

Junior U.S. Open Fact Sheet

Skyview Lake, Harmony NC

June 26, 27, 28, 2026



The Junior U.S. Open Water Ski Championships will be a multi-day/multi-round World Record Capability competition with a preliminary round and final round. This event is sanctioned by the American Water Ski Association – a sport discipline organization of USA Water Ski & Wake Sports. Current International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation rules apply in all cases, except as listed herein.

Divisions

There will be four divisions: Boys, Girls, Junior Men and Junior Women.

1. Boys and Girls must have been born in the year 2009 or more recently.
2. Junior Men and Junior Women must have been born between 2004 and 2008 inclusive.

Preliminary round event qualification and seeding

There are no minimum qualifications. Each athlete **MUST SUBMIT** two scores per event performed at two separate AWSA Class E or above or IWWF sanctioned Tournaments between Friday, **May 1, 2025** and **May 19, 2026** to Koehler.kelly20@gmail.com. The following performances may be used: (1) scores posted on USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' online ranking system from tournaments that fall between the specified dates (2) scorebooks posted on www.iwsf.com from tournaments that fall between the specified dates (3) World Junior and U21 Rankings Weekly rankings (last one before above score end dates). 4) Scores from (3) above will be used if an entry is submitted without proof of performance.

Proof of performances must be submitted to Koehler.kelly20@gmail.com.

Number of competitors in each event of the preliminary round

	Slalom	Tricks	Jump
Boys	12	12	12
Girls	12	12	12
Junior Men	12	12	12
Junior Women	12	12	12

These numbers include overall skiers described in provision #1 below.

Method of filling the list

1. The #1, #2, and #3 ranked skiers on the April 2026 IWWF Junior and U21 World Ranking Lists in overall and posted as final will be selected first and seeded in the final running order according to the average of the two scores submitted in each event.
2. The remaining positions (up to twelve) in each event will be filled according to the average of the two scores submitted in each event.
3. All ties, whether for a seeding position or for the last qualifying position, will be broken by looking at first the highest individual score, then the World Junior and U21 Rankings Weekly rankings (last one before above score end dates).
4. Where there are still ties for a seeding position, the position will be determined by random draw.
5. Where there are skiers still tied for the last qualifying position, all will be entered.
6. If the event qualification process does not produce at least three (3) overall competitors in each of the four divisions for the preliminary round, additional overall competitors will be invited to compete in all three events of the preliminary round.

7. These overall competitors will be selected according to the highest overall score, second highest, etc., on the World Junior and U21 Rankings Weekly rankings (last one before above end dates) in overall and posted as final until three competitors are confirmed in each of the four divisions. Overall skiers will only ski in the final round if they make the cut for that round. The overall skier's highest event score from either round in each event will be used in the calculation for overall placement with the thousand points attributed to the top score by an overall skier only.
8. Using the above procedures, replacements will be made due to withdrawal by the end of the 6:00 p.m. mandatory skiers meeting at the host hotel the day before the start of the event. No further changes will be made after that time.

Final Round

The following number of skiers from Saturday's preliminary will advance to the final round held on Sunday: Boys/Junior Men Slalom (5), Tricks (5), Jump (5); Girls/Junior Women Slalom (5), Tricks (5), Jump (5).

Seeding for Sunday's final round will be based on Saturday's preliminary round results with the skier with the best score skiing last. Ties in seeding will be based on the competitor with the higher seeded position in the preliminary round. Ties for the last qualifying position will be run off according to IWWF rules. In the finals any ties other than first will be awarded to the higher seed. Ties for first in slalom will be a one-time run-off where the top skier has the choice to go 1st or 2nd and whoever skis 2nd must beat whoever skis

Registration

All entries must be done online at www.usawaterski.org. No other entry will be accepted. All entries must be received **by 5:00 p.m. EDT, Sunday, May 24, 2026**. Entry fee is **\$300**.

There will be a mandatory skier meeting on Thursday at **6:00 p.m., June 25, 2026, at Aloft Hotel outdoor courtyard (weather permitting)**. Roll call will be taken at this meeting. Unless a skier or his representative (on an exception basis) is present to sign in, the skier will be scratched and replacements to the running order made with no further changes after the conclusion of the mandatory skiers meeting. If a representative will be present to sign a skier in, that skier should advise the tournament coordinator at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to indicate that the skier will be unable to attend and provide the tournament director with the name of the skier's representative.

Hotels and Activities

Host hotels are adjacent to each other and are located about 35-40 minutes from the site off Exit 31 (Langtree Road) in Mooresville, NC on Lake Norman. Booking links that should take you directly to the room blocks are below.

Thursday Night everyone is on their own for dinner, but there are restaurants, retail, etc. within walking distance from the hotels and there is a summer outdoor concert that starts at 6:30 p.m. after the skiers' meeting. Link to Langtree Lake Norman: <https://www.langtreelkn.com/>

Friday Night Mexican Dinner and Pool Party will be at The Blairs which is 3 miles from the hotels. Park at 112 Blair Cove Lane, Mooresville, NC 28117 and walk down to the waterfront home at 116 Sienna Pace Court Mooresville, NC 28117.

Saturday Night we will be at the site for some North Carolina BBQ and fun-filled games!

Tru by Hilton
117 Alcove Road
Mooresville, NC
28117 (980) 296-2600
[Booking Link](#)

Aloft (Marriott)
109 Alcove Road
Mooresville, NC
28117 (980) 296-3200
[Booking Link](#)

Additional Notes

1. Entry fee is \$300. Included in the entry fee are Lunch and Dinner on Friday and Lunch and Dinner on Saturday.
2. Paid practice (\$30 per set) will be available from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2026. Information on how to sign up for practice will be posted on the Jr. U.S. Open website.
3. For updates, please check: www.usawaterski.org [Jr U.S Open Water Ski Championships](#)
4. Refund Policy: There will be a refund processing fee of \$75 for all those who enter, are selected to compete and choose not to do so. All requests for refunds must be submitted within 24 hours after the completion of the tournament to be considered. Refunds will be paid by USA Water Ski within 60 days after the conclusion of the tournament.
5. Skiing for the press will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director and Chief Judge.
6. Current IWWF Rules will apply, other than any exceptions noted herein.
7. Minimum slalom speeds: NONE
8. For overall calculations using the 1000-point system, 18 slalom buoys are subtracted for Boys/Girls; 24 for Jr. Men/Jr. Women.
9. The ramp heights are listed in IWWF Rule 13.01 for both U17/Junior Competition & U21/U17-21 Men & Women.

Awards

Awards will be based on final round results only except for overall (to be scored as described above in the Overall section) and given to first, second and third in each event and overall.