



Pan American Region

updated January 2025

Rules of Policy for the Pan Am Water Ski Championships – All Divisions

The current IWWF Rule Book will be used in all cases other than those set forth below by the Pan American Tournament Council (established as of January 2, 1992 with amendments noted)
February 2023 Changes in Red
January 2025 Changes in Blue

OPEN DIVISION

- a) Rules identical to the rules used for the Open World Championships, with noted exceptions.
- b) Six skiers, four of any one gender. The best three scores to count towards team score.
- c) Slalom Start Speeds

	Preliminary	Final
Men	58/18.25	58/14.00
Women	55/18.25	55/16.00

2022

- d) Finals will be one half of the total skiers entered and paid to ski in the preliminary round as posted at noon before the competition starts, rounded up to the next skier, but limited to a maximum of 8 skiers and a min. of 4 skiers.

Under 21

- a) Rules as per IWWF rulebook, with noted exceptions.
- b) Four skiers total, three maximum of any one gender. The best three scores to count towards team score.
- c) Best three scores count towards team score.
- d) Slalom Start Speeds

	Preliminary	Final
Men	55/18.25	58/16.00
Women	52/18.25	55/16.00

- e) Finals will be one half of the total skiers entered and paid to ski in the preliminary round as posted at noon before the competition starts, rounded up to the next skier, but limited to a maximum of 8 skiers and a min. of 4 skiers.

Under 17

- a) Rules identical to the rules used for the Junior World Championships, with noted exceptions.
 b) Six skiers, four of any one gender. The best three scores to count towards team score.
 c) Slalom Start Speed

	Preliminary	Final
Boys	52 Kph	55/18.25
Girls	49 Kph	52/18.25

(2022)

- f) Finals will be one half of the total skiers entered and paid to ski in the preliminary round as posted at noon before the competition starts, rounded up to the next skier, but limited to a maximum of 8 skiers and a min. of 4 skiers.

Under 14

- a) Rules identical to the rules used for the Junior World Championships, with noted exceptions.
 b) Six skiers, four of any one gender. The best three scores to count towards team score.
 c) The maximum age of any skier participating is 13 years as of December 31 preceding the Tournament.
 d) See Rule 8.02 for Slalom Shortening Speeds & Rule 10.05 for Jump Speeds and Ramp Heights.(2022)
 e) Slalom Start Speeds

	Preliminary	Final
Boys	43 Kph	46/18.25
Girls	40 Kph	43/18.25

(2022)

- g) Finals will be one half of the total skiers entered and paid to ski in the preliminary round as posted at noon before the competition starts, rounded up to the next skier, but limited to a maximum of 8 skiers and a min. of 4 skiers.

+35, +45, +55, +65, +70, +75, +80, +85 Divisions

- a) Rules identical to those used for the World 35+ Championships **with noted exceptions** (IWWF rulebook)
- b) Six skiers total from each Age Category, Four maximum of any one gender.
- c) The best three scores from each Age Category to count towards each Age Category team score. For example, one country could win the +35 Age Division and another country could win the +45 Age Division.
- d) In slalom finals, skip one pass and go to the next higher speed or rope length.
- e) Finals will be one half of the total skiers **entered and paid to ski in the preliminary round as posted at noon before the competition starts**, rounded up to the next skier, but limited to a maximum of 8 skiers and a min. of 4 skiers.
- f) The first 5 of the Pan Am Ranking List (**IWWF May 1st or Nov 1st list & 60 day list per iwwf rule**) in a discipline in any divisions may ski as an Individual Skier.
- g) Slalom (2019)
 - (1) 2 Rounds Semi-Finals and 1 Round Finals
 - (2) Slalom Finals Selection- 1st half from the best score and the 2nd half from the best average score. If odd number- then last in based on best average score.
- h) Slalom (2025) If an event is expected to exceed daily time limits, the Tournament Council, at its sole discretion may decide to eliminate “g” above and use an LCQ Slalom Format. The numbers into finals is unchanged.
 - a) Round One Slalom shall consist of all eligible skiers who are seeded according to the current rules.
 - i) The top finalists minus one, shall proceed to the Slalom Finals. If the event has 4 or few skiers then all skiers qualify for the finals and an LCQ is not held. If the event has 5 or more skiers, then follow chart:

# of Skiers Entered	# Skiing in Round		# of Skiers Qualified from Rd 2	Total # to Finals
	# Qualified from Rd 1 To Ski Finals	LCQ with 1 Skier to Qualify to Finals		
4	4	0	0	4
5	3	2	1	4
6	3	3	1	4
7	3	4	1	4
8	3	5	1	4
9	4	5	1	5
10	4	6	1	5
11	4	7	2	6
12	4	8	2	6
13	5	8	2	7

14	5	9	2	7
15	6	9	2	8
16	6	10	2	8
17	6	11	2	8
18	6	12	2	8

- b) Round Two Slalom (LCQ) shall consist only of those skiers from the round one preliminary event who did not qualify for the slalom final round. The best slalom score, from this round shall proceed to the finals as the last seeded skier(s) in the finals.
- c) Slalom Finals shall be seeded by Round One Slalom Scores followed by the LCQ skier(s) seeded last and based on their Round Two Scores.
- d) Only First Round and Finals will count to Individual Overall and Team Scores. The second LCQ round will not count towards the Individual Overall and Team Scores.
- e) Ties
 - i) Ties in the Preliminary Round, for the last spot(s) into the finals, shall be broken in the LCQ round. A run-off will not occur after the first round.
 - ii) Ties in the LCQ round, for the last spot(s) shall be run-off per IWWF Rules
 - iii) All other ties are per IWWF Rules.

- i) No Skier can be part of two divisions.
- j) The 65+ and over Divisions; Overall may calculate from two or three events.
- k) At the +35 Pan Am Championships, the first 4 Appointed Judges must be Level 1 Judges in all three events. Additional Appointed Judges may be Level 2 Judges in all three events. If an appointed judge is not available to fill a panel position, the Chief Judge may fill those positions with a Level 1 or Level 2 Judge who may be participating or spectating at the tournament (this panel judge may be a single event level 1 or 2 judge and is not required to hold a three event rating). Conflict rules to be applied per IWWF Rules.

ALL DIVISIONS

1. Frequency of Competition
 - a. Open/U14/U17/U21 Pan American Championships shall be held biennially in even numbered years.
 - b. 35+ Pan American Championships shall be held biennially in odd numbered years.
2. All Pan American Championships are considered Team Events without individual skiers unless otherwise noted in these rules.
3. The tournament should be run, if possible, with the classification of at least “L” .
4. The Pan Ams Championships will be seeded.
5. JUMP HEIGHTS: For advancing from 1.65m ramp height to 1.80, it takes a proven performance of 50m. For advancing from 1.50m to 1.65m ramp height, it takes a 38m proven performance. Should be sent in with the entry (i.e. IWWF rule)

6. CHIEF JUDGE will set the ultimate deadline for declaring jump heights.
7. ONE SKIER from each country may ski in both their divisional team (by age) and on the Open Team, if so qualified.
8. PRACTICE at the Pan Am Championships
 - a. Must be fair and equal for all Federations
 - b. Must be listed in the bulletin with details of how it will run
 - c. No skiing during any Awards Ceremony
 - d. No skiing during the Opening Ceremony
 - e. No skiing after the competition until the first segment is complete
 - f. After a segment of the competition starts, no participating athlete will practice on the competition site
9. Rule 14.14 Wild Cards- **Shall be utilized in very extreme circumstances and only if the schedule allows. The tournament council must be assured that the length of each and every day will not exceed 8.5 hours before considering the admission of any Wild Cards. The tournament council will make the final decision to consider Wild Cards.**
10. Establishment of seeding is per the IWWF Rule Book, except the top 3 overall male and female skiers shall ski in the same seed group (not the top 5).