

WISCONSIN WATER SKIER

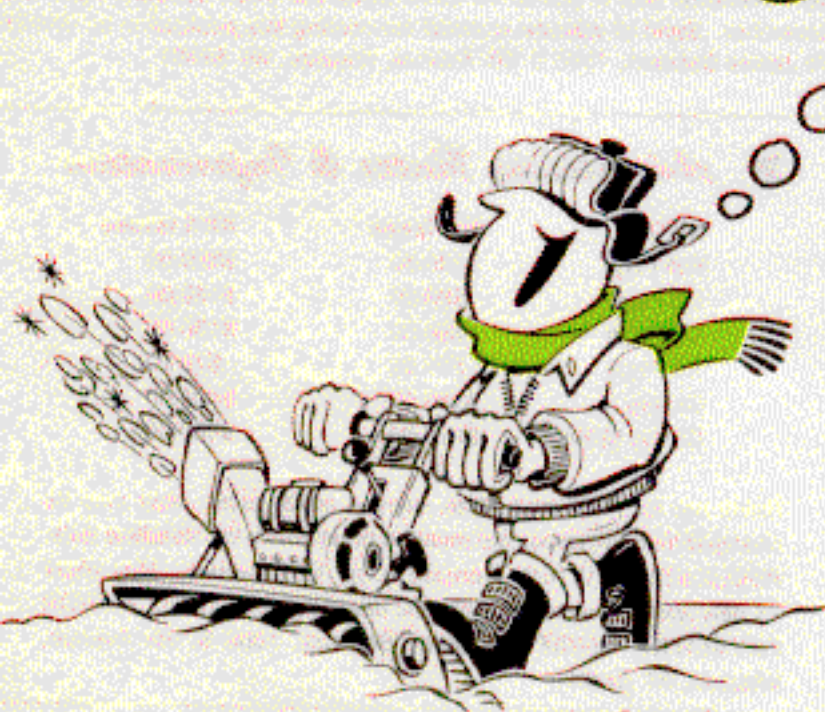
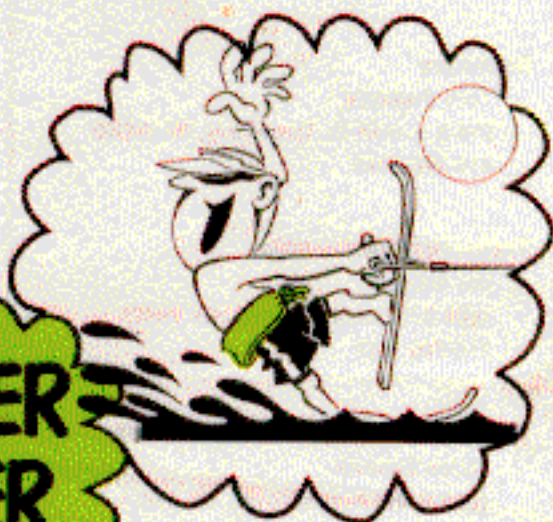
January 1997

Winter Edition

Publication Of The Wisconsin Water Ski Federation

Your
Think Tank
Issue
Has Arrived

I'D RATHER
BE WATER
SKIING



THINK TANK XXI
Feb. 28 - Mar. 2, 1997

Check Inside For . . .

- Registration Form
- Tank Information
- Doubles Tournament Form
- Ski Camp Registration
- Hotel Information
- Banquet Information
- Sports Wear Order Form
- Etc.

Wisconsin Water Ski Federation

Wisconsin Water Skier

JANUARY 1997

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James Babcock, Editor

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NEW SKI SPRITES WATER SKI SHOWS

We Ski For You!

by Tom Bjerke

Our 1997 season marks the 37 years of exciting water ski entertainment for the Chippewa Valley. The Ski Sprites Water Ski Shows was founded in 1960 by a group of six young competition skiers. These original Ski Sprites foresaw the need for organized water skiing in the Chippewa Valley.

Traveling from town to town to perform, the original and subsequent teams survived on funds obtained by passing the hat. The early teams flourished, growing in popularity as they became more well known.

Early teams consisted mostly of high school age youth. These early Ski Sprites were guided in their operations by Ruby and Vern Casperson of Eau Claire. Ruby and Vern, along with their skiing children, wore many hats in making the seasons a success. Vern served as Show Announcer, Team President and mentor to many up and coming skiers. Ruby made costumes and helped organize fund raising efforts to keep the Team going.

Half Moon Lake in the center of the City of Eau Claire has always served as our home base lake. In the 1960's, the Team practiced three nights each week but did most of their performing "on the road", entertaining crowds in area communities. Only one show per season was actually performed on Half Moon Lake during those years.

It wasn't until 1972 that the Ski Sprites first performed in the Wisconsin State Show Ski Tournament. That first exposure to show ski competition was quite a learning experience for the skiers as none of the members had ever seen a tournament before. From that novice team in 1972, the 1973 team came back to the State Tournament as the first show ski team to put individual songs and music to the individual acts being performed. They came from near last place in their first year to third place in 1973.

The Ski Sprites has endured growing pains during its' 36 years. A major restructuring in the 1970's took the team from a loose knit ski club to the highly organized and streamlined show ski team it is today. The team grew much stronger as a result of these growing pains as sponsors, such as our honored guests this evening, realized the value and focus of the "new" Ski Sprites. Since that time, the business end of the team has been carefully conducted by an elected board of directors, which has further helped the organization to flourish.

The third decade of the Ski Sprites brought additional area support for the fun and exciting family entertainment that the Ski Sprites provided. As the skills of the team members grew, so too did competition for their individual skiing talents. Many highly talented skiers have left the Ski Sprites for opportunities to ski and perform for such well known professional ski organizations like the Tommy Bartlett Water Shows, Sea World, Cypress Gardens and Ski Shows, Incorporated!

During the 1980's, the Ski Sprites moved to their second permanent home site. The original performance site had been near the Carson Park causeway which separates one third of Half Moon Lake from the rest. The new site was located at Rod and Gun Club park at the far opposite end of the lake.

The team continued to flourish at their new home, growing to two regularly scheduled performances each week along with three special performances for the City of Eau Claire. Sponsorship of the Western Wisconsin Cup, a three event ski tournament, was hosted by the Ski Sprites for five years while located at the Rod and Gun site. In addition, outboard motor sponsors, water ski sponsors and rope sponsorship were secured, helping the team to grow even more.

In just the last seven years, your Ski Sprites again moved and are now located at our present home site. The current Half Moon Beach facility, a former City of Eau Claire swimming beach, is leased from the City of Eau Claire. The Half Moon Beach site has helped the team grow to what it is today. A beach house with rest rooms, concession stand, equipment storage and locker rooms has helped to "professionalize" this still strictly amateur and totally volunteer organization. A sandy beach, boat landing and bleachers area round out the ideal location for western Wisconsin's premier show team.

Our current Ski Sprites team consists of 75 skiers and a host of adult volunteers. Equipment includes two MasterCraft ski boats obtained with the generous assistance of Zach's Sports Center of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. Additionally, a 300 horsepower Mercury motor equipped Hydrodome Ski boat, two Mercury powered safety boats poised for immediate water rescue and a 26 foot pontoon boat used as a floating dock for many of the exciting acts, rounds out the Ski Sprites fleet.

The 1996 show season consisted of 35 public performances at the Half Moon show site with all time record attendance. Special presentations at Sawdust City Days, July 4th and Labor Day brought many visitors to the Eau Claire area. In addition to entertaining residents and visitors to the Chippewa Valley, the Ski Sprites competed in three major show ski tournaments. Those competitions included the Jewel of June Tournament, the Wisconsin State Tournament, and the grand-daddy of them all Show Nationals.

The 1997 show ski season promises to be another exciting year for the Ski Sprites. In 1996, the team has become the very first water ski team in the entire United States to receive charitable organization status on our own merit. Practices for the shows and show design began in January, with regular winter practices occurring at the Eau Claire YMCA. Still supported today by sponsors and donations, the Ski Sprites has evolved into a performing format featuring lots of thrills, music, color and dazzling costumes.

The original purpose of the Ski Sprites has never been lost: serving the youth of western Wisconsin. Today the Ski Sprites Water Ski Shows continues as an enthusiastic ambassador for the Chippewa Valley in western Wisconsin.

The LITTLE Team With BIG Ambition

Have you ever heard of the Rock Aqua Jays? How about the Aquanuts? or the Aqua Skiers, Aqua Ducks or Wausaqua? Of course you have - - these are household names in Wisconsin and the Midwest.

But what about Sportz Time? Ever heard of them? We doubt it. Yup a WWSP team from, would you believe, Cudahay Wisc.!!

Well, you've heard of the "little engine that could" now you know the ski club that did. They are five members strong, seven if you count the associate members. The President is Gary Schacht and his wife Gail acting as Secretary. AL GORE...OOPS, I mean Mike Schoenke is the Vice President and his lovely wife Wendy chases down the money as Treasurer. That leaves Tony Arena as the founder (along with Gary) but Tony is down in Orlando, Florida. These days his involvement is minimal.

The two associates come around mainly at tournament time to practice and to help set up. They are Tom & Sally Bolin from the Fox River in Northern Ill. and Mike Gissibl who wears two hats one as a barefoot competitor (Sportz Time) and one as a show footer for Badgerland. (Yes, you can be in two clubs as long as they don't compete with each other).

So, by now you've figured out that we are a barefoot club. But why are we the "little club that could?"

Well, the year started out with ambitions of running the State Barefoot tourney. Our relationship with Kerry Tolzmann up

at Ski Decorah was pretty good and we were welcome at his man made "fool'n" lake, so we were ready to take that challenge.

Soon the Illinois Footers approached us with the great idea that we combine the Ill. State with the Wis. State Barefoot Tournament on consecutive days. "No problem" we said, besides we increased the tournament numbers from 26 in '95 to 45 this year.

Next Gary Kirkland called with the big question (Gary is Midwest director of the American Barefoot Club), Can you please help us out by running the Midwest Regionals this year? That was in April! Three months later the tournament was scheduled to occur. Wow! Crunch Time!!

Sportz Time said OK and the mad scramble was on. When 5 people are doing a Regional, you know it's a mad scramble. We pulled it off, and for the skiers, it appeared to go without a hitch. For the club it was a bit difficult, to say the least. You'd have to say we learned many lessons. From sponsors pulling out, to last minute plans being changed, it was quite a lesson in how to run a major tournament.

The Regional banquet was the last official act for Sportz Time in 1996, and all the competitors expressed their thanks to Gary & Gail for keeping Barefoot Regionals alive and well for 1996.

The "little club that could" may have had an engine with only 5 cylinders (members that is) but it staged two big tournaments as well as it could be done.

By the way folks, this was not only the biggest year in Sportz Time history, it was the first year for Sportz Time as a WWSP team... The Little team that could!!!

Mike Gissibl

MECCA BOAT SHOW

Last year volunteers from WWSP teams manned the booth giving dry land ski demonstrations, answering questions, and passed out pamphlets describing water ski activities, tournaments, shows, and services available throughout the State. The booth displayed equipment, posters, awards, and pictures provided by the clubs.

Wednesday, February 12 through the 16th the Wisconsin Water Ski Federation will once again be represented at the Mecca Boat Show. Volunteers will once again be needed to man the booth and will receive free admission to the Boat Show! WOW! This is a great opportunity to promote your club, our sport, the WWSP, and your volunteer participation also counts toward Ski Camp, a valuable training opportunity for any club! Last year both the Federation and the clubs benefited by attracting new members, spectators, and one club even got a road show out of their participation.

We hope all the clubs will provide something we can

display so that all the clubs are represented. Pamphlets or anything you want to display that will promote your club can be distributed and utilized. For more information, to volunteer for a shift at the booth, or to make arrangements to provide promotional material or display items you may either send them to any Federation meeting or call Barbara Diehl at 414-742-3831, FAX 414-742-3821, or e-mail bdiehl@townsquare.net. We'll take really good care of your photos, awards etc., display them at the Federation Booth at Think Tank and make sure they are returned in perfect condition as well. Please help us help you promote your team, the WWSE, and our sport!



NATIONALS - DuQUOIN, IL - THINK TANK '97

For the second year in a row, Barefoot Nationals was held at DuQuoin, IL State Fair Grounds. Little Egypt, in far Southern, IL, was much more inviting than in 1995 when, 100 degrees was the average daily temperature. This year the temperature was moderate - mostly in the 80's, keeping all quite comfortable. Little Egypt Ski Club learned greatly from last years experiences and showed a very high level of organization. In short the tourney ran very smoothly.

Do you know that for the first time Wisconsin had no entrants in the younger divisions, and the open divisions. Put another way, no Jr. Girls, Girls, Women I, II, III, or Jr. Boys, Boys, Men I or Open Men were from Wisconsin. Not one skier entered.

From day one in 1978, Wisconsin dominated Barefooting. Even as recently as 1990, half the National Champs were from the Badger State.

Do you think an objective observer would agree, that the time is now? For what? For the few Wisconsin footers who compete in tournaments to organize a State Barefoot Club. What do you think? Recently I was pleased to receive a letter (5

pages long) from a Three Lakes footer, Jeff Boehm. Jeff made some great suggestions for the Think Tank Barefoot sessions. He volunteered his efforts and I hope he intends to help us at other State events like the State Barefoot Tourney.

The organization of the Upper Midwest Barefoot Assn. (Fergus Falls, MN) shows us what can be done IF we organize. Within 6 years of their existance, they successfully bid for and put on a Super World Barefoot Tournament. In fact the World Barefoot Council wants to return to Fergus.

Please think about this idea, and think about making a commitment to barefooting in Wisconsin. That commitment is as simple as joining the fun, or as involved as helping run a tournament, or helping at Think Tank.

Please come to the barefooting tanks entitled "Beginner Footing ad Wis. Barefoot Club" as well as the "Tournament Skiing" tank. We will discuss the idea of your interest in a barefoot club.

Remember Ron Scarpa and his new wife Elisa (Open Footer too!) will be instructing and answering questions as well as the "Bananna Man", George Blair. See you at Think Tank This 3/1 & 3/2/97!

Mike Gissibl

WISCONSIN FOOTERS AT NATIONALS

Mike Schoenke - Men 2 - Jump Natl. Champ

Gary Schacht - Men 3 - Jump 7th

Mike Gissibl - Men 4 - Jump 4th & Overall 6th

Bob Mueller - Men 5 - Jump Natl. Champ Overall 2nd

Sharon Carlson - Women 4 - National Overall Champ

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END THE INEQUITY

A new rule was recently approved by the NSSA Board that erodes the basic fundamental framework of our sport. This new rule also penalizes teams, from the Midwest and Wisconsin Regions, for being active and successful examples for Show Skiing. The effect of the new rule allows the formation of all-star teams from the other regions. Now real teams from the Midwest and Wisconsin may have to compete against all-star teams. Obviously a mental giant is not required to see the inequity of this situation.

The conditions that were proposed along with this change, may on the surface, seem to have the illusion of some degree of fairness however minute, but in reality, discriminate against Midwest and Wisconsin teams - especially those that don't make the National's cut or that are on the borderline.

These teams have the desire and commitment to be true competitive teams, yet their reward is for the NSSA Board to punish them for their geographic location. This is wrong. This solves nothing.

The "rationale" given for allowing the formation of all-star teams from "outlying" regions is: commitment, time, distance, and cost. Commitment and time should never be used as an excuse, those are basic elements of what it takes for every team. For the last 20 years our vacation selections were automatic, and we are not unique.

Distance and cost are the only real factors here. But, how is it that for all-star skiers as compared with the regular skiers the distance is less, the cost is less, the days are shorter, and the commitment is less? It's not.

The real truth of why all-star teams are wanted can be found printed on letters from where the idea of this iniquity was founded. Along with some printed untruths, their letters indicate that they want to put together "a select team, drawing together all the top world class skiers throughout the state." They want to take their "show to the Nationals and bring the winning trophy back to Florida, where it belongs...where show skiing started." These are hardly the innocent statements of cost and distance.

To be fair, not all skiers in Florida feel that way. We had the pleasure of working with a number of skiers that were from different teams of Florida last year. After some good discussion and sharing of ideas, they were excited about the prospects of bringing their real teams to Nationals. We were excited as well. These experiences are some of what makes this sport fun!

The intent of show competition is to see which team performs the best show, not to see which club can acquire a group of all-stars for a given tournament. Obviously then, the fundamental principle of show skiing is a team. If the NSSA Board doesn't know what a team is, show skiing will never grow. We believe

that all honest people know what team they are on, whether they belong to one or many teams. If our sport ever hopes to grow, then the NSSA Board cannot have a different definition of team for each Region.

How does this philosophy encourage continued interest of the "smaller" teams in the Midwest and Wisconsin Regions to want to improve. It doesn't. It makes them angry and frustrated. It makes them want to leave their teams for others, instead of making their own teams better. In essence, it justifies them in taking the easy way out. It makes them question the direction of the NSSA the way we all questioned the direction of the AWSA. This is not a positive situation.

The NSSA's encouragement of all-star teams does nothing to promote real team participation in those regions, but it certainly encourages individualism. Just imagine how strong a real team could be if these individuals put that much time and energy into their respective teams!

All-star teams do not belong in the same competition with real

New NSSA Board Rule Erodes Basic Fundamental Framework Of Water Skiing

teams. It's not that difficult to understand. Garry Stout said it well in a 1993 rule change rationale that coincidentally directly conflicts with his new rationale; "The intent of show competition is to truly match club against club, not to see which club can assemble the greatest group of all-stars for a given weekend... Today the spirit and intent of our rules are being ignored. We need better clarification, more specific definitions, and tough penalties for violators. A competing club should be the same club on competition day as it is before and after when they're doing road shows or home shows all during the season." Well said!

If the NSSA Board wants the Nationals to grow, then it must solve the problems, not create more. The main problem, cost, is still present whether there are all-star teams or real teams. Let's find a way to solve the problem.

If the NSSA Board wants growth in the sport, it should not tear apart the cornerstone - team. The Board should encourage team growth, not an all-star mentality. The only way to do that is to have a very strong rule 6.02 and keep it that way.

There are some things that the NSSA Board should do to rectify the situation before the essential fiber of our sport gets forever ruined.

1. Eliminate the current rule change that allows all-star teams.
2. Reinstatement of the language of the rule interpretation for 6.02 concerning non-allowance of all-star teams. This was mistakenly removed in 1993.
3. Don't look the other way when teams violate rule 6.02.
4. Eliminate the potential for controversies instead of creating yet another. Help to solve the problem. Find ways to help with costs. Make sure the true facts are presented to your Regions. For example: organize the availability of sponsored equipment, organize the availability of borrowed equipment, help solve other problems (Sarasota stored their equipment trailer in our driveway), etc.

End The Inequity Con't.

5. If all-star teams are what the NSSA Board wants, then do it in a positive but fair manner. Organize a separate all-star team show tournament where at least one all-star team came from each region. That could be both fun and positive for the sport.

We are sure that there are many other ideas that people have that could help solve the real problems as well. If we as an organization work together, we can do practically anything.

Both teams and individuals need to become involved. It is important that you contact not only your own NSSA Reps you also need to contact the other NSSA

Regional Reps and NSSA Officers as well! Nothing will happen unless you get involved!

The NSSA Board cannot make people become committed, cannot make people decide to sacrifice, cannot ski and perform for people. People must choose that for themselves. However, the NSSA Board can continue to provide learning mediums, teaching mediums, become visionary, and provide economic support for long distance teams.

We realize that the work done by the NSSA Board is voluntary in nature and on your leisure time, we sincerely appreciate that. We hope that the NSSA Board will do the right thing now, and help the teams become teams again!

Sincerely,
Cathy and Gerry Luiting

★ 3-EVENT ★

CALLING ALL 3-EVENT SKIERS; PART 2

The Lake Sinissippi Water Ski Club is offering a variety of Outreach Programs and Events for 1997.

Promotions Chairperson Barb Diehl's article in the last issue of the "Wisconsin Water Skier", posed questions about the status of 3-event skiing and requested some feed back. The Lake Sinissippi Water Ski Club responded and attended the last WWSF Board Meeting. Our club was asked to share their Program with the WWSF membership at large. At a time when traditional 3-event skiing is going through some transitions and redefinitions, our club has been actively promoting, at a grass roots level, traditional skiing versus show skiing.

For 1997, here is a list of events and promotions we are in the process of developing as part of our Outreach Program...

- Slalom Leagues
- "Fun" Slalom and Wakeboard Tournaments
- Nautique-Mastercraft Fun Slalom Tournaments
- Slalom, Trick and Jump Clinic
- Learn To Ski Clinics and Summer Recreational Ski Program
- B.O.L.D. (Blind) Skiers Outing
- Boy Scouts Merit Badges
- Clinics and Liaison With Florida Ski School
- 3-Event Newsletter and Establishment of Database

It has been The Lake Sinissippi Water Ski Club's goal to get skiers involved on the individual level. Being just 60 miles from both the Milwaukee and Madison areas, we hope to provide involvement and access to areas of water skiing that aren't available through the show skiing clubs. Having a slalom course, jump, and use of a 1997 Ski Nautique courtesy of Excel Watersports of Lannon, we have all the hardware.

The Club also has a campsite on an island that we can share with our guests. WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US!

Scott Coley Named 3-Event Chairperson
Scott Coley of The Lake Sinissippi Water Ski Club was appointed Chairperson of The 3-Event Committee at the last WWSF Board Meeting. The Board hopes some of the enthusiasm Scott and his Club has shown can be channeled outward to assist other clubs and skiers participate more fully in traditional and individual skiing.

The goals of the WWSF and the powers that be are calling for more 3-Event Outreach. This translates to:

- Clinics and "Fun" Tournaments For the Younger Skiers
- Increasing Interest At and Hosting of The State Tournaments
- Increasing Show Clubs To Offer Traditional Facilities
- Helping With Establishing Slalom Courses and Sites
- Increasing Participation in Driving and Judging
- Maintaining and increasing Clinic Participation at Think Tank
- Brainstorming and Gathering of Interest and Ideas

We Want To Hear From You! We'd like your ideas, feedback, and PARTICIPATION.

Contact Scott or the Lake Sinissippi Water Ski Club at:

Scott D. Coley
414-349-3421 work
414-349-3470 home
414-349-3435 fax

P.O. Box 321, Hustisford, WI 53034

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S** NATIONAL SHOW SKI
ASSOCIATION
LAUNCHES WORLD
WIDE WEB SITE

The National Show Ski Association is setting the stage for continued success in 1997 by launching a comprehensive Internet presence on the World Wide Web.

NSSA Online (<http://showskilearn.com>) boasts a comprehensive wealth of information about show skiing, including late-breaking association news; links to members clubs that also have Web sites; free classified advertising for NSSA members and clubs; official NSSA rules and regulations updates and a growing collection of photos.

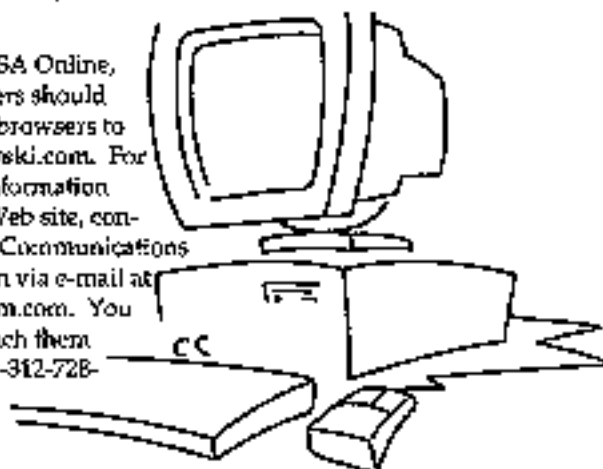
"Our Web site will enable the entire water ski community to share the excitement and scope of individual and team talent involved in show skiing," says Sherm Schraft, president of the NSSA. "The Internet is becoming a powerful medium to reach a global audience and foster an atmosphere of shared growth

for all disciplines."

NSSA Online will continue to evolve over time to include a comprehensive directory listing e-mail addresses of members as well as forum to share ideas and opinions about show skiing.

Developed by Cullen Communications Corp., Chicago, NSSA Online will be an on-going project as more organizations and individuals become familiar with the Internet. It's estimated there are as many as 40 million Internet users in the United States.

To visit NSSA Online, Internet users should point their browsers to <http://showski.com>. For technical information about the Web site, contact Cullen Communications Corporation via e-mail at info@cullcom.com. You also can reach them by calling 1-312-728-4553.



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Think Tank

WWSF

Think Tank Registration Form

February 28 - March 2, 1997



For USAWS Division (or department), please indicate the division you ski most often in:
 S (snow), T (traditional), B (barefoot), K (snowboard), R (recreational), D (disabled), O (other)

You may pick up your convention packet with tickets and program Friday evening or Saturday at the registration table.

Be prepared to show proof of age at registration!

The late fee must be used on forms that will be postmarked after 2-15-97. Forms without proper payment will not be processed.

Make checks payable to WWSF.

NSF checks will be charged a \$15.00 fee.

No refunds are available after 2-15-97.

Packages can not be sold after 2-15-97.

Please complete form and send with payment to:

WWSF Think Tank,

1096 S. 5th Ave., Waussau, WI 54401.

Contact person for this form (must also be listed above)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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USAWS # _____ Exp _____

Club _____

Name _____

USAWS # _____ Exp _____

Club _____

Name _____

USAWS # _____ Exp _____

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Club _____

Age (check one for each person)		Packages (check one for each person)					USAWS Division
		Adult	Child	Pizza Party	Tanks Only		
-12	13-20	21+	Adult	Child	Pizza Party	Tanks Only	
			\$38	\$27	\$38	\$21	
			\$35	\$35		\$28	

Column Totals _____

Total Enclosed _____

Think Tank 1997 **21st**

The Wisconsin Water Ski Federation Presents

THINK TANK XXI

The Nation's Largest Winter Water Ski Convention and Expo!

With the holiday season coming to a close, it's time to start making plans for Think Tank XXI. The Stevens Point Holldome will once again be the headquarters for this "must attend" event. The dates for Think Tank are Feb. 28, March 1 & 2, 1997. The following are just a few reasons why you don't want to miss the Wisconsin Water Ski Federation's Think Tank XXI:

FRIDAY EVENING MASTERCRAFT INDOOR DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Doubles couples from all over the United States have been competing for this prestigious award since 1985. This year promises to be just as thrilling. Competitors go all out with costumes, music, props and a theme, to win bragging rights to the title. If you are interested in competing please find the additional competition rules and registration form in this issue. You must be registered for Think Tank in order to compete in this tournament. If you are interested in being a spectator, competition begins at 9:00 p.m. This year, the Wisconsin Water Ski Federation will video tape the competition and make tapes available for purchase. Please stop in at the Federation Booth in the Expo Center for details on purchasing a copy of this video.

CLINICS FOR THINK TANK XXI

Once again we will have many of the top instructors for each discipline on hand to give you tips, ideas, and pamphlets to take home with you to review throughout the summer months. You will find several new clinics along with many new ideas and instruction techniques for old clinics, to keep you busy for two days, and give you food for thought for the upcoming summer! There are plenty of clinics for all to attend no matter where your interests lie. You will find brief descriptions of many of the clinics being offered at Think Tank in this issue. Many of the descriptions include items to be better prepared.

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET

The Think Tank Committee has listened to your complaints and have come up with a solution. Think Tank XXI Banquet will be buffet style with three choices of entree's. Your three choices include beef tips, stuffed chicken breast, or baked cod. The buffet also includes an extensive salad bar. No more single choice entree! Plans are under way to once again offer a slide presentation during dinner. If you have photos of yourself, family, or team skiing this past summer, please get them to the Think Tank Committee for inclusion in the slide presentation. There are a limited number of banquet tickets, so please sign up today!

HALL OF FAME

The Wisconsin Water Ski Federation will once again be hosting it's Ho'l of Fame Induction Ceremony during Think Tank. This will be held Saturday evening immediately following the Banquet. You do not need to attend the banquet to view the induction ceremony. This is a wonderful event to take part in. You will meet Wisconsin Skiers who have made a huge impact on our great sport, hear them speak, and be recognized for their outstanding work and achievements. **Do Not Miss This Event!**

PIZZA PARTY - SUMO WRESTLER

Once again the Think Tank Committee has listened to your complaints! This year the Pizza will be provided by Pizza Hut. No more cardboard frisbee's. Along with the pizza, we will be providing sumo wrestler suits and a referee for the event. (I don't know anything about this, but the kids tell me this is the thing to do! I'll be there . . . to watch!)

SATURDAY EVENING DANCE

Atomic Fusion will again be providing the music and laser light show. They will be set up to provide music during the Pizza Party and Sumo wrestling events. This is a great time and place to meet other skiers from across the nation!

THINK TANK SPORTS WEAR EARLY ORDER FORM



**FOR T'S &
SWEATS ORDERS
ONLY.**

**THIS IS NOT FOR
REGISTRATION.**

Reserve yours now and pick them up at **Think Tank XXI Registration**. Please fill out the form below and send it **WITH** your payment. You may send this **with** your Registration.

All new for '97 a **5 color EMBROIDERED** contemporary design (see above) on ash grey shirts. Rich shades of steel blue, taupe, olive, flax, crimson and slate embellish the front left.

#S95 - SWEATSHIRT - Fruit of the Loom **PREMIUM HEAVYWEIGHT** Fleece, 9 oz. 50/50 poly cotton, oversized cut for comfort, set in sleeves, ash grey **ADULT SIZES: M, L, XL \$20 XXL \$22**

#LT1 - LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT - Hanes **Beefy-T** premium ring-spun 100% cotton for ultimate softness. Preshrunk, fuller cut for a comfortable fit. Rib knit collar and cuffs, ash grey. **ADULT SIZES: L, XL \$15 XXL \$17**

QTY.	STOCK #	DESCRIPTION	SIZE	COST EA.	TOTAL

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

Name _____

Please Print

Team _____ Telephone _____

THINK TANK XXI CONVENTION INFORMATION

ABOUT THE HOTEL

This will be our sixth year at the Stevens Point Holidome. The hotel is under new ownership, and is in the process of receiving a facelift. The renovations should be complete shortly after the first of the year. The hotel guarantees us the same quality service we have come to expect from them. Even with the renovations, room rates are being kept down. Food prices have increased, but we are getting a better menu. You won't go hungry! The hotel will again accommodate our specific needs. Make your reservations with the hotel now. They are filling up quickly! In order to receive our special room rate, you must register for Think Tank. If you have not registered for Think Tank, you will be charged the regular rack rate at check out time! You can register on site, but make sure you register!!!! If you can not get a room at the Holidome, you may register at other area hotels, and use the Holiday Inn shuttle service to get back and forth from your hotel. You may also use the shuttle service if you are flying in to Central Wisconsin Airport, you don't need to rent a car. The shuttle service is available to take you where ever you need to go!

THE EXPO COURT

The Expo Court is almost full. This is your opportunity to take advantage of the Think Tank Discounts* all the vendors offer. Come to the Expo to find all the newest in water ski boats, equipment, swimwear, workout gear and beach wear. This is the place to find all the answers to your questions regarding equipment and what you need to use to better your performance. This year you will again find the Fashion Show in the Expo under the direction of Tim Thom. The hotel will again be offering food service during our morning and afternoon breaks in the Expo. Shop and eat, then back to clinics!

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!!!

If you plan on attending Think Tank, you need to make your reservations now. Call the Stevens Point Holidome at (800) 922-7880. Then fill out the reservation form for Think Tank XXI in this issue. If you plan on entering the doubles competition, send that in immediately. Space is filling up, don't be left out!

STEVENS POINT HOLIDOME AND EXPO CENTER RESERVATION INFORMATION

Room rate at the Holidome is guaranteed at \$69.00 per night. The Holidome rooms are slightly higher. There are very few rooms left at the Holidome, if you choose to stay here, call immediately!

DO NOT USE THE HOLIDAY INN 800 NUMBER.

We have reserved the entire hotel, so they will tell you the hotel is booked for the weekend.

CALL THE STEVENS POINT HOLIDOME DIRECT AT (800) 922-7880 TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE WISCONSIN WATER SKI FEDERATION OR WE HAVE ROOMS BLOCKED AT OTHER AREA HOTELS

1 - Fairfield (40 rooms)	715/342-8300
2 - Road Star (35 rooms).....	715/341-9090
3 - Budgetel (45 rooms).....	715/344-1900
4 - Best Western (80 rooms).....	715/341-5110
St. Point Area Convention & Visitors Bureau	
.....	715/344-2556 or 1-800-235-4636

You will need to call the local phone numbers. Do not call the national 800 number. Tell them you are with the Wisconsin Water Ski Federation. All Room Blocks are on hold until Feb. 7, 1997, make your reservations immediately.

The Think Tank XXI Committee

Cathy Lulling.....Think Tank Chair (608) 755-0405
Gary Damp.....Think Tank Co-Chair (715) 675-4851
Jim Babcock.....Expo Coordinator (715) 845-1417
Jeff Pouwels.....Asst. Expo Coordinator
Kay Babcock.....Registration (715) 845-1417
Mike Hanson.....Security Coordinator (715) 832-4746
Mike Glisbi.....Barefoot Rep. (414) 253-0965
Cheryl Marx.....Dble. Fourm. Coordinator (715) 424-2034
Bob Marx.....Federation Booth (715) 424-2034

Barb Diehl.....Promotions/Publicity (715) 742-3122
Phyllis Biever.....Costume Swap (715) 367-1529
Dick Mohr.....AV Coordinator (414) 895-7927
Barb Mohr.....Raffle Coordinator (414) 895-7927
Terry Posterski.....Volunteer Coordinator (414) 499-4943
Tim Thom.....Fashion Show (414) 781-2122
Central WI Show Team.....Asst. In Security
Lauderdale Aqua Skiers.....Banquet Decorations

THE NATIONS FINEST INDOOR WATERSKI CONVENTION AND EXPO

We are in our third decade of putting together some of the finest instructional water ski clinics in the country. They will be focusing on the newest teaching techniques to give you a refreshing head start on your spring training. You will receive updated material and handouts to take home with you for reviewing once you hit the water.

Think Tank XXI is your best opportunity for off-season instruction in your sports division. The following clinic descriptions will tell briefly what will be covered, and also tell you what to bring to be prepared.

BAREFOOT CLINICS

BAREFOOT FOR BEGINNERS - The goal of this clinic is to teach beginner barefooters how to heat their feet. Topics will cover everything the beginner needs to know, such as how to fall properly.

BAREFOOT INSTRUCTION - Learn the specifics and mechanics of wake crosses, tricks, and start methods in one-on-one discussion sessions.

BAREFOOT FORUM - How to get started in tournaments, how to promote the sport, making tournaments more appealing for spectators, changes in rules, ABC organization answers, and tournaments for 1996 etc.

BAREFOOT JUMPING - Learn the proper safe way to get started, the new techniques and how to get more distance.

TOURNAMENT BAREFOOTING - Learn how to properly prepare for each event, and design your runs for optimal scores. Find out how to put together the most effective practice schedule for your summer.

SHOW SKI CLINICS

Our staff of instructors will include top professional show skiers, and many of the top amateur skiers from across the nation. You will learn how the top successful show teams in the nation perform the many functions of a show team. They will offer advice with many years of experience on all the aspects of putting together a successful winning team.

BEGINNING DOUBLES - New teaching techniques will be utilized to teach basic form. Learn how to achieve the proper lines judges are looking for, while performing the basic lifts. If you plan on attending the intermediate and advanced clinics, instructors ask that you attend this clinic first, so they do not have to expend valuable time covering the basics again. **COME PREPARED - Wear clothing to practice in.**

INTERMEDIATE DOUBLES - Focus during this clinic will be on transitions from one move to the next. Instructors will focus on how to do this smoothly, and make it look effortless. You will also be taught proper presentation angles, and how to put together a basic routine for a show. **COME PREPARED - Wear clothing to practice in.**

SHOW DRIVING - Focus during this clinic will center around two, three, four, and five boat shows. The instructors will go over boat patterns, what works well, and what doesn't work so well. They will also let you in on secrets on how to tighten up patterns, get better flow, and keep skiers happy.

PICK-UP BOAT DRIVING - The discussion during this clinic will focus on what you should do to help fallen skier / skiers. Instructors will discuss what education is available to properly attend to the injured skier. You will learn where to be, when to be there, and how to get there.

TRIO / CONVENTIONAL DOUBLES - A basic act in show skiing. Instructors will focus on how to perform different moves, proper presentation angles, and how to incorporate a number of people with different skill levels into an basic act. **COME PREPARED - Wear clothing you can practice in.**

BEGINNING SWIVEL - The top swivel skiers in the nation will lead discussion focusing on proper equipment, body position, and technique for the very basic swivel moves. If you plan on attending the other swivel clinics, stop here first to clean up the very important basics. **COME PREPARED - Wear clothing you can practice in, and bring your ski and handle.**

THE NATIONS FINEST INDOOR WATERSKI CONVENTION AND EXPO

INTERMEDIATE SWIVEL - During the clinic, discussion will focus on the rest of the 180 tricks and beginning 360 tricks. Instructors will discuss proper body position and techniques to successfully complete these moves, making them look pretty and clean. If you plan on attending the advanced swivel clinic, spend time here cleaning up your technique so advanced moves will come much more successfully.

COME PREPARED - Wear proper clothing, bring your swivel and handle.

ADVANCED SWIVEL - Focus during this clinic will center on performing the more difficult 360 and 720 tricks. Instructors will discuss the proper steps for learning these tricks, along with how and when to incorporate them in a routine. Please attend the other swivel clinics to clean up your basics before coming to this clinic.

COME PREPARED - Wear proper clothing, bring swivel and handle.

SOUND CLINIC - Discussion will center around choosing the best music for an act, and proper levels to record music and voice tapes at. Instructors will also discuss how to use music and adjust sound levels to compliment your announcer.

MAKE-UP AND HAIR - Learn tips on show skiing and theatrical make-up application from experienced show skiers. Ideas on effective ways to tie up your hair will also be taught. Learn how to do both in a flattering way. **COME PREPARED** - Bring your show make-up, hair pieces and questions. There will be time for hands on instruction.

BALLETT / CHORUS LINE - The instructors of this clinic will give you ideas on how to choreograph your routine, maximize the talents of your girls and put together an entertaining act.

SHOE SKIING - Yours could be a 400 point act too! Learn how to perform certain tricks other teams are doing, and put together an act your team will be proud of.

ANNOUNCING - Instructors will cover the basics of the announcers job, turning waterskiing into a water ski show. You will learn techniques for building excitement, incorporating acts into a

theme, and keeping the show going... even during the worst of announcer nightmares!

FREESTYLE JUMPING - Instructors will cover the mechanics of helicopters, flips, gainers, and the mabius, both on one ski and on two.

SHOW JUMPING - The focus of this clinic will center around utilizing the individual talent on your team for the most productive jump act. You will learn the do's and don'ts of a jump act, what order to perform your jumps, when to rerun a failed jump, and how to run a tight jump act.

SHOW BAREFOOTING - Learn to design your barefoot acts maximizing the talents of your individual barefooters. Design your barefoot acts for better flow, less fill, and greater opportunity for calm water for the entire act.

DOCK AND EQUIPMENT - You know its a box score, but don't know how to improve your teams score. Instructors will focus the discussion on how to get acts on and off the dock as efficiently as possible. You will learn how to keep your dock looking orderly in the most hectic situations. Your dock can be a key source of flow problems, learn to manage it properly.

PYRAMID BASICS - all the information you ever wanted to know about building different pyramids. Instructors will cover many different climbing techniques used, equipment, and how to get new skiers started in pyramids.

PYRAMIDS - This is a continuation of the first pyramid clinic, with a focus on bigger pyramids, and the proper way to add inexperienced skiers.

TEAM ORGANIZATION CLINICS

These days managing a ski team is like running a small business. These next clinics should help you to organize and manage your team for a successful future.

ORGANIZE A JUNIOR PROGRAM - Farm leagues are successful for baseball... Now is the time to build your own farm team. This clinic will be staffed by teams who have very successful junior development programs. Learn to prepare your junior skiers for a successful future in show skiing.

THE NATIONS FINEST INDOOR WATERSKI CONVENTION AND EXPO

CONCESSIONS OPERATIONS - Flip burgers into profits. During this clinic, you will learn how to set up, staff, and manage a concession stand, and make a profit doing so.

THE CLUB PROGRAM - Your team program can be a huge profit center. Find out how other teams put together their programs, and turn a profit while doing so.

FORMS, FORMS, AND MORE FORMS - The NSSA has revised the show rules, and now you have even more forms to fill out to enter a tournament. Learn how to correctly fill them out, in a timely manner so your team does not suffer a penalty.

ROPE MAKING - New teaching techniques will help you learn to make jump braids, and handles, toe holds, pyramid ropes, trick handles, etc. **COME PREPARED** - Bring lots of rope so you can learn hands on!

YOUR INSURANCE COVERAGE THROUGH AWSA - Now's the time to get answers to all your coverage questions. **COME PREPARED** - Bring a list of your teams' concerns.

COSTUMES - Instructors will use new techniques to teach you how to use a serger and how to add trim. They will discuss how to costume your show staying within your given budget. You will also learn to sew costumes so they hold up to a demanding summer of ski shows. Find out what colors and styles work well for other teams. **COME PREPARED** - Bring costume examples you are currently working on.

SHOW PRODUCTION AND THEMING - This clinic will center around the actual production on your show. Discussion will focus on maximizing the talents of your skiers during a ski show. You will learn to put together a list of show acts and incorporate them into a theme. Instructors will teach you how to put the finishing touches on your show, making it a complete production.

CLUB PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING - You've heard the old saying . . . for every advertising dollar spent . . . This saying did not take into consideration the budget of the show ski team.

How do teams promote their show successfully on a budget of next to nothing? This clinic will focus on just that. You will get advice on what's available, how to get the most for your dollar, and what avenues have proven to be successful with other teams.

SPONSORSHIPS - these days, manufacturers are working with extremely tight budgets. This means less sponsorship dollars are available to spend on show teams. Learn how to work with and keep these very valuable sponsors happy with your program. Learn what you can do for them.

FUND RAISERS FOR PROFIT - During this clinic, you will learn about very successful fund raisers, no more pizza or candy sales, these fund raisers will earn you more profit with less headaches!

TOURNAMENT TRAVEL - This clinic will be a brain storm clinic to help teams raise funds to travel to tournaments. Discussion will also focus on ways to travel efficiently, consolidate equipment, and make reservations for the teams.

SHOW RULES - Tom Ghironi, Rules Chair for the NSSA will review the show rules and how they may effect you and your team during competition. This is a must attend for every show team.

SHOW JUDGES CLINICS - All winter long you plan your show. During this process, a nagging question is in the back of your mind, "what do the judges think?" These next few clinics will offer you the opportunity to find out.

DETAILED ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS - This brand new clinic will offer you an opportunity to get an in-depth answer from show judges to your questions. This is how it will work. In this issue, you will find a form on page 17, to fill out with your show questions. Send this form in, by the deadline date, to Terry Pastorski. She will make copies and send it out to the judges on the panel. They will have approximately one month to work on a detailed answer to your specific question. Attend this clinic at Think Tank to get your answer. If you have specific questions, please call Terry at (414) 499-4943.

THE NATIONS FINEST INDOOR WATERSKI CONVENTION AND EXPO

SHOW JUDGES Q & A - This is your time to ask the judges just what it is they are looking for. View your show from their perspective. What do judges look for, what's enjoyable, what's important. Even if your team is not competing, this is a good place to come and have your show viewed from a different perspective. The judges are a vocal audience who can offer knowledgeable suggestions on how to improve your show.

SHOW JUDGES TALK - This year's clinic will focus on box scores, and how you can get the better box scores from the judges. They will discuss what they look for, what brings box scores down, and what you can do to enhance yours.

FITNESS AND WATER SKIING - These next clinics will help you get in and stay in shape for the ski season.

FITNESS AND NUTRITION - This clinic will discuss proper nutrition and how to develop your body for peak performance during the ski season.
GET IN SHAPE FOR SKIING - During the off-season we all put on a few unwanted pounds. Learn how to take these pounds off without the ugly word DIET. The focus of this clinic will be on healthy workout programs used by skiers.

PREVENT SKI RELATED INJURIES - There is nothing worse than limping your body through a ski season. The best cure is prevention! A staff of doctors and therapists will be available to talk preventative medicine. Learn to ski safe and healthy.

STRETCHING - Something you know you should do, but very few take the time to do. During this hands on clinic, you will learn a short easy to follow complete stretching routine. This clinic will be offered periodically throughout the weekend to keep class size down for more individual attention. **COME PREPARED - Wear workout clothing.**

SHOW SAFETY CLINIC - This clinic will cover the show safety rules. Don't let your team suffer a costly safety deduction! Attend this clinic to learn how the safety rules effect your show.

THREE EVENT CLINICS

COACHING SKIERS - Kerry Tolzmann, owner and instructor of Ski Decorah will tell you how he coaches his skiers. You will learn how to bring out and maximize the talent of your skiers. Discuss with Kerry the best practice schedule to

peak at tournaments, and how to utilize the remainder of the off-season to prepare for that first day on the water.

BASIC SLALOM SKIING - The focus of this clinic will be on basic slalom techniques. Learn the the beginning steps to the slalom course, what style ski will work best for your style of skiing.

ADVANCED SLALOM - It's time to start picking up the speed and shortening the rope. What's the best way to go about doing this? Learn to refine your style to get that extra buoy.

BASIC AND ADVANCED JUMPING - Learn to use all the buoys for consistency, refine your style and technique, and choose the best equipment. Kerry Tolzmann will also discuss the mechanics for getting more distance, his approach to training, mind over matter, and how to avoid injuries.

BASIC TRICKS - The focus of this clinic will be on basic two ski and one ski tricks. Improve your technique on these tricks so more difficult tricks will come with less difficulty and effort. He will also discuss the various trick skiing equipment available. Learn what to look for and purchase wisely.

ADVANCED TRICKS - Once you've got the basics down, it's time to move on. This clinic will focus on more difficult tricks and aerial tricks. Come and discuss the proper technique so your are prepared the first time you hit the water.

3-EVENT TOURNAMENTS - During this clinic discussion will focus on the tournament itself, and the best way to prepare mentally and physically to compete.

MEET THE AWSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Duke Waldrop is here from Florida to answer all of your AWSA questions. Or just stop in to introduce yourself and say hi.

TEAMS HARNESS THE POWER OF THE INTERNET - The Internet is a rapidly growing force in our society. Organizations and individuals who utilize its power will be at a strategic advantage for many years to come. The Internet's World Wide Web includes Web pages of many leading watersports manufacturers as well as ski clubs throughout the nation. This clinic will include an actual demonstration and examples.

**DETAILED ANSWERS
TO YOUR
SHOW QUESTIONS**

Form Due February 1, 1997

Team Name _____

Your Name (optional) _____

Question: _____

Send to

Terry Pastorski at

216 Locust St.

Green Bay, WI 54303.

If you have questions,

please call her at (414) 499-4943.

**Show Ski Camp
Application**

May 31st & June 1st, 1997

Club Name _____

WWSF Committee Served On _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____

Work Phone (____) _____

Total Number of Team Members _____

Total number of Team Members able to attend

Ski Camp _____

Show Director's Name _____

Home Phone (____) _____

List Three Specific Goals For Show Ski Camp:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Remember, you must provide all of your own equipment for running through a practice and a show. You must have enough proper floatation for all skiers on the water to have on floatation during the practice time.

THIS APPLICATION IS DUE MARCH 1, 1997

Please mail it to me at: Cathy Luiting, 1419 Linden Ave., Janesville, WI 53545. I will not be able to accept any late applications. If you have questions please call me at (608) 755-0405.

**FOR
SALE**

classified

1995 14' VIPER JET BOAT

Very Low Hours, 120 HP, 45+ MPH, easily and legally pulls skier, footer or tube! Capacity of four people! A BLAST to drive, would make great club pick-up boat!

\$7,500.00 / offer, includes trailer, cover, spare tire.

Call Pete @ 715-854-2939

THINK TANK TWENTY-ONE - TENTH ANNUAL MASTERCRAFT WORLD INDOOR DOUBLES TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FORM

21st

Participant Name _____ AWSA # _____

Partner Name _____ AWSA # _____

Please designate one member of your team to be the contact person

Address of Contact _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Background information on team (be sure to include number of years skiing, club affiliation, hobbies, work and other interesting facts) _____

Please enclose \$15.00 and send to:
Kay Babcock, Doubles Tournament, 1006 S. 5th Ave. Wausau, WI 54401.
MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THINK TANK IN ORDER TO COMPETE.

1997 Mastercraft World Indoor Doubles Tournament

This tournament should be an enjoyable experience for the competitors. As competitors, you will need to be registered for Think Tank and this tournament. If you register before Feb. 17, 1997, you will receive a gift from the Federation just for competing. The following are the rules we will use for the tournament.

1) Each couple will provide their own costumes, props (which must be removed Friday night), music and spotters. The WWSF will provide sound equipment and a microphone for your use.

2) Running order for competitors will be drawn prior to the tournament. All entries received after Feb. 17th will be placed at the beginning of the competition, in the order their entries are received.

3) Each couple will have 5 minutes to setup before their routine and 2 minutes to tear down after.

4) Your routine will start with a simulated dock routine. You have 1 minute to perform this.

5) After your dock routine, you will have 15 seconds to rest before your first simulated water pass.

6) The first pass can not go over 45 seconds. The right shoulder of the base should be toward the judges.

7) You will have 15 seconds to rest after your first pass.

8) Your second pass will also be 45 seconds long. For this pass the left shoulder of the base will be toward the judges.

9) You then have another 15 seconds to rest before your third and final pass.

10) Your third and final pass is 45 seconds long, with the right shoulder of the base toward the judges.

11) You then have 15 seconds to rest before your final bow.

12) Your final bow or pay-off can be no longer than 45 seconds.

Keep in mind that you are simulating a water routine, your rest periods represent corners in the boat pattern. It is strongly recommended that you use spotters. They will not reduce your score and may very easily enhance it. In the past many couples have included spotters in their routine. There is no specific point reduction for a drop (fumble). Judges will reflect it in the technical merit part of the score. (The Beauty of Land, its easy to continue after your "Fall"). Each couple will receive 2 scores. The first will be "Technical Merit." This score will be from 1 to 10 and will reflect how well you completed your routine. Example: were toes pointed, did the base have to move around a lot? Was the couple struggling to complete things? The second set of scores will also be from 1 to 10. These will reflect Artistic Impression. Example: Was your routine creative? Did the costumes go with the music and theme of your routine? Were there unique ideas in your routine? We will supply at least seven judges. The high and low scores will be dropped. We will have an awards presentation immediately following the final competitors. Please stay in costume so we may get pictures of the presentation. If you have any questions concerning this competition call Cheryl Marx at 715-424-2034. Good Luck to all competitors.

ATTENTION ALL WATER SKIERS IN WISCONSIN

At the December meeting of WWSF, I asked each team rep to coordinate a list of help for Think Tank Twenty-one. We are asking each club to provide us with volunteers for each of the following jobs:

INTRODUCING SPEAKERS: (Job description: Introduce the speaker of the tank you are scheduled for. A description of the tank, and a write up on the speaker will be provided for you.)

DOOR MONITORS: (Job description: stand at the door of the tank you are scheduled for and make sure everyone that enters has a Think Tank bracelet on. If not, ask them to go to the registration booth to pick one up. You will also be given a card to list the number of people attending the tank.)

SELLING RAFFLE TICKETS: (Job description: sell raffle tickets on Saturday by the entrance to the expo center.)

DOOR TICKET TAKERS FOR BANQUET: (Job description: take banquet tickets on Saturday evening at the entrance of the banquet hall.)

If you are not a member of a club, but would like to help, please use the following form to sign up. Please include your name, address and phone number and what interests you have (i.e. swivel, ballet, pyramid, jumping, bare-foot, etc.).

I thank you in advance, because if we all pitch in and do our share, the burden won't be so big for any one club or person.

Please bring this form to the next WWSF board meeting, or mail it to:

Terry Pastorski
216 S. Locust St.
Green Bay, WI 54303
414-499-4943

VOLUNTEERS FOR THINK TANK TWENTY-ONE

Count on me to help with the following jobs at Think Tank:

1. Introducing Speakers _____ Interests _____
2. Door Monitor _____ Interests _____
3. Sell Raffle Tickets _____ A.M. _____ P.M.
4. Banquet Ticket Taker _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____
Day Evening (Circle One)

Mail To: Terry Pastorski
216 S. Locust St.
Green Bay, WI 54303
or Phone 414-499-4943

NATIONAL SHOW SKI ASSOCIATION - WISCONSIN REGION DIRECTORS REPORT

The annual meeting of the NSSA board was held November 8-9, 1996 in Winter Haven, Florida. Attending from the Wisconsin region were Bob Marx, Terry Pasterski, J.R. Wilson, and Cheryl Marx.

- There were 16 new rule changes made. Please see separate listing in the skier of all new changes. Each club and judge will receive a copy also. One rule change that we need to note: 6.02 Roster - Add the following paragraph: In the interest of broadening the geographic distribution at the National Show Tournament, and for the purpose of encouraging under-represented regions, composite or aggregate teams, shall be allowed to participate at the Nationals, providing the following conditions are met:

1. The team is the sole, official representative of their region at the Nationals.
2. The team is a legitimate team, indicated as such by team membership in USA Water Ski, team membership in the Regional and/or state organizations, has officer/directors, rosters, dues, by-laws, team name, team logo, etc.
3. The team is located outside the region hosting the Nationals.
4. The team is located more than one days drive or 650 miles from the site of the Nationals.
5. There has been no team representation from that region in the past three years, nor has the region been represented more than three times out of the previous 10 years at Nationals. The passed 5 yes, 2 no, and 2 abstaining.

- A sub committee of the rules committee was formed to study the proposed changes that Cheryl Orloff submitted for swivel competition.

- Geno Yauchler submitted a freestyle jump trick list. It was decided to have everyone look this over and make a decision at Think Tank.

- Gerry Luiting and Debbie Alexander were approved as Senior Judges. Terry Pasterski was approved as a Senior Scorer.

- Jim talked about degree of difficulty for the 5 high pyramid. This will be talked about in the judges clinic at Think Tank. It was also mentioned to have a continuing training program for judges.

- The entrance fee for teams for Nationals has been

raised to \$400.00. The late fee has been raised to \$50.00 per day, using the date of certified mail. All entries must be mailed certified US post office mail. The team roster must be submitted 7 days in advance by certified mail.

- The following changes were made to individual act entries for Nationals: 1. No late entries will be considered or accepted. July 28th is the deadline for postmark by certified mail. 2. In the event any part of a doubles team is physically unable to compete, a sub may enter without qualifying with the approval of regional director (s). 3. Proof of USAWS membership may be submitted with entry form.

- Page 89 of the rules book add 1A: All teams and individuals which wish to ski at the National tournament must submit an official entry form according to tournament entry procedures as listed in the Water Skier.

- Duke Waldrop talked about the accident at Sea World, and that we examine boat paths in regard to approaching crowd and passes.

- The NSSA web page is on line.

- Each region may select one alternate rep.

Alternate must meet the same requirements as board members. An alternate will have a two year maximum term limit.

- Hamilton Ohio was awarded the 1998 Nationals by a vote of 5-4. They were requested to move the stage as far North as possible, and that the power lines be raised 50 feet above the water.

- Bruce McCalmon and Jim Lauzon were elected to be alternates on USAWS board.

- The Wisconsin region reps would like to thank AWSA headquarters for lunch on Friday, Cypress Gardens for the meeting room and refreshments both days, and Mark Jackson and Polk county for supper on Friday night.

- The next NSSA meeting will be February 28, 1997 at 8:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point.

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National Show Ski Association

1997 RULES AND BYLAWS ADDENDUM

COMPETITION RULES

1.05 Interpretation - Add to the last sentence: and fairness to the competing clubs.

2.03 Schedule of Acts - Insert after the second sentence: The sponsor may require the club roster up to seven days prior to the scheduled start of the tournament, provided it so states in the tournament announcement.

ADD: It is the intent of this rule to provide the judges with a readily-understood list from which to work and score the tournament and to prevent a club from adding a totally different act into their show after the start of the tournament. It is not the intent to restrict creativity or ingenuity, and officials MUST use the broadest interpretation possible and still allow for fair competition and adequate use of the list for scoring the tournament.

Competing teams shall be allowed to insert skits or cameo appearances between acts which may include activity listed in 2.01 and not have that performance considered a scored act, but should be considered in overall show. This should be done by listing the activity and indicating "do not score." These activities shall be minor in nature and generally should not have on-water performances that are greater than the average listed acts.

2.05 Designation of Acts - Change name to "Continuous Acts"

Change third sentence to read: ...there must be continuity either from theme, individuals, type of act, or any other activity that ties the acts together.

Add paragraph: Judges must use the broadest possible definition of continuity, as the intent is not to restrict creativity or ingenuity in designing the performance.

2.06 Canceling of Acts - Change first sentence to read: Any act or part of an act may be scratched.

Add sentence: Failure to perform part of an act does not constitute a scratch of an act.

3.07 Audible Signal - Insert after second sentence: Complete is defined as "the act is carried out to its intended, apparent ending and has the appearance of having finished its intended activity."

6.02 Roster - Remove reference to Rule 2.03 and add: This roster may be turned in prior to the start of the tournament and may be required up to seven days prior to the start of the tournament, provided it is stated in the tournament announcement.

Add the following paragraph: In the interest of broadening the geographic distribution of the National Show Tournament, and for the purpose of encouraging under-represented regions, composite or aggregate teams, shall be allowed to participate at the Nationals, providing the following conditions are met:

1. The team is the sole, official representative of their region at the Nationals.
2. The team is a legitimate team, indicated as such by team membership in USA Water Ski, team membership in the Regional and / or State organizations, has officers/directors, rosters, dues, bylaws, team name, team logo, etc.
3. The team is located outside the region hosting the Nationals.
4. The team is located more than one day's drive or 650 miles from the site of the Nationals.
5. There has been no team representation from that region in the past three years, nor has the region been represented more than three times out of the previous 10 years at Nationals.

4.01 Weather/Unsafe Water - Add the following paragraph: When severe weather or other unsafe conditions suddenly occur during the course of the show which would preclude the safe continuation of the show, the Chief Judge or Chief Safety Director (designated in Rule 3.05) may call for a "time-out". When the weather improves to a safe condition, the show shall continue in accordance with the provision of Rule 3.03 (equipment failure). The Chief Judge may overrule the request for a time-out when initiated by the Chief Safety Director, in which case the clock continues to run. Return to safe weather conditions shall be determined by unanimous agreement of the Chief Judge and Chief Safety Director.

6.03 Protest Procedures (Item 3) - Change 40 minutes to 24 hours

9.03 Jump Ramp (Item 6) - change 45' to 49'

11.02 Injury - Add to the end of the first paragraph: This skier that was injured may, with the approval of the Chief Safety Director and Chief Judge, participate in the remainder of the show.

Make the following a separate second paragraph: "Any bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered, and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the costume, it must be changed or covered before the participant may continue with the show."

BYLAWS

Article VI - Duties of Officers

Add to wording under each officer position:

- President: "Elected in even-numbered years"
- Vice President: "Elected in odd-numbered years"
- Secretary: "Elected in even-numbered years"
- Treasurer: "Elected in odd-numbered years" (unless combined with the position of Secretary, then elected in the "Secretary" designated year)

Article VII - Committees

Add under first paragraph (standing committees): "Nominating"

HYDRODYNE / DYNASKI

HISTORY AND INFORMATION

I hope that this information makes it easier to decide what to do when you need another boat and clears up some of the confusion concerning outboard boats in general. Although I am the announcer for the Waterboard Warriors of Green Bay, I spent one summer a couple years ago driving a single motored Hydrodyne and sometimes a twin rigged Hydrodyne boat for practice and shows, it was a learning experience! It is a lot harder to keep speed and stay in pattern with three or more boats for one act than it is to pull my wife swiveling all day, or so it seems!

Skis 'N Stuff has been selling Dynaski Twin Rib Boats for around a year and I have owned a Hydrodyne Boat since 1987. I have been asked many questions about the boats (old and new) and what I am attempting to do is share with you much of that information. I guess that we will all still refer to the boats as twin rigs, although one club has put three motors on their 1991 model boat - but more on that later. It seems that many water ski show clubs are going with more than one twin rig boat and even two of the Division Two clubs in Wisconsin run two or more twin rig boats. Remember, the boats were not produced from 1991 thru 1995, but now I'm getting ahead of myself.

A little history. Ab Crosby, Sr. designed and built the original boat as an outboard and an inboard/outboard hull. His son Ab Crosby, Jr. ran the company for many years and is the Ab that we all know and love! The "old style" boat is about 6' wide and 18' long. A lot of these boats were sold and still can be seen on lakes all over the country. Twin Rig versions of the 18' boat became popular for water ski clubs as their towing power could not be matched by any inboard powered boat, and still cannot be touched! The boat was taken out of production shortly after the United States Coast Guard (USCG) started regulating the size of the boat, twin motors could not be legally installed on the transom. It was back to the drawing board to design a 20' hull as the USCG regulations says by law, "most outboard boats up to 20 feet in length must carry a plate certifying the maximum horsepower permitted". A boat 20' or longer normally has an unlimited horsepower rating. The boat grew to 20 feet in length and about a foot wider to seven feet.

There were two versions produced, a single outboard and a twin rig. All of the new style twin rigs were nothing more than factory modified single motor boats! The hull was modified in the construction stage by placing a plug in the back of the hull mold and the top modified to allow twin motors. Eventually a new mold for the top and bottom were designed to produce the boat as it is currently being built. Between the years of 1987 and 1992 an open bow version (Dyne Family Skier) was also produced. A new shorter outboard model, the 17.6XB was produced from 1987 thru 1991. The 17.6XB carried a power rating maximum of 160 horsepower. Factory Twin rigs were last produced in 1991 and 1993 was the last year for the 20' Dyne. Tom Miller (Ab Crosby's son-in-law and Ab Crosby, Jr.'s brother-in-law) has been repairing boats for a long time and he now builds the new boats for Skis 'N Stuff. Tom's business is Fiberglass Products and Boat Repair and used to be in the same building that the Crosby's Hydrodyne boats were built in! Tom started building 18' boats from the original molds several years ago. Tom built the first new 20' boat from the original 20' molds for Skis 'N Stuff in 1996. Hopefully Tom

will continue to build the boats for a few more years as he is now 60 years old, although he does not look it!

The New Boat. It is called the Dynaski 2000. It is still a hand layered boat. A little more material is put into the boat so it is stronger. The transom is thicker at 2.5" instead of 2" and the floor is 5/8" marine plywood instead of 1/2". There is marine plywood in the motor well area where there has been none before. This additional plywood helps to distribute the load placed on the pylon and provide a stronger area to mount the motor guard so it is less likely to be pulled out. You may be asking yourself why the additional time and expense of all of the above improvements when Badgerland ran a 1991 model boat with three motors on it all last year. The Badgerland boat has no cracks (I have pictures) like alot of the older boats have (more pictures). That boat was extensively modified to handle the additional loads placed upon it by the motors and the skiers it was pulling.

Tom Miller and Skis 'N Stuff has been given a log of suggestions for improvements to the boats by many of the clubs, big and small. The modifications incorporated into the new Dynaski and mentioned earlier in this article seem to be the most important ones except for one key ingredient. That key ingredient is attention to detail and quality control, both of which are very high on all the boats now being constructed. I'm not saying or implying that the boats of the past lacked anything because they have lasted this long. What I am saying is that I know how the boats are being built now. The last five boats built by Hydrodyne appear to be in excellent shape compared to some of the earlier produced 20' boats. We believe that attention to detail and taking your time are the most important steps to producing a high quality specialty product assuming that you have a good product to start with. An old familiar saying comes to mind: Speed, Price or Quality, pick two! When it comes to the boats, Tom will not rush them so the Quality is High, Price is Reasonable and the Speed of Production is Slow!

Rigging, Set Up and Relationships. I have observed that a well set up outboard will hold speed as good as any inboard. Ask any girl that has swiveled behind my 17.6XB Hydrodyne, they will tell you it has rock steady speed! The reason is attention to detail in the set up of the boat. First, I have been running a 16 pitch propeller on my 1991 150 HP Johnson V-6 for most water skiing. The boat speed control is excellent, it planes quickly and tops out around 54MPH. I also have tried props, of 15, 17, 18 and 20 pitch but the 16 pitch seems the best with the existing combination. I may have to change the propeller because of my newly purchased 1996 150 HP Evinrude Intruder which was a "club" motor last season. So drivers try a variety of propellers with skiers in acts to find the right combination. The proper propeller selection will allow maximum pulling power and better speed control while allowing you to obtain the higher speeds needed for barefooting acts. Remember, if you prop down you will need to watch your tachometer to prevent possible engine damage from over-revving. Second, I have Transom Wedges installed between the motor and transom to provide more "tuck" in on the motor when fully trimmed down. This additional extra trim down makes it possible to force the boat to plow more and thus hold slow speeds much better. I have observed a lot of boat drivers that trim their motors up to far, so the boat speed is harder to keep steady, but the boat is easier to steer. You also make bigger waves with excessive upward trim!

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

HYDRODYNE / DYNASKI

CONTINUED...

Third, the controls and cables are very important. Much of the time the motors are in the lower RPM range for water ski acts. The controls and cables on the boat need to be in good condition and properly adjusted! If you don't have a mechanic in the club, find one! Also, establish a strong friendly relationship with the mechanics of the dealership that supports your engines! It will pay off to get to know the Factory Technical Support people as well. These people can help you optimize the outboard motors performance to your needs! In order to do this you need to tell them what you need and allow them time to do it and/or learn how to do it yourself! As long as I'm on this subject, PLEASE REMEMBER, be patient, the paying customer is more important than the non-paying promotional customer. The dealers and manufacturers are interested in selling motors, not just promoting them. If we make unreasonable demands and don't support outboard motor companies and dealers by purchasing outboard powered boats for our own personal use, what may happen to the "FREE" Promotional motors? Food for thought! Do not forget, if the cables are old, worn or sloppy, the best controls in the world won't fix the problem, replace them as needed when needed! The word out is that Yamaha controls are better than Mercury controls on Mercury Motors for our intended use and are easily adapted. If your twin motors are mounted too close together, you may have trouble skiing in the care known as the "bubbles" because of a larger than normal hump. Get the spacing dimension from the Factory Performance Experts. All drivers need properly working gauges. It is easier to run the right speeds and give good pulls if the Tachometer and Speedometers are accurate and reliable. Many drivers can pull an act and feel the right speed, but give them and yourself every advantage by having all the equipment working all season long! You would not go out for a doubles act without skis would you? Mmmm ... maybe, I'm onto something here?

Modify, Repair or New? There are alot of boats in use. Like cars and trucks, some are in better shape than others. The condition that the used boats are in is a result of how it was manufactured, cared for and used! If the gel coat is faded and/or the interior is ratty, the boat structure is not affected, but the boat looks bad. If any of the three stringers in the boat is broken, the boat is dangerous and needs to be repaired or replaced. Jumping wakes and/or slapping the boat up and down abruptly on the water at any speed can damage the stringers. Replacing stringers will be extensive and expensive. A cracked or damaged transom can be repaired, but please do not confuse gelcoat cracks with structure cracks. Have experienced, expert boat repair company look at the boat, determine what is wrong and what it will take to fix or repair it. It is not a good idea to take it to the local auto body shop. Body shops fix vehicles and they tend to make them look pretty but are not equipped or normally have the knowledge to properly repair a boat problem. They can be great if you just need a paint job on any of your boats or have a gelcoat crack. Proper repairs can be very expensive. Do your home work before you decide what to do. The used 1987 to 1993 boats (no other years are listed in my ABCs Marine Blue Book) are worth between \$2500.00 and \$8500.00 less necessary repairs. If you stick \$3,000.00 into a boat that is worth \$4,000.00 you still have a boat worth \$4,000.00 not \$7,000.00! If you do not believe me try to sell or trade the boat before you fix it. Another common questions is whether to modify a used single motor boat into a twin rig or buy a new one. In order to get a good twin rig you need to start with a good single

motored boat with a sound structure (good stringers and transom). The fiberglass work will cost at least \$2500.00 (if done by Tom Miller of Fiberglass Products and Boat Repair). Don't forget the area for the controls has to be modified also. The boat may also need paint and steering. Paint pricing varies tremendously. We only recommend Hydraulic steering for Twin Motors which will cost \$1100.00 to \$1600.00 plus installation. The trailer, rigging, etc. are all the same for a new or used boat. So you can save some money if you start with a good boat and spend your money wisely but you still have an older model boat! I do know of a couple boats available, call me. A word of caution here as there seems to be more old style 18' boats available than the 20' boats. While you can fit two motors onto the boats, they are then overpowered as such so insurance and liability should be definite concerns.

Additional Questions and Answers.

1. The new boats are nice, but why white? White is the least expensive color to produce and it tends to last longer before fading, if you must have another color it can be done, it just cost extra.
2. Why no name on the side of the boat? Decals cost money to produce and besides you can put your club name and still have room for a big sponsor logo. Sell the side of your boat to help pay for it!
3. I see what your price is, but how much is the entire rigged boat, water ready boat going to cost? The cost for the rest of the parts necessary to make the boat water ready and labor required to install the parts vary tremendously. It takes about 40 many hours to completely get a new boat water ready. Depending upon your individual needs, I would allow for \$1200.00 to \$3000.00 for the parts (if you pay list prices), this does not include the trailer and steering. If you get a lot of the parts donated and have someone qualified to install and rig the boat it can cost very little. I can provide completely water ready boats.
4. Do you take trades? Normally we do not take trades. I will sell you boat on consignment but usually I just pass the word along to people shopping the used market.
5. I've found a great deal on a used trailer, can I use it? Yes, but not every big trailer is suitable. You really should have a trailer with four bunks as twin motors on the back are quite heavy. A trailer that was built for an inboard boat was designed for a motor in the middle of the boat not two motors hanging on the back end. Surge brakes are a good idea and may be required in your state. I believe in Wisconsin, if the boat, motor, trailer and contents exceeds 3500 lbs. that your are supposed to have brakes and a license, so beware of your state motor vehicle laws.

6. How much should I insure the entire rig for? If you were to have to replace the entire boat, motors, trailer and have it water ready, you can be talking more than \$40,000.00 and as much as \$60,000.00 depending largely upon your motor selection and costs. Look at what a new name brand inboards are selling for and they have only one motor!

If you need additional information, want a free opinion or price quote, please give me (Pete Pfankuch at Skis 'N Stuff) a call anytime although Friday, Saturday and Sunday are best at 715-854-7501. Ski Ya Later!



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