest finishing position in the last race or elimination of that specific discipline at the event.

If two or more competitors are placed equally after all relevant tie break rules have been applied, the next best ranked competitor shall receive a position after these which is consecutive to the number of positions occupied by the number of individuals ranked equally.

Ties between more than two competitors shall be broken in the same manner, considering all the competitors concerned at once, in each race/elimination series.

### **Championship Ties**

When there is a tie in total points of the championship ranking, the tie shall be broken in favour of the competitor, who has beaten the other in more events in the relevant discipline and include the discarded scores.

If the tie remains, it shall be decided in favour of the competitor who has the greater number of firsts, seconds, and so on, in the relevant discipline including any discarded scores.

Where ties cannot be broken using the above rule, a sail-off between the competitors in question may be permitted if reasonably possible.

If the tie remains, it shall stand as the final result.

If after all relevant tie break rules have been applied, there is a tie between competitors ranked in the top 3 in any one discipline, the tie shall be broken in favour of the competitor who had the highest finishing position in the last event of the year in that specific discipline.

Ties between more than two competitors shall be broken in the same manner, considering all the competitors concerned at once.

## **Scoring for National Wavesailing and Freestyle Championships**

**Reference :** [ISAF Windsurfing Competition Rules 2009-2012 \(WCR\)](#)

### **Wavesailing Championships**

The results of every round of Wavesailing Competition in ALL the calendared Wavesailing events for the year or season concerned will be included in the compilation of the overall results of the National Wavesailing Championships.

The Head Judge at each event will be the sole authority to determine if a round constitutes a valid result. The Head Judge may decide that a result in one fleet (e.g. Gold) is valid while a result in another fleet is not.

The result of each round of the Wavesailing competition will be scored in accordance with the Racing rules of Sailing, Windsurfing Rules, using the "Alternative System", i.e. Winner – 0.7 points, Second – 2 points, Third – 3 points, etc.

A board that did not start, did not finish, retired after finishing or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boards entered in the Event.

***A board that did not enter for an Event (that is, register, pay the Entrance Fee and attend the Briefing at the Event) will be scored points one more than the total number of boards entered in the fleet concerned for the Wavesailing Championships.***

#### **Results of an Event**

In compiling the results of an Event, all valid, completed rounds **of Wavesailing competition** from the Event will be included for the fleet concerned. (Note: If both Wavesailing and Freestyle rounds gave valid results at a Wavesailing event, any round of Freestyle competition sailed will NOT be included in the compilation of the Results of the Event.)

Discards will be incorporated as follows:

<b>Valid Rounds</b>	<b>Number excluded</b>
1-2	0
3-4	1
5-7	2
8 or more	3

#### **Results, National Wavesailing Championships**

In compiling the results of the Wavesailing Championships, all valid, completed Wavesailing rounds from ALL Wavesailing Events will be included for the fleet concerned. Discards will be incorporated as follows:

<b>Valid Rounds</b>	<b>Number excluded</b>
1-2	0
3-4	1
5-7	2
8 or more	3

In a case where the first placed sailor from the Championships is NOT eligible to be National Champion in accordance with IWA Regulations at the time, the next placed sailor who fulfils the criteria for National Champion will be awarded the title.

### **Freestyle Championships**

The results of every round of Freestyle Competition in ALL the calendared Freestyle AND Wavesailing events for the year or season concerned will be included in the compilation of the overall results of the National Freestyle Championships.

The Head Judge at each event will be the sole authority to determine if a round constitutes a valid result. The Head Judge may decide that a result in one fleet (e.g. Gold) is valid while a result in another fleet is not.

The result of each round of the Freestyle competition will be scored in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing, Windsurfing Rules, using the "Alternative System", i.e. Winner – 0.7 points, Second – 2 points, Third – 3 points, etc.

A board that did not start, did not finish, retired after finishing or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boards entered in the Event.

***A board that did not enter for a Freestyle Event (that is, register, pay the Entrance Fee and attend the Briefing at the Event) will be scored points one more than the total number of boards entered in the fleet concerned for the Championships.***

**Results of an Event**

In compiling the results of a Freestyle Event (or a Wavesailing Event where the only valid results are from Freestyle Competition), all valid, completed Freestyle rounds from the Event will be included for the fleet concerned. Discards will be incorporated as follows:

<b><i>Valid Rounds</i></b>	<b><i>Number excluded</i></b>
1-2	0
3-4	1
5-7	2
8 or more	3

**Results, National Freestyle Championships**

In compiling the results of the freestyle Championships, all valid, completed Freestyle rounds from ALL Freestyle and Wavesailing Events will be included for the fleet concerned. Discards will be incorporated as follows:

<b><i>Valid Rounds</i></b>	<b><i>Number excluded</i></b>
1-2	0
3-4	1
5-7	2
8 or more	3

In a case where the first placed sailor from the Championships is NOT eligible to be National Champion in accordance with IWA Regulations at the time, the next placed sailor who fulfils the criteria for National Champion will be awarded the title.

***Issued by the Executive Committee of the IWA, Oct 06***

# APPENDIX

## **Age Divisions, National Championships**

From January 2008, the IWA will apply the following Age Divisions in competitions and events that form part of National Championships managed by the association.

- **Age Divisions**
  - a. **Youth** is a man or woman who is less than 20 years old.
  - b. **Junior** is a boy or girl who is less than 17 years old.
  - c. **Master** is a man who has reached the age of 35, or a woman who has reached the age of 30.
  - d. **Grand Master** is a man who has reached the age of 45, or a woman who has reached the age of 40.
  - e. A sailor must have reached the minimum age in the relevant division by December 31st before the year of competition.
  - f. A sailor must not be older than the maximum age limit in the relevant age division by December 31st in the year of competition.
- Whether prizes will be awarded in each of these categories at an event will be a matter for the event organisers. However, where a National Championships is awarded on the basis of a single event, the Executive Committee may require that prizes are awarded to some or all of these Age Divisions.
- Where a National Championships is awarded on the basis of results from more than one event, the Executive Committee will decide which Age Divisions will have National Champion titles awarded (regardless of whether or not there was a competition for each of these age divisions at each event).
- Adopted at AGM, 28 Oct 07.