

ROCHESTER WATER SHOWS



Member Handbook

Policies & Procedures

RWS is a non-profit organization.

How the Club works...

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors consists of nine team members. Terms are for two years, except for the position the show director holds, which is for one year. There will usually be 5 new board members each year. After the election, which happens on Labor Day, Board members elect officers among themselves. Officer positions include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Board meetings are open to our members and normally take place on the second Tuesday or Wednesday of each month.

Show Director

The show director is voted in by members at the general board elections held Labor Day. Potential show directors may ask the board for a time to present their campaign or ideas but are not required to. No prior notice of running for show director is required but is suggested. The show director will hold a voting board position for one year.

Boat Drivers

The board will make the final decision on boat drivers and who is allowed to drive but will take the show directors opinion heavily. A certified (tested) driver must be present, and driving or instructing within their certified classification, at every scheduled event. A safety coordinator must be present at all practices and shows as well.

Pinner/Observers

All pinner must be pre-approved by the board (and show director), as well. There will be an initial training process to ensure the pinner understands how the quick release works and the effects on the act being pulled. The *safety* of the persons being towed depends on someone who understands these effects. Acts such as doubles, trios, swivel, jumping, barefooting, etc. may use pinner. There must be an observer in the boat for all practices/shows.

Towing Club Equipment

The Rochester Water Shows does not carry individual towing insurance on its equipment. Equipment being towed by members is covered under their own personal auto insurance policies. If an accident occurs of any kind, the towing vehicle owner is the one responsible for the claim.

Use of Club Equipment

Members may use club equipment, including ropes, skis, harnesses, bridles, and wetsuits during practice times and during non-team practice times. Equipment must be checked out beforehand with permission from the show director or the equipment manager and signed out. Borrowed equipment must be returned and checked in, by the next scheduled team event. Any damage or loss of equipment, while on loan, is the responsibility of the borrower and repair or replacement is mandatory. Trailers and sheds may never be left open during non-practice times.

Use of Personal Equipment

Members are allowed and encouraged to use their own equipment, if they have it. The club does not claim any responsibility for personal equipment that has been damaged during practices or shows, or that is left in the shed or trailers. Any equipment used during practice and shows behind Club boats must be deemed safe to use by the Safety Coordinator.

Keys to Trailer/Boats/Shed/Gas Tank

Members who are able to have keys to trailers are the following: All Board Members, Show Directors, Boat drivers, and anyone else the board sees fit to give a key to.

Responsibility

As members of the team, everyone from the newest Development Team member to the most veteran Competition Team member is not only encouraged, but expected to help on workdays, beach and site clean-up, ad sales and fundraising, and before and after every show. After the show, there is plenty of time later to visit with your friends and family, and many hands make lighter, easier work.

Normally everyone will be assigned a duty each show night and at road shows to help ensure everything that needs to, gets done. For workdays, if you don't know what to do, ask! And bring work clothes, rakes and gloves.

Public Image

We are guests on The Pondy property, just like the other members of the public. (See Appendix 1 below for an additional property usage risk waiver.) We share the lake and must respect everyone's right to use it. Please be courteous and helpful of other boaters and patrons of the restaurant. These are our fans and supporters.

Likewise, if you are in public wearing your Ski Team gear, please remember you are ambassadors of the Team and the city of Rochester, and act accordingly. Drive in the area carefully and quietly and keep the swearing down too. The image you portray is often a lasting one.

Alcohol/Drug Policy

The consumption of drugs and/or alcohol by SkiDox members is prohibited before and during any practice, clinic, show or competition. Please see and sign the separate alcohol / drug policy for further information.

Carry-in Cooler Policy

No carry-ins of any kind will be allowed on Show nights. Concessions are available on site.

Harassment

The SkiDox Water Shows enforces a zero-tolerance harassment policy. Any complaints against another member regarding verbal or physical harassment will be addressed to the board of directors for investigation and for action to be taken. Harassment includes sexual, race, color, religion, gender, or age and is defined as any UNWELCOMED Verbal (including insults, name calling, or belittling) or Physical (touching, pushing, staring, or gestures) conduct directed towards any member that has the effect of interfering with or affecting a person's participation in team functions, or creates a hostile, threatening, or offensive environment. Actions can include warnings, barring of certain activities, or termination as a member. Dues will not be refunded.

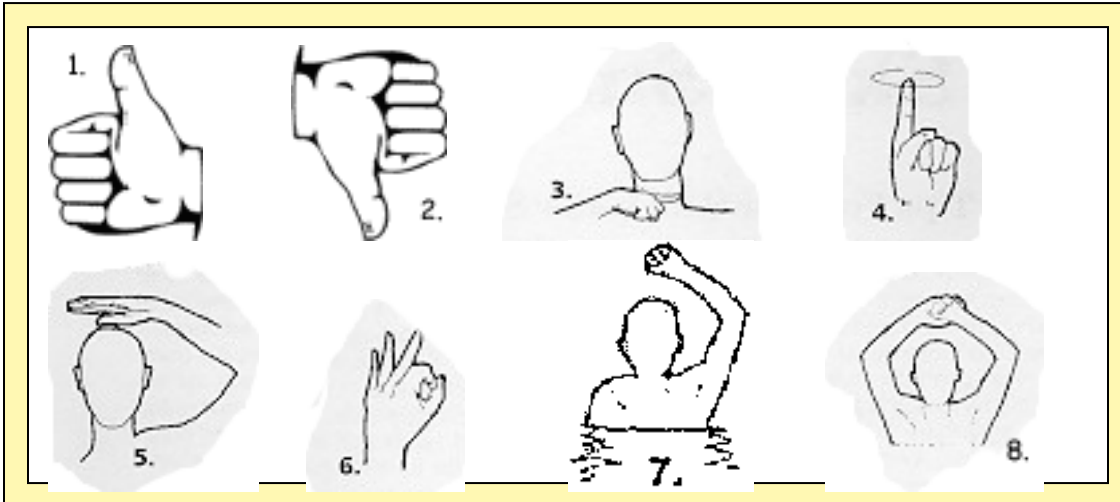
Note: ALL MEMBERS 18 years old and above are required to take SafeSport Training through USA Water Ski. This instruction is free. The first class takes about 90 min to complete. Refreshers take about 20 min.

Safety

The safety of our members and the people in the vicinity of our shows and practices is our #1 priority. Every member should always keep their safety and that of those around them in mind. The SkiDox Water Shows expects you to develop and maintain a safety-conscious attitude. The Safety Coordinator and his/her assistants can explain any specific safety rules and procedures to you. They also have the authority to stop any member from attempting an act where they feel an unsafe condition could arise. If that is the case, the member is expected to stop immediately. Actions can include warnings, barring of certain activities, or termination as a member. Dues will not be refunded.

No member may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs during or before any show, practice or tournament. Members of age are advised to use discretion afterwards.

Skier/Boat Driver Hand Signals: Learn and use the following hand and arm signals. Good communication between the skier and the boat driver (and spotter or pinner) is a must for safe skiing.



1. **SPEED UP.** Boat, go faster. (Thumb pointed up.)
2. **SLOW DOWN.** Slow down the boat. (Thumb pointed down.)
3. **CUT MOTOR / STOP.** Immediately stop the boat and motor(s). (Slashing motion over the neck.) – May also be used by the driver or spotter.
4. **TURN.** Turn the boat around. (Circle motion with arm and figure pointed straight up over the head. Then point in the desired direction.) – May also be used by the driver or spotter.
5. **RETURN TO DOCK / HOME.** Turn the boat back towards the dock. (Pat on head with flat hand.)
6. **OK.** The speed and boat path are okay, signals are understood. (Make OK sign.)
7. **I'M OK.** Skier waves until the driver or spotter see that the skier is not hurt. (Wave with one hand in the air, back and forth.) – If a skier does not wave, the driver and spotter will assume they are hurt.
8. **SKIER HURT / STOP THE SHOW.** Cross both arms over the head and wait until driver/spotter sees you. Do not panic. Assist or immobilize the fallen skier if you can without putting yourself in jeopardy due to tangled ropes and boat motors.

How the Show works...

Practice

For everyone, there are scheduled practices each week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 pm until dark. Jump and other specialized practices if needed will be scheduled separately. In addition, Wednesdays may be used for practices until our first show. Watch the website for any deviations for Development Team members. There are also numerous winter practices held throughout the year for all members to participate in. Ask a board member for more details.

The show director oversees all practices and schedules and has the final say (with Board of Directors) in any issues or use of Club boats.

On the Dock

If you want to ski, get in line with your equipment. If you feel you are not getting your rightful turn, ask the show director or a veteran skier to help you get in line. It can be chaos, and sometimes overlooking someone is not intentional. There will be no horseplay on the dock during practice or the show. Use caution when walking around on the dock as well, and when equipment is not in use, it should be put away. At the end of practice or the show, everyone is expected to help put away equipment and clean up the area.

Be supportive of your team members. Everyone had to learn at some time. And if you are learning, keep a positive attitude and accept critique. And be patient – if you keep practicing, you **WILL** get better!

Show

The show begins promptly at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays (6:30 pm in August). Members are expected to be at the show site at least one hour before the show starts to help get things ready. At road shows, members should arrive a minimum of two hours early, or as the show director tells you. Help is needed to put the sound equipment together, set the dock, jump and other equipment, prepare costumes and ropes and get skis and other equipment out of the trailer.

The show will be written by the show director and posted no less than half hour before the show, and then a meeting will be held to run through it and answer any last-minute questions.

Showmanship

Smile and wave, no matter what happened during the act! You would not be doing the act if you didn't know how to do it and were consistent. But occasionally, falling happens, so when it does, smile and wave. On the landing dock, part of learning the act and getting into the show will be to be able to do the final dances and waves. All members, even those behind the scenes, are expected to help put the finishing touches on the show you just performed in!

Getting in the show

Practice, practice, practice! Show up and don't be afraid to get wet! If there is a certain act you wish to be in, make sure you can do it without falling (at least 80% of the time) and let the show director know. They will make the final decision, and let you know why. Some practices will key on certain aspects of the show, such as pyramids or jumping. If you want to be involved in those certain acts being practiced that night, make sure you are there! You also need to learn your role in the show if you want to ski the act. This includes learning dances, special waves, or skits as deemed necessary by the show director and the theme committee. When you aren't skiing, you should be getting yourself ready for your next act and then helping others get ready.

If you can't make a show, inform the show director as early as possible. Normally a calendar will hang in the trailer for you to mark your planned absences. You may also use designated apps and programs, like the "Band" app.

Remember – we are a Team! Each individual works together to put on the best show possible!

Support Personnel

The extras behind the scenes are crucial to making the show run smoothly. At every show, there are several jobs for those who don't ski, or just want to help out. These include helping hook up ropes, assisting the announcer or sound personnel, photography, selling/handing out program books, accepting donations at the gate, hanging costumes, and assisting in the pro shop. If you have a few minutes, please help behind the scenes.

Mentorship Program

All new members will be assigned a mentor to help them get involved in club activities. Returning members are expected to assist new members and should be available to mentor a new member when requested by the Show Director or Membership Chair.

Fundraising

All members are required to participate in fundraisers as specified by the Fundraising Committee and Board of Directors.

Program Ads (if done)

Program ads are due no later than May 15 and should be given to a board member, or the book editor. All ads received and paid in full by May 15 will receive a dues credit to the club member. The member should pay their dues and expect a refund. This is also true for show sponsors. Ad credits are capped when dues are paid in full for you and your immediate family. **Anyone may submit an advertisement for the program book.**

Membership – 2022 *(No change! Dues held at 2019 prices!)*

1. Skier Membership –

Single Membership - A single membership per year costs \$100 per person plus USA Water Ski. Dues must be paid in full before the individual is allowed to participate in skiing activities.

Family Membership - A family membership per year costs \$300 plus USA Water Ski. Dues must be paid in full before the family can participate in skiing activities. (See Membership Classification below.)

2. Supporting Membership– Dues: \$25 plus ACTIVE USA Water Ski. This includes all boat drivers, assigned pinners/riders, announcers, sound and gate personnel, parents of minors and others connected with running the show.

3. Alumni/Honorary Membership – Dues: \$25 (No USA required unless you will be on the dock or water or in boats); includes past members and anyone else who wants to be affiliated with RWS.

Early Bird credits may be offered if paid in full by specified dates as determined by the Board of Directors.

Membership Classification

a. A family membership includes 2 household adults (with no reference to marital status), dependent children and full-time students up to age* 22.

b. Dependent children 18 years of age* and older, not enrolled as a full-time student, must join as an individual.

c. Individuals under the age* of 18 must sign up with a parent or guardian. (17 and under)

d. Anyone enrolled full time in college qualifies for the college discount (bring proof of status).

* A Persons age (and status) is determined by their age on May 1st of the current year.

Miscellaneous

a. Prorated Dues: Dues will no longer be prorated.

b. Members may work out a payment plan with the Membership Chair or committee. These requests must be presented to the board for approval and will be considered on an individual basis and kept confidential. The treasurer on the board is responsible for keeping record of dues paid.

c. If someone cancels by June 15, they can receive back 2/3 of their dues; otherwise all dues are non-refundable.

d. Any change in member dues must be voted on by the club and must pass with a majority vote.

All dues will be collected in full along with updated paperwork by the first practice of the year and may be paid to the Membership Chair, or a Board member if that person is not there or available. If paid to a Board member, that Board member will ensure that the Chairperson gets a copy of the paperwork and the exact amount paid.

USA Insurance

Each member must carry “Active**” USA Water Ski Insurance if they want to participate in club practices, shows, or events in which our association fee requires us. These must be paid before the member participates in any club-sanctioned event. Members will not ski until the club has confirmation of USA Water Ski membership (bring a copy of your registration). The Board Secretary or Membership Chair/USA Water ski advisor will be responsible for keeping record of who has USA Water Ski Association membership. Membership with USA is good for one year from when you signed up. Members are responsible to have their own medical insurance, however.

Costs are \$85 for an active membership (single over 26), \$55 active membership (single 25 and below), \$175 for a family head of household and up to four other active family members (under 17) after that. More information may be found on the website: www.usawaterski.org.



2022 Membership Application

(Head of Household)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

We Prefer to Email. If you don't have email, do you prefer: Mail Phone Cell (Call/Text)

Additional Family Members (if applicable):

2. Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

3. Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

4. Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

5. Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

The team runs on volunteer help! Which committee would you like to help on? (Choose at least one; number #1, #2 #3 preferences.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Costumes-Repair/Care | <input type="checkbox"/> L2Ski Assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme/Music/Sound | <input type="checkbox"/> Development Team |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dock/Equipment Repair | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/Fundraising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Site Maintenance/Gate | <input type="checkbox"/> Ski & Rope Upkeep |

In Case of Emergency, contact: _____ Phone: _____

Date of Membership Application: _____ I/We will do/have done free SafeSport Training (18s+)

Type of Membership:

Skier: Individual (\$100) Family (\$300) Supporting (\$25)

Alumni (\$25)

SUBTOTAL DUES: _____

USA Water Ski Association Fee: (* indicate active members above with a star)

Family (\$175-up to 6, 17yoa & under) Individual (\$85/\$55-under 25yoa) Already Paid (\$0)

Supporting/GR (\$20 or \$40) Guest # _____ **SUBTOTAL DUES:** _____

Miscellaneous or Payment Plan: _____

I/We have read and understand the Skier Handbook. I/We have read and signed the Drug/Alcohol Policy.

I/We agree to allow RWS to use my/our photos for promotion purposes (ie Website, Program Book, etc).

Signature of Head Adult: _____

TOTAL DUE: _____ PAID _____ CC/Cash/Check Collected by: _____ PMT2: _____ PMT3: _____

TOTAL DUE: _____ PAID _____ CC/Cash/Check Collected by: _____ PMT3: _____ PMT4: _____

Dues may also be mailed to: Rochester Water Shows Ski Dox - PO Box 231 – Oronoco, MN 55960

Appendix 1

**Waiver of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement
Use of Premises**

In consideration of my use of the premises of The Pondy Restraunt and Bar (40240 County Road 90 Mazeppa, MN 55956), I for myself, as well as the entire Ski Dox Waterski Team, my heirs, personal representative or assigns, do hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue The Pondy Restraunt and Bar (Pondy LLC), it's trustees, directors, officers, employees and agents from liability from any and all claims including negligence of the entire Ski Dox Waterski Team resulting in personal injury, accidents, or illnesses (including death) and property loss arising from use of premises for water ski team related activities, during the dates of June 25th, 2021 through September 30th, 2021. This waiver is specific to water ski team activities including ski shows and ski team practices.

Assumption of Risk: The entire Ski Dox Waterski Team carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injuries. I have read the previous paragraph and I know and understand and appreciate these and other risks are inherent in the activity I am participating in (water ski team activities). I hereby assert that my participation is voluntary and that I knowingly assume all such risks.

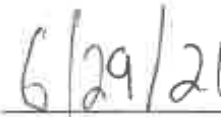
Indemnification and Hold Harmless: I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless The Pondy Restraunt and Bar(Pondy LLC), its trustees, directors, officers, employees and agents from any and all claims, actions, suits, costs, expenses,damages and liabilities including attorney fees as a result of this use of premises for water ski activities including shows and practices.

Severability: The undersigned further expressly agrees that the forgoing waiver and assumption of risk agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of Minnesota and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Acknowledgement of Understanding: I have read this waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement, and fully understand its terms. I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily, and intend by my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.



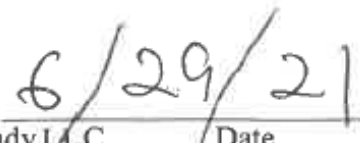
Signature of Participant
Cole Nelson, President of the Rochester SkiDox



Date



Steve Overton, Owner of The Pondy Restraunt and Bar(Pondy LLC



Date