

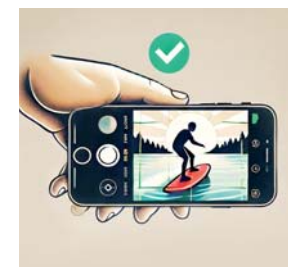
NAUTIQUE 5TH ANNUAL



VIRTUAL WAKE OPEN



Words: Christine Bickley



ENTRY INFORMATION

In the last issue of BWSW magazine I wrote about entering the competition scene for wakesurfers.

Now, here's a competition for wakesurfers and boat wakeboarders that everyone can have a go at and, the best thing about it is, you can do your runs whenever you want and film your pass as many times as you like.

FOR WAKESURFERS (SKIM & SURF STYLE)

The Nautique Virtual Wake Open 2024 is based on the 'Drop and 45' format. This essentially means that you must be holding the rope at the beginning of the video you submit so it clearly shows you dropping the rope.

Once the rope has been dropped and you start your first trick, the clock starts ticking – you have 45 seconds to show your very best tricks in one continuous pass. 45 seconds may not sound very long but give it a go – it's longer than you think when you're out there on the water! No falls are allowed but since you can film again and again you've got plenty of time to get it right. If you submit a video where you fall that will count as the end of your run. That is acceptable, so maybe try a big trick at the end of your best run. The trick you fell on won't count but, you never know, you just might land something you've never landed before – it happened to me in 2021. The wakesurf judging criteria can be found in my article in the previous edition of the magazine.



WAKESURF VIDEO TIPS

- Your video must include the rope throw
- You must continue to video after you have finished your last trick. 5 seconds is the minimum time that demonstrates you've landed the trick and ridden away. If the video ends before 5 seconds is up, or you fall, your last trick won't be counted.
- Ride must be in a straight line

So your completed video will be about 60 seconds or longer. Please don't edit it down to just 45 seconds - if your video is only 45 seconds long then something is missing.

FOR BOAT WAKEBOARDERS

Your video should start with you riding in the centre of the wake. Your run should contain a maximum of five tricks and be continuous – no editing and joining of different videos is allowed. (Groms are permitted a maximum of 60 seconds which starts when the rider waves at the camera operator).

WAKEBOARD CRITERIA

Unlike wakesurfing, which is judged on 4 criteria, wakeboarding is judged on 3 criteria:

- **Execution** - This reflects the level of perfection to which each manoeuvre was performed.
- **Intensity** - This reflects how big the moves were performed and the technical difficulty of the tricks executed.
- **Composition** - This reflects the overall composition of the routine in terms of the rider's ability to perform a variety of manoeuvres in a flowing, creative sequence.

FOR ALL COMPETITORS

Now is the time to start planning your run and getting as much practice as you can. Think about your run from the position of the judges – have you executed your tricks to the best of your ability, were they your most technical tricks and did your run have a creative element to it?

FILMING - IMPORTANT

Whether you are filming for wakesurfing or wakeboarding, your camera **MUST** be in the landscape orientation (see above photos).

- You can enter a video taken any time from 1st January 2024.
- Entry is **FREE**, but you must be a member of British Water Ski and Wakeboard. You can join on the BWSW website.

The more people who enter, the more categories we can open up. Select the category you wish to enter but we reserve the right to combine categories if there aren't enough entries in any one category. The deadline for your entries and video submissions will be posted on the Wakeboard UK website.

Last year there were 22 entries and we really hope to see more people entering this year. It's a great way to enter your first competition. You have all summer to make your video. Why not get your friends and family to enter too? It really does not matter what level of skill or experience you have.

What are you waiting for? Make it a summer to remember out on the water. You could be a Nautique Virtual Wake Open winner too!



Don't forget to follow @ukwake on Instagram for updates