

24 FREESTYLE

24.1 FREESTYLE COMPETITION

Competitors in this class are allowed modifications to gain maximum machine and engine performance. Watercraft competing in this class must conform to the specifications which follow.

NOTE: Where Modified Classes allow Supercharged or Turbocharged PWC: All competitors must possess an Expert or Pro license prior to participating.

DISPLACEMENT (Two Stroke): Amateur and Pro Freestyle classes are allowed identical modifications with the exception that Amateur Freestyle Competitors may compete on PWC with a maximum displacement of 900cc while Pro Freestyle Competitors may compete on PWC with a maximum displacement of 1200cc.

DISPLACEMENT (Four Stroke): Amateur and Pro Freestyle classes are allowed identical modifications and may compete using a naturally aspirated engine up to 1500cc or a forced induction engine up to 950cc.

- 24.1.1 All watercraft must remain strictly stock, except where rules allow or require substitutions or modifications. Changes or modifications not listed here are not permitted. Some original equipment components may not comply with IJSBA rules. **NOTE:** IJSBA recognizes that most Freestyle competitors do not build a watercraft by starting with an OEM homologated unit. Where rules require the identification of the original watercraft, the crankcases shall be used to determine what is the originating watercraft.
- 24.1.2 Original equipment parts may be updated or backdated to original equipment parts of the same model. The part must be a bolt-on requiring no modifications to that part or any other parts except where rules allow substitutions or modifications. (Refer to Model Homologation)
- 24.1.3 Sound level shall not exceed 86 dB(a) at 22.86m (75 ft.). Section 34.5.
- 24.1.4 Engine fuel must consist of gasoline meeting the criteria defined in Section 34.4.

24.2 HULL

NO PART OF THE HULL, TOP DECK, OR HANDLEPOLE MAY BE TETHERED OR FASTENED TO THE COMPETITOR

- 24.2.1 All watercraft must have a flexible tow loop attached to the bow. The tow loop should be made of a flexible material (e.g., nylon strap, rope, etc.) so as not to create a hazard. Tow hooks, which protrude beyond the plane of the hull, must be removed.

24.2.2 Deck: The upper deck will not be restricted to OEM to the extent that the upper deck is an exact replica of the Original equipment deck with no change in dimensions or scale. Alterations of dimensions may be allowed where a legal aftermarket part has been integrated into the deck (i.e., rail caps and foot holds). Ski PWC may widen then standing tray area by increasing the standing space by four inches (an increase of up to two inches on each side of tray). Rear portions of the bond rail may be removed to allow free flow of water that travels underneath the channel created by the bond rail. Bulk heads may be aftermarket Deck repairs may be made, provided they do not alter the standard configuration by more than 2.00mm (0.08 in.). The deck's bond flange may not be modified.

Deck may be internally reinforced. Fasteners may be installed through the hull and deck for the purpose of securing components to interior surfaces, provided a hazard is not created. If upper and lower components of the original equipment bond flange are separated and rejoined, they must be rejoined by the same method as original equipment (i.e., bonded together with a high-strength adhesive). (See bond flange diagram in Appendix.)

Ski Type ONLY: Footholds may be installed into the footwells. If the same watercraft is used for racing, the footwells must be blocked off, allowing no indentation into the footwell sides.

The top deck of freestyle craft may be modified or aftermarket, providing the following: The top deck must resemble the original top deck of the homologated watercraft; the length of the top deck must be no less than 165.1 mm (6.5 inches) shorter than the original OEM top deck and the width of top deck must be within 50.8 mm (2.0 in) of the original component; the craft must function as originally intended. The hull may be no smaller than the minimum measurements of the top deck. These restrictions also apply to the minimum length of the hull. The front bumper may add no more than 31.75 mm (1.25 in) to the overall length of the Top Deck for the purposes of meeting the minimum measurements.

Ski Type, ONLY: The top deck of freestyle craft may be modified or aftermarket, providing the following: The top deck must resemble the generic look of existing homologated watercraft with the following dimensions: Minimum Length of 193 cm (76 in), Minimum Width of 68.5 cm (27 in), Minimum Height of 53.3 cm (21 in). The decision of the Technical Director and/or Race Director regarding modifications will be final. Any question regarding the legality of modifications should be directed to the IJSBA or IJSBA affiliate prior to use in competition.

24.2.3 Hull: Hull may be modified or aftermarket but cannot exceed the length or width of the original equipment upper deck component of the bond flange as measured by a plumb bob (bumpers removed). Fins, rudders, skegs and other appendages that may create a hazard will not be allowed. The decision of the Technical Director and/or Race Director regarding modifications will be final. Any question regarding the legality of modifications should be directed to the IJSBA or IJSBA affiliate prior to use in competition.

24.2.4 All watercraft may be equipped with a maximum of two sponsons. Original equipment sponsons may be modified, aftermarket, repositioned or removed. Overall length of each sponson shall not exceed 91.45cm (36.00 in.). Sponsons shall not protrude from the side of the hull by more than 100.00mm (3.94 in.) when measured in a level horizontal plane. The vertical channel created by the underside of the sponson shall not exceed 63.00mm (2.50 in.). No part of the sponson shall extend downward below the point at which the side of the hull intersects the bottom surface of the hull by more than 63.5mm (2.50 in.). Aftermarket or modified sponsons must exceed 6mm (0.24 in.) in thickness. All leading edges must be radiused so as not to create a hazard. Sponsons may not be attached to the planing surfaces of the hull. Fins, rudders, skegs and other appendages that may create a hazard will not be allowed. (See diagrams in Appendix.)

Ski Division Only: Sponsons may be attached to the inside of the bond flange, but no part of the sponson may extend more than 38.00mm (1.50 in.) below the lower part of the bond flange (bumper removed). Sponsons attached to the inside of the bond flange shall not protrude outside the bond flange (bumper removed) when measured in a level horizontal plane. The decision of the Technical Director and/or Race Director regarding modifications will be final.

Any question regarding the legality of modifications should be directed to the IJSBA or IJSBA affiliate prior to use in competition.

24.2.5 Intake grate may be modified or aftermarket. Intake grate is required and must be the full length type with at least one bar running parallel to the drive shaft. Grates may not extend more than 12.00mm (0.47 in.) below the flat plane of the pump intake area. All leading edges must be radiused so as not to create a hazard.

24.2.6 Pump cover plate may be modified or aftermarket. An extension may be added to the rear of the pump cover plate but shall not exceed the width of the original equipment plate. Modified and aftermarket plates must not extend more than 100.00mm (3.94 in.) beyond the end of the original equipment plate for Ski and Sport Division or 177.80mm (7.00 in.) for Runabout Divisions. The sides of the extension must be connected to the radiused portion of the pump plate so as not to create a hazard. (See diagram in Appendix.) Fins, rudders, skegs and other appendages that may create a hazard will not be allowed.

24.2.7 Aftermarket trim tabs, either fixed, automatic and/or rider controlled, may be used. Original equipment trim plates that are detachable from the hull may be removed or replaced when installing aftermarket trim tabs. Trim tabs cannot exceed the width of the planing surface or extend rearward more than 100mm (3.94 in.) beyond the end of the original planing surface. All hull extensions mounted on the hull's transom will be considered as a trim tab. All edges must be radiused so as not to create a hazard. Fins, skegs, rudders and other appendages that may create a hazard are not allowed.

24.2.8 Replacement bumpers may be used provided a hazard is not created.

24.2.9 A soft, flexible water-spray deflector may be attached to the hull sides or to the bond flange provided a hazard is not created. No part of the deflector may extend beyond the perimeter of the original equipment bumper or side moldings as measured by a plumb line.

- 24.2.10 Handlebar, throttle, throttle cable, and grips may be modified or aftermarket. Handlebar cover may be modified or removed. Aftermarket switches and switch housings may be used. Steering shaft, steering shaft holder and handlebar holder may be aftermarket. The handlebar must be padded at the mounting bracket or, if it has a crossbar, the crossbar must be padded. Aftermarket steering cables are allowed.
- 24.2.11 Ski Division Only: Handlepole (and mounting bracket) may be modified or aftermarket provided it functions as originally designed. Handlepole attaching point may be reinforced.
- 24.2.12 Sport and Runabout Division Only: Seat assembly may be modified or aftermarket. Seat height may be changed. If a Freestyle watercraft has a seat it is automatically construed as a Sport or Runabout watercraft depending on the dimensions of unit.
- 24.2.13 Padding and/or mat kits may be added and custom painting is allowed. The surface finish of any metal component outside the hull area above the bond flange may be polished, shot peened or painted.
- 24.2.14 Original bilge pump may be modified or disconnected. Aftermarket bilge draining systems that do not create a hazard are allowed.
- 24.2.15 Engine compartment foam may be removed, modified or aftermarket.
- 24.2.16 Storage covers, hatches, instrument cowlings and engine covers may be modified or aftermarket provided a hazard is not created. Additional engine compartment ventilation is allowed. Original equipment vents may be shielded or plugged. Handles, drop-in type storage buckets and bolt on type mirrors may be modified, aftermarket or removed provided a hazard is not created.
- 24.2.17 Ballast weight may be added within the normally exposed areas of the hull to alter the handling of the watercraft provided a hazard is not created. Only weight consisting of constant mass (i.e., water or other fluid is not allowed) that does not require the modification or relocation of any parts will be allowed unless such modification or relocation is specified by other rules.

24.3 ENGINE —TWO-STROKE

- 24.3.1 Engines may be bored. Aftermarket piston assemblies are allowed. The maximum displacement for Ski type PWC in Pro freestyle competition is 1200cc. The maximum displacement for Ski Type PWC in the Amateur Freestyle classes is 900cc.

24.3.2 Crankcases may be interchanged between homologated watercraft of the same manufacturer. Crankcases must be of the same type (i.e., cylinder induction, crankcase induction or rotary valve induction) and number of cylinders as original equipment (no adding or deleting cylinders). Internal modifications to the fuel, oil and/or water exposed surfaces are allowed. Bearing and seal surfaces may not be modified.

Filler material may be added to hollow pockets in the base gasket areas. Ignition/stator mounting area modifications are limited to spot facing, drilling and tapping threads for the purpose of mounting an aftermarket or modified ignition system.

Additional carburetor pulse line fittings may be installed.

Crankcase drain system may be removed or plugged.

Additional mounting holes, not to exceed 10.00mm (0.40 in.) diameter, are allowed provided they do not penetrate the internal surface of the cases.

Base gasket and intake surfaces may be machined. Repairs to cracked or punctured crankcases may be made provided only one damaged area affecting one cylinder bank has been repaired.

External modifications to the crankcase finish (e.g., plating, polishing and/or painting) are allowed for cosmetic purposes only.

No other external modifications or external repairs will be allowed.

OEM crankcases may be substituted with eligible replicas of homologated Two Stroke crankcases. For a crankcase to be an eligible replica, it must reasonably resemble the look of the OEM crankcases and provide for some amount of OEM components (ie cylinders, starters, crankshaft, etc.) to still be utilized. IJSBA will publish a list of approved replica crankcases.

24.3.3 Cylinder and cylinder head may be modified or aftermarket.

24.3.4 Crankshaft assembly may be modified or aftermarket. Stroke and rod length may be changed.

24.3.5 Engine bed and motor mounts may be modified or aftermarket. Engine may be repositioned in the hull.

24.3.6 Engine gaskets may be modified or aftermarket.

24.3.7 Exhaust system (i.e., manifold, head pipe, expansion chamber, waterbox, muffler(s), etc.) may be modified or aftermarket. Through-hull exhaust may be modified or aftermarket, providing a hazard is not created. Exit location of the exhaust gases may be relocated to the transom below the bond flange. No tuned portion of the exhaust system shall protrude outside the hull.

- 24.3.8 Cooling system may be modified or aftermarket. Aftermarket cooling lines and water bypass systems may be used. Bypass fittings may be modified, aftermarket and/or relocated but must be directed downward and/or rearward so as not to create a hazard for other riders. Any valves used within the entire cooling system must be of the fixed type or automatic (e.g., thermostats, pressure regulators, solenoids, etc.). Manually controlled devices (by any means of actuation) that alter the flow of cooling water during operation are not allowed. Cooling system flush kits are allowed.
- 24.3.9 Replacement starter motor and bendix may be used.
- 24.3.10 Oil-injection system may be disconnected or removed.
- 24.3.11 Replacement of general maintenance parts (e.g., spark plugs, spark plug wires, spark plug caps, wiring, water hoses, fuel lines, clamps and fasteners) shall not be restricted to original equipment. Stripped threads can be repaired.

24.4 AIR/FUEL DELIVERY — TWO-STROKE

- 24.4.1 Carburetor(s) may be modified or aftermarket provided they do not vent or spill fuel at any attitude with or without the engine running. The number of venturis cannot exceed the number of cylinders. No slide-type carburetors. Aftermarket primer may be used. Intake manifold assembly may be modified or aftermarket. Aftermarket crankcase pressure operated fuel pumps may be used.
- 24.4.2 Modified or aftermarket vapor/air separators must not exceed 2 in. x 6 in., and must have a return line to the fuel tank open at all times. Additional fuel reservoirs may not be used. Aftermarket or modified electric fuel pumps, not exceeding 4 psi, may be used. When the engine is shut off or stops, the fuel pump must automatically stop. No manually operated on/off-type fuel pumps are allowed.
- 24.4.3 Aftermarket fuel-injection systems are allowed provided the following regulations are adhered to: High-pressure fuel hose meeting SAE J30R9 must be used; A.N. threaded-type fittings or equivalent and non-removable, crimped-type clamps must be used on the high-pressure portion of the system (i.e., hose clamps, tie wraps, etc. are not allowed); only metal-type fuel filters may be used on the high pressure portion of the system; all other in-line filters must be installed on the low-pressure portion of the system. When the engine is shut off or stops, the fuel pump must automatically stop. No manually operated on/off-type fuel pumps are allowed.

- 24.4.4 The entire fuel system is a closed system. The watercraft must not vent or spill fuel at any attitude with or without the engine running. The fuel tank shall not be restricted to the original equipment, as supplied by the manufacturer, so long as the replacement is an unmodified tank from another homologated PWC and the tank fits securely in the watercraft without causing a hazard. Original equipment fuel filler and relief valve must be used and cannot be modified. The fuel pickup, fuel filter and fuel petcock may be removed and/or aftermarket parts may be used. Additional fuel filters may be used and fuel cell foam may be added to the original equipment fuel tank. Fuel tank filler cap may be modified or aftermarket provided a hazard is not created. Aftermarket fuel tanks not coming from another homologated PWC may be allowed by the race director so long as it is demonstrated that the aftermarket fuel tanks meet or exceed the strengths and safety standards of an OEM fuel tank. The fuel tank may be modified or aftermarket, providing the watercraft must not vent or spill fuel at any attitude with or without the engine running. The tank must be securely fastened to the hull. The fuel filler location may be relocated. The decision of the Technical Director and/or Race Director regarding modifications will be final. Any question regarding the legality of modifications should be directed to the IJSBA or IJSBA affiliate prior to use in competition.
- 24.4.5 Flame arrester(s) which satisfy United States Coast Guard, SAE-J1928 Marine or UL-1111 Marine backfire flame arrester test standards must be installed. Aftermarket flame arresters satisfying one of these test standards are allowed. Intake silencer may be removed.
- 24.4.6 Reed valve assemblies may be modified or aftermarket. Rotary valve may be modified or aftermarket.
- 24.4.7 Fuel fillers may be located internally.

24.5 IGNITION AND ELECTRONICS — TWO-STROKE/FOUR-STROKE

- 24.5.1 Ignition system, electrical box, flywheel and flywheel cover may be modified or aftermarket. Battery charging circuit may be disabled and/or removed.
- 24.5.2 An additional battery and battery box may be used. Batteries must fit into a proper battery box and be securely fastened. Batteries may be relocated.
- 24.5.3 Engine temperature sensor assembly may be disconnected and/or removed.

24.6 DRIVELINE

- 24.6.1 Impeller, impeller housing, stator vane assembly, pump mounting plate and/or pump shoe may be modified or aftermarket. Pump nozzle and directional nozzle may be modified or aftermarket. Overall length of the complete pump and nozzle assembly may be no more than 50.00mm (1.97 in.) longer than original equipment. Aftermarket nozzle trim systems may be used. Additional cooling fittings may be installed. Visibility spout must be removed or plugged. Silicone adhesive sealant may be used in addition to original equipment seal to seal pump inlet.
- 24.6.2 Couplers, bearing housing and driveshaft may be modified or aftermarket provided they maintain a 1:1 drive ratio between the engine and the pump.

24.7 ENGINE — FOUR-STROKE

- 24.7.1 Original engine block must be used. Internal modifications to the oil and/or water-exposed surfaces will be allowed. The head gasket surface of the cylinder block may be machined.
- 24.7.2 The original cylinder head casting must be used. Intake and exhaust runners may be modified. Material may be added to the runners. Intake and exhaust ports may be modified. Port diameters and shapes may be changed. Combustion chambers may be modified. Material may be added to the combustion chamber. The original number of intake and exhaust valves must be the same as original. Repairs to the cylinder head affecting one cylinder bank are allowed. The head gasket surface may be machined.
- 24.7.3 Aftermarket valve train components are allowed, providing the original method of activation is maintained (e.g., if originally activated by a camshaft, they may not be converted to solenoid activation). Valves may be shimmed with OEM or aftermarket shims. Valve springs may be modified or aftermarket. Camshaft(s) may be aftermarket. The number of camshafts must be the same as original. Original bearing type and dimensions must be used. Cam timing may be changed. Cam gears, tensioners, chain or belt may be modified or aftermarket.
- 24.7.4 Engines may be bored. Aftermarket piston assemblies are allowed. Engine displacement must not exceed class designation (e.g., 1100cc in Runabout 1100 Superstock, 1600cc in Runabout Superstock Turbo, etc.).
- 24.7.5 Crankshaft may be modified or aftermarket. Total weight of the crankshaft must be within +/-5.00% of original equipment. Replacement bearings or bearing shells are allowed, providing they maintain their original type and dimensions. PWC homologated above 1600cc must maintain original stroke.
- 24.7.6 Engine balancing assemblies may be modified, aftermarket, or removed.
- 24.7.7 Aftermarket connecting rods made of ferrous materials are allowed. Rod length may be changed.
- 24.7.8 Exhaust system (i.e., manifold, connecting pipes, hoses, muffler(s), etc.) may be modified or aftermarket. Through-hull exhaust may be modified or aftermarket, providing a hazard is not created. No tuned portion of the exhaust system may protrude outside of the hull. Exit location of the exhaust gases may be relocated to the transom below the bond flange.
- 24.7.9 Cooling system may be modified or aftermarket. Additional cooling lines may be added. Aftermarket water bypass systems may be used. Cooling system bypass fittings may be modified or aftermarket and/or relocated but must be directed downward and/or rearward so as not to create a hazard for other riders. Any valves used within the entire cooling system must be of the fixed type or automatic (e.g., thermostats, pressure regulators, solenoids, etc.). Manually controlled devices (by means of actuation) that alter the flow of cooling water during operation are not allowed. Original cooling system thermostat may be removed, modified or aftermarket. Cooling system flush kits are allowed.
- 24.7.10 Baffles in oil reservoir may be modified. The addition of baffles in oil reservoir is allowed. Oil pump may be modified or aftermarket.

- 24.7.11 Valve cover may be replaced for cosmetic purposes and/or weight reduction only.
- 24.7.12 Replacement starter motor and bendix may be used.
- 24.7.13 Replacement engine mounts may be used.
- 24.7.14 External modifications to the engine finish (e.g., plating, polishing and/or painting) are allowed for cosmetic purposes only.
- 24.7.15 Replacement of general maintenance parts (e.g., gaskets, seals, spark plug wires, spark plug caps, wiring, water hoses, fuel lines, fuel filters, oil filters, clamps and fasteners) shall not be restricted to original equipment. Stripped threads may be repaired. Fasteners may integrate locking mechanisms.

24.8 AIR/FUEL DELIVERY — FOUR-STROKE

- 24.8.1 The original fuel injectors may be modified to increase fuel-flow rate. Aftermarket fuel injectors that increase fuel flow are allowed provided they must not increase airflow into the combustion chamber. Fuel rail and fuel regulator may be modified or aftermarket. Additional fuel injectors may be added. Aftermarket fuel pumps are allowed provided that when the engine is shut off or stops, the fuel pump must automatically stop. No manually operated on/off fuel pumps are allowed. High-pressure fuel hose meeting SAE J30R9 must be used; only metaltype fuel filters may be used on the high-pressure portion of the system; all other in-line filters must be installed on the low-pressure portion of the system
- 24.8.2 Flame arresters that meet USCG, UL-1111 or SAE J-1928 Marine standards must be used. Airflow sensor may be modified, aftermarket or removed. Ducting between the flame arrestor and throttle body may be modified or aftermarket.
- 24.8.3 Throttle body may be modified or aftermarket. The number of butterflies may be increased but may not exceed the number of cylinders. Intake manifold assembly may be modified or aftermarket.
- 24.8.4 Carburetor(s) may be modified or aftermarket provided they do not vent or spill fuel at any attitude with or without the engine running. Carburetors may be used in addition to or in place of the fuel-injection system. The number of venturis cannot exceed the number of cylinders. No slide-type carburetors. Aftermarket primer may be used. Intake manifold assembly may be modified or aftermarket. Aftermarket air-pulse-pressure operated fuel pumps may be used.

24.9 TURBOCHARGER/SUPERCHARGER

- 24.9.1 Turbocharger housing must be of the full circulating, water-jacket type at all times when the engine is running. Aftermarket turbochargers and superchargers may be used provided a hazard is not created. Original turbocharger or supercharger may be modified. Aftermarket turbochargers and superchargers may be added to originally normally aspirated watercraft. All hoses and pipes may be modified or aftermarket. Where the Race Director, or Technical Inspector, cannot determine if a turbocharger is sufficiently water-jacketed then a heat wrap and/or additional cooling mechanisms may be added to ensure safety.
- 24.9.2 Intercooler may be modified or aftermarket.
- 24.9.3 Boost pressure-relief valve may be modified or aftermarket
- 24.9.4 Boost sensor may be modified or aftermarket.

24.10 GENERAL FREESTYLE REGULATIONS

- 24.10.1 The rider will be judged by three to seven persons scoring on a scale of "1 to 10," with "10" being best. There is a two-minute time limit. Other times may be used, but must be approved by the IJSBA and will be announced to competitors during the riders meeting.
- 24.10.2 Maneuvers, tricks or stunts that may create a hazard to the rider, spectators, pit crew or officials must be approved in advance by the Race Director.
- 24.10.3 Only one person per watercraft during competition. Only one homologated watercraft may be used during competition. Freestyle competitors may compete on Stock, Limited, Superstock or Modified watercraft.
- 24.10.4 Riders competing in freestyle should draw for their starting order prior to the event.
- 24.10.5 Each freestyle rider must signify the start of his or her routine with a wave of the hand over his/her head.
- 24.10.6 A freestyle routine of greater difficulty with minimal mistakes will be scored higher than a routine of lesser difficulty with fewer or no mistakes.
- 24.10.7 Each freestyle rider should finish as close to the time limit as possible.
- 24.10.8 No score or points will be awarded to freestyle routines that are less than one minute in length.
- 24.10.9 The judges will award a score of at least "6" if the full two-minute freestyle routine has been completed.
- 24.10.10 In the case of a tie for first place, each competitor in the tie will perform a one-minute routine. Ties for all other positions will be broken by re-adding the high and low scores that may have been thrown out to calculate their original total score. If no high and low scores were thrown out to calculate the original total score, the highest single score will be used to break the tie. If still tied, the next highest individual score will be used and so on. If still tied, the riders will then perform a one minute routine.