

Dear Hongkong Officers & Judges

As the chief judge for the 2011 Wakefest & HK Open Wakeboard Championship, I send my belated thanks to everyone involved in hosting the event. In addition to expressing my gratitude, I am taking this opportunity to add a few comments about my experience at the Championship. I hope you find them in good faith and useful for future events.

1. The venue(Tai Po Waterfront Park) was excellent. The spectators were easily able to approach the site and watch the game, and the venue was also equipped with convenient facilities for riders' use.

2. The organization chart and the composition of the event was highly impressive. I would consider it perfect compared to any other international competitions. I sincerely thank Mr. Leo Ho who, to my knowledge, has spent much time and effort in organizing this event. One small suggestion is that the invited chief judge could be better prepared for the event if there had been enough communication / notification regarding specific details about the composition, organization, and the rules of the competition well in advance, instead of providing the information on the day of the event.

3. Most of the judges in Hong Kong had national level 3 certification, but their individual standards were excellent. If they had more experience, I believe they would be proficient to participate as international level judges. It is regretful that some of the judges had to participate as competitors as well, and were able to not compete all of judges' duties expected by me.

4. Team Scoring Issue - I would like to bring you to attention the rule 4 and rule11 (2011 IWWF World Wakeboard Rule) regarding team scoring which was the issue at this event.

Rule 4

b) There will be a minimum of 3 riders required to open a category. In the event that a category does not have a minimum of 6 riders, the riders in that category will not contribute to the overall team scoring. The Chief Judge will inform all participating Federations as soon as feasibly possible if there are insufficient riders within a category.

c) A rider will only be allowed to enter one category.

Rule 11 TEAM SCORING

a) The best 6 scores will be used to compute an overall team score.

b) Each team rider will be awarded the following points depending on his final placement in his respective category:

1st place 100 points
2nd place 80 points
3rd place 65 points
4th place 55 points
5th place 45 points
6th place 35 points

7th place 30 points
8th place 25 points
9th place 20 points
10th place 17 points
11th place 14 points
12th place 11 points
13th place 8 points
14th place 6 points
15th place 5 points
16th place 4 points
17th place 3 points
18th place 2 points
19th place 1 point
20th place and all subsequent riders receive 1 point each

With the use of the heat system, there will be instances where riders have finished in a joint position with a rider in a different heat. Relevant placing points will therefore be given to each team rider based on their placement in the heat and seeding.

- c) In the event of a tie, final team placement will be determined by the 7 team score. If a tie still exists, then a 8th. team score will be used to decide final placement.
- d) If a team rider is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct (with the exception of the rider being disqualified for being late to the dock or not wearing a bib) no team overall points shall be awarded for this rider. No substitutions allowed.
- e) *In the event that the category does not reach a minimum of 6 riders then the category shall open but points will not be used towards team scores*

At this event, due to the discrepancy between IWWF World Wakeboard rules which I follow and the Hong Kong Association rule which calculated scores from divisions with less than 6 riders, there had to be a change in team overall score in some divisions. In order to avoid any possible conflicts not only with international riders and judges participating at your event, but also with Hong Kong riders as well, I suggest that the Hong Kong Association consider following the IWWF World Wakeboard rules. The relevant rules can be announced prior to the event for transparency reason, and therefore be understood by participating teams. Please refer to Rule 4, and Rule 11(Team Scoring) shown above.

5. Obstacles issue - If you look at the IWWF World Wakeboard Rule 20,

Rule 20 OBSTACLES

Organisers are encouraged to use obstacles that are symmetrical in design and where practical and possible, subject to site conditions and logistics.

The obstacles may comprise of the following:

1. Flat Bar
2. A-Frame
3. Symmetrical Kicker

Obstacles must be manufactured with the following prerequisites:-

1. structural integrity
2. safety
3. adequate floatation and stability

The Chief Judge will make a final decision on whether the obstacles meet the above criteria.

The Chief Judge will make the decision where to place these obstacles in the wakeboard

course. Riders are encouraged to hit these obstacles to add variation to their routines.

The obstacles may also signify the beginning of each routine depending on where they are placed.

As you can read from the IWWF World Wakeboard rules, the use of obstacles is recommended. The chief judge has the final decision about whether and where the obstacles will be used. The chief judge also decides which divisions will include obstacles. The riders decide whether he/she will include obstacle in his/her tricks. If the organizing association can find ways to cover for the responsibilities related to injury and insurance matters, the use of obstacles is encouraged after thorough discussions between the designated chief judge and the association.

6. Alcohol issue – Unfortunately, I saw some riders who consumed alcohol at the event. Please refer to the IWWF World Wakeboard rule regarding alcohol consumption below

Rule 1. General

d) No alcohol is to be consumed by Athletes prior to or during the day's event. The days event is deemed as starting 1 hour prior to the first rider starting their run and finished when the final scores for have been posted and the official protest time has elapsed. Once an athlete's heat and results are posted it is deemed that the athlete's day is finished.

In international competitions, consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited. I understand that the Hong Kong Wakefest has a dual purpose of a competition and a festival. However, some riders' festive spirits have counteracted with the promotion of the sportsmanship of wakeboarding. It would be for everyone's best interest if the riders would refrain from drinking alcohol, especially when they are in a competition with foreign riders from other countries.

7. Unsportsmanlike Conduct issue - There has been a disappointing incident for all participants and the Hong Kong Association when some participants not accepting the team results demonstrated vulgar language and threatening action such as throwing of alcohol bottles. I have to bring to your attention the following rule;

Rule 1. General

e) Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Any rider (or his representative) or official whose conduct is deemed unsportsmanlike or whose conduct may cause discredit to the IWWF, IWWF World Wakeboard Council and sponsors, either on or off the competition site, before during, or after the competition, may be disqualified from all or part of the competition including completed events and/or be subject to a fine to be determined by the IWWF Executive Board, by a two-thirds majority vote of the Judges. Any and all infractions can also be punishable by disqualification of the whole team.

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to: use of vulgar language in public, public tantrums, not riding to fullest potential, failure to attend designated functions or events, failure to attend media conference, opening / closing ceremony, prize-presentation ceremony, etc podium presentations, discrediting publicly event organisers, fellow athletes and/or host countries and/or host federations verbally, and/or on social networking, consuming alcoholic beverages during or before the competition, use of prohibited substances, competing under false pretences, concealing significant injuries or health problems. This also includes but is not limited to riders and individuals who choose to vandalise or misrepresent wakeboarding at official hotels venues or functions during the event. Each rider, prior to participating, will sign a code of conduct as a condition of entry.

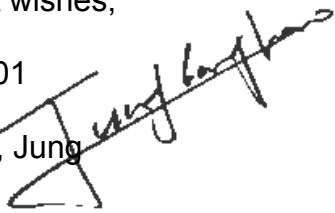
For the team or individual riders who have demonstrated unsportsmanlike conduct, I think it necessary for the Hong Kong Association to impose some kind of regulative measure in order to prevent such conduct in the future, and also to establish a positive and proper wakeboarding culture.

I wish my observations can be helpful in anyway. I only hope for the best for the Hong Kong Association and the wakeboarding community there. I would certainly like to be part of the wonderful event again in the future.

With best wishes,

2011.08.01

Sanghan, Jung

A handwritten signature in black ink, written diagonally across the printed name 'Sanghan, Jung'. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Sanghan, Jung'.