

# WATERSKI AND WAKEBOARD SASKATCHEWAN

## COVID-19 GUIDELINES & SAFETY PROTOCOL

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### COVID-19 OPERATIONAL PLAN – 2021 SEASON

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### OVERVIEW

Waterski and Wakeboard Saskatchewan (WSWS) is a non-profit organization that focuses on the promotion and growth of towed water sports within the province. Through Sask Sport Lottery Funding, government grants and generous grants, WSWS works to develop athletes and participants of all skill levels to their full potential. Athletes in water skiing, wakeboarding, and adaptive water skiing are all encouraged to join. WSWS hosts development camps through our traveling clinic and high performance camps with world renowned coaches.

It is important to note that waterskiing, wakeboarding, and adaptive waterskiing are outdoor activities that require a very small number of participants: the participant, a boat driver and a spotter. The participant typically is pulled behind the boat at a distance of 60 feet, and there is no physical interaction between the participant and boat driver during the activity. WSWS believes it can successfully execute activities in a controlled and safe manner implementing the required pre-cautions according to the guidelines set forth from the Ministry of Health.

WSWS is committed to fostering a safe sport environment. Through this difficult time, that commitment includes the health, safety and well-being of all our members. Our thoughts are with those personally affected by the virus and all the health care workers and everyone working on the front lines of this pandemic.

### GUIDELINES:

WSWS will follow ALL government regulations and recommendations regarding preventing the spread of COVID-19. <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/re-open-saskatchewan-plan/guidelines/outdoor-individual-recreation-guidelines>

Information sharing is critical and WSWS has created this **“COVID-19 Guidelines & Safety Protocol”** document to outline guidelines and restrictions to support our clubs and members and to demonstrate how the association can operate with these new procedures during COVID-19.

WSWS will continue to monitor the heightened global concerns surrounding COVID-19, and will closely monitor the resources and information provided by the Ministry of Health and Water Ski and Wakeboard Canada. COVID-19 is something that WSWS continues to take seriously, especially with respect to the health and well-being of our members.

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### THIS DOCUMENT WILL OUTLINE:

- Risk Reduction
- Outline of New Operating Procedures
- Procedures upon arrival
- Procedures prior to activity
- Procedures after activity
- Access & Rules
- Boat Drivers and Boat Driving

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### REDUCING RISK:

WSWS has set up guidelines and rules that must be followed to ensure we reduce the risk while in small gatherings.

1. Members who may be at greater risk are discouraged from participating in activities during the time of these restrictions.
2. Members with any possible symptoms are not permitted to participate in activities. This is a zero tolerance policy and members who show any symptoms will be asked to leave immediately.
3. Local clubs will reduce the number of participants at any one time to allow for physical distancing. This strategy will include a booking system to stagger the time of arrivals and departures.

### SITE PREPARATION:

WSWS is mandating clubs to provide on-site cleaning products and disinfectants for the use of staff and members. Clubs must have Sanitization Kits stocked for use, members are also encouraged to bring their own kit.

BOATS: Hand sanitizer bottles, disinfectant spray bottle and rags, and soap and water are provided in the boat for the driver

DOCKS: Sanitizer Stations must be set up on the dock - this will include soap to wash hands and hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray bottles and rags

OUTDOOR CHANGE AREAS: Outdoor change areas will also have a sanitizer kit

PORTAPOTTY: A Sanitizer Station will be available - this will include soap to wash hands and hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray bottles and rags

### TO PREVENT THE SPREAD AND MINIMIZE CONTAMINATED SURFACES:

Clubhouses will remain closed. Members are not allowed inside. Driving staff will be permitted to have access for administrative purposes and during inclement weather. Touch points must be sanitized immediately after use. Any boathouse, Sea-Can, or outdoor change areas must remain closed to unauthorized members.

Members will not share personal equipment or property, including chairs, water sports equipment and ropes.

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### SIGNAGE:

Signage will be set up in parking areas, on the dock, any outdoor change areas and other locations around the site to ensure that members can read about the Operational Changes & Restrictions.

Signage will also be set up to **reinforce** to members to practice safe sanitizing and hygiene and to remind members of social distancing guidelines.

### NEW OPERATING PROCEDURES:

An Online Booking System was used in 2020 to allow members to sign up for their sets. This system will allow clubs to follow the gathering restrictions by staggering the time of arrivals and departures to the ski site.

Local clubs must have sanitizing stations set up at the following locations

- Dock
- Boat
- This will include Hand Sanitizer, Soap and water, and a disinfectant spray bottle and rags.

Participants will be required to use these stations before participating and after participation.

Clubs **MUST CREATE** their own Sanitizing/Cleaning Kit to bring to the lake each time they ski/ride. This will include:

- Hand sanitizer
- Soap
- Spray cleaners
- Gloves (optional)
- Masks (optional)

**THIS IS MANDATORY** as members are required to take the precautions to keep surfaces and areas clean.

### Porta-Potty

Members will be required to sanitize prior to entry and upon exit. The inside will be wiped down with spray disinfectant spray bottle and rags or disinfectant on scheduled occasions through the day.

Members need to wash their hands after with soap and water or hand sanitizer.

Members must wipe the door handle before and after use.

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### **Furniture:**

Members should bring their own lawn chair if they wish to relax between sets. If it is not your turn to ski/ride, you can set your chair up along the shoreline, provided there is room to social distance along the lake shore. Members must ensure they are no closer than 2m from other members.

### **Distance Yourself:**

Anytime you are at the lake, you MUST follow the social distancing rules and guidelines as set out by the Saskatchewan Health Ministry and keep that distance of at least 2m from anyone else.

## **WHEN YOU SHOW UP TO SKI/RIDE:**

**TOUCHPOINTS:** (clean or wiped down frequently).

### **OUTDOOR CHANGE AREAS:**

Please change before you arrive, or change in your vehicle or under a towel, use pre-cautions when using outdoor change area.

### **DOCK AREA:**

Families that live together can ski/ride together. They can ride in the boat while the family member skis/rides only if the driver is also a family member. When the spotter leaves the boat, they must immediately wipe down the areas they touched with products from their own sanitization kit.

### **ROPES:**

**IMPORTANT:** Before you ride, clean your towline in the same manner and place on the dock for the driver to reach. The driver will now have a clean rope to take from the dock. Do not share your rope and handle with anyone except your family members that you are living with.

### **DOCK:**

Wipe down surfaces touched when putting your ski/board on.

Finish your set by skiing/riding back to the dock. Do NOT get in the boat, unless necessary.

When you ski/ride back to the dock, do not go onto the dock if the next rider is preparing to ski/ride (unless it is a family member). Wait until the boat has pulled away with the skier or simply walk up the shoreline if possible.

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### WHEN YOU ARE DONE SKIING/RIDING:

- Pick up your rope from the dock (clean your rope and handle since the driver has touched it)
- Wash hands with soap and water
- Remove all your ski/wakeboard equipment off the dock and deck area.
- Do not leave any personal gear at the site
- Take home all food, garbage and anything else you brought.
- Adhere to small gathering limitations at all times.



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### ACCESS & RULES AT LOCAL CLUBS:

If you or anyone in your household has symptoms, or you or family have been to a zone that is highly infectious or considered a hot spot and you or they may have been exposed, or you or a family member have been on an airplane recently, DO NOT COME TO THE LAKE for 14 days.

Site access must be limited to members ONLY.

No guests permitted until further notice. There will be no group activities, tournaments, skiing or wakeboarding clinics, or fundraisers indefinitely.

There will be no physical payment available onsite, all payments to local clubs should be completed online.

The beach area must be closed to members. No playing on the beach, no playing with beach toys, kids cannot sit in the boat while you ski/ride (unless a family member is driving). Do not ask other members to help you with childcare while you ski/ride. No assisted skiing/riding is allowed unless the driver and the helper are family members.

Participants must leave immediately after skiing/riding to avoid congestion (unless the participant is a volunteer driver)

No gathering in the parking lot or on the docks. Follow social gathering guidelines.

Take home what you brought in - take all skis/boards, equipment and garbage home with you.

You must have your own equipment and rope/handle. No sharing of any equipment unless within your family.

Do not touch anyone else's equipment

Do not share food and drink with other members. There must be no food or drink service at local clubs.

Clean all touchpoints you touch

Keep physical distancing at all times from all other members

Do not ride in the boat as a passenger (unless part of your own family unit)

Do not attach a camera to the boat pylon - unless part of your own family unit, driver and spotter Only the driver attaches the rope to the pylon

Bring your own chairs if you want to sit and then bring home

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### ONLINE BOOKING POLICY AND PARKING POLICY

An online sign up policy should be set up to reduce the volume of traffic at the club and stay within the current gathering guidelines.

Time slots should allow for no more than 4 participants per hour (15 minute sets) Members who have signed up will self-manage the rotation (onsite) as per the online sign up

#### Parking Policy

If members are skiing/riding upon arrival, distance yourself at the lake until they are done.

WSWS needs to limit the number of members active on site according to SHA guidelines

#### Site Access

Small gathering outline:

1. The boat driver / spotter (utilizing PPE)
2. The active participant in the water
3. The participant on dock ready to ski/ride
4. Participants social distancing warming up preparing to ski.

Once an athlete finishes skiing/riding, participants will be encouraged to leave the site (after thoroughly cleaning up).

Participants should not carpool unless of the same household, as required use PPE.

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### BOAT DRIVING

Recommended measures to prevent the spread of infection:

Drivers need to make themselves aware of the hygiene protocol.

- Wash hands with soap and water BEFORE driving and AFTER driving his/her session.
- Before each driving session (or at any change of driver) the driver MUST Clean all Touchpoints: the boat controls, towing pylon, and surfaces that may be touched by the driver must be wiped down with disinfecting wipes that will be in each boat. Dispose of the wipes in the garbage receptacle.

Passengers are not permitted to ride in the boat with the boat driver unless they are a family member spotting for the driver. A spotter for safety when needed will be required to wear a mask and must clean BEFORE and AFTER the passenger area in the boat.

Using the gas pump to refuel the boat must be done by the boat driver.

There must be disinfectant spray bottle and rags in the boat to wipe down the gas nozzle, gas pump switch and gas cover before and after refueling.

The boat lift controls must be wiped down before and after each use.

#### Drivers:

Only the driver attaches the rope to the pylon (After the participant has sanitized it)

Only the driver pulls in the rope from the water at the end of the set and throws it back to the dock.

When boat drivers are not available, members who are driving must follow the safety protocols outlined above.

Boats must have at least 2 sets of PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) consisting of gloves, masks, and safety glasses for the protection of the driver / spotter.

Thank you all for your understanding and following these guidelines to keep you, your family, your club, and all of us safe.