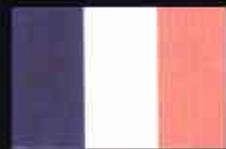




10th World Barefoot Water Skiing Championships



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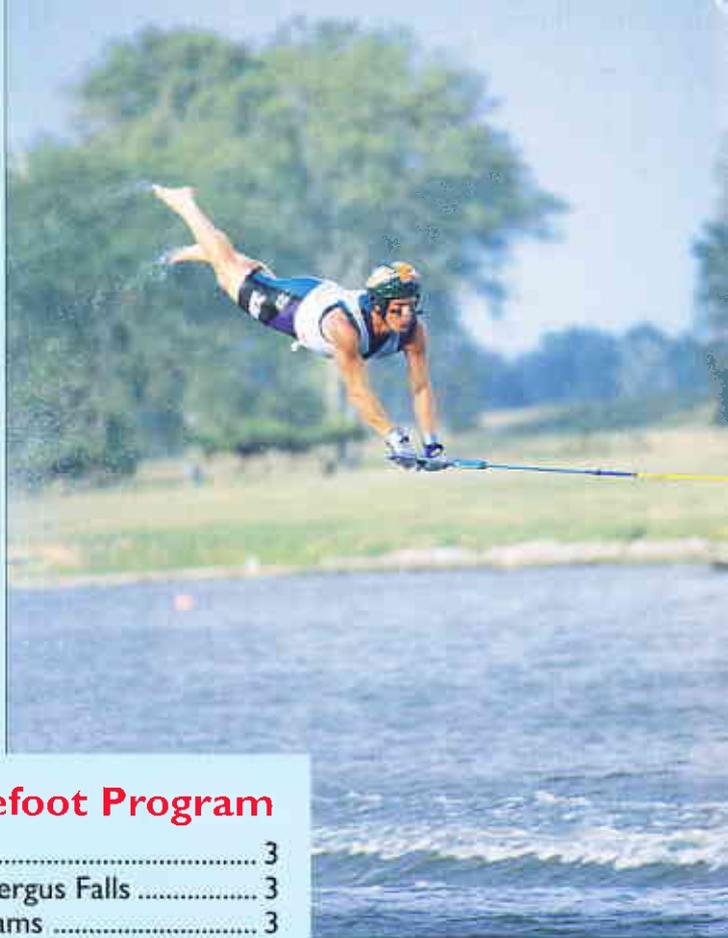
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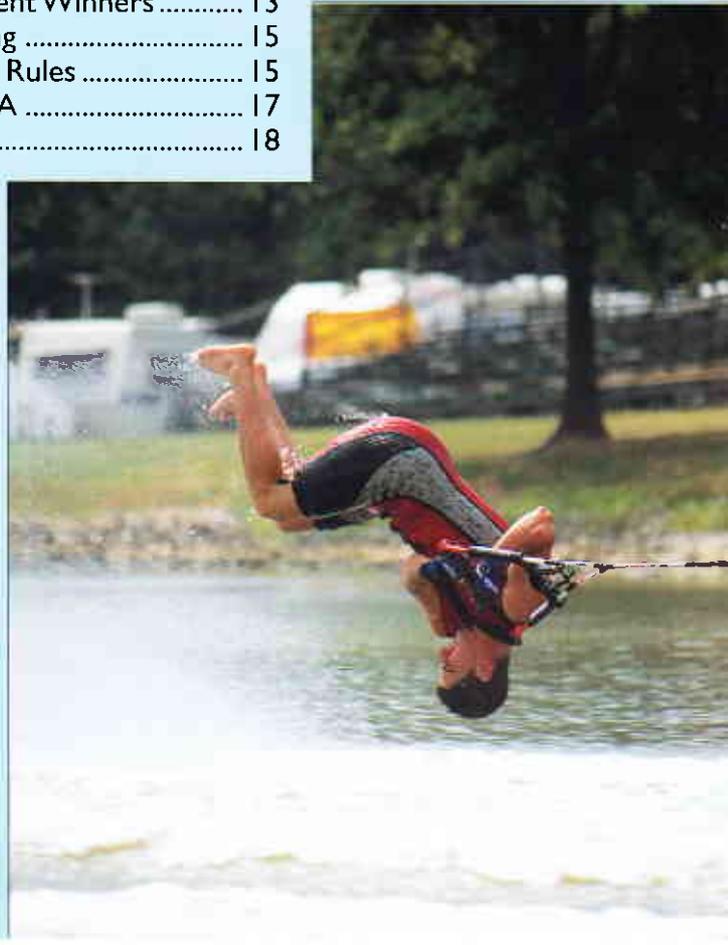


Otter Tail River
Fergus Falls, Minnesota USA
August 20 — 25, 1996



Index to World Barefoot Program

| | |
|---|-------|
| Welcome Letters | 3 |
| Welcome Letter from City of Fergus Falls | 3 |
| List of Participating National Teams | 3 |
| List of Officials and Local Organizing Committee | 4 |
| Schedule of Events | 6 |
| Explanation of Events | 7 |
| History of Upper Midwest Barefoot Club | 8 |
| Map of Fergus Falls & Event Locations | 10-11 |
| Past World Barefoot Team & Event Winners | 13 |
| History of Barefoot Water Skiing | 15 |
| Simplified Barefoot Tournament Rules | 15 |
| History of Water Skiing & AWSA | 17 |
| Sponsor List | 18 |



Welcome to the 1996 World Barefoot Championships

Fergus Falls, Minnesota

Welcome to the World Barefoot Community

On behalf of the American Barefoot Club and the American Water Ski Association, I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to all competitors, officials, team supporters and spectators who have ventured to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, from all corners of the world for the 10th World Barefoot Championships. I can assure everyone that these championships will be memorable from many different angles.

To the members of the local organizing committee and the community of Fergus Falls, I extend my congratulations and personal thanks for a difficult job well done. We had a dream and we are going to be able to watch it unfold right in front of our own eyes. Many thanks to all the volunteers who unselfishly gave their time and expertise to support this event.

My best wishes go out to all the teams and the competitors. The

World Barefoot Championships provide you the challenge of competing against the best in the world equally on the same waterway. It also gives you the opportunity to make new friendships and to renew old ones within our barefoot family. I hope that this 10th World Barefoot Championships will provide its own scrapbook of wonderful memories.

To the spectators who have come out to watch these Championships – please cheer on the skiers; clap, shout, yell and make some noise when they put on a good performance! Please don't be afraid to walk up to the athletes; ask them to sign your program, hat or poster – talk to them, ask them questions for they are people too! This is your invitation to become more familiar with our sport.

Enjoy this festive week of the 10th World Barefoot Water Ski Championships!

Yours in skiing,
Dawn Hartman Farrell
ABC President

Dear Barefooting Enthusiasts,

On behalf of the Upper Midwest Barefoot Water Skiing Association, and the World Barefoot Water Ski Championships Tournament Organizing Committee, I wish to extend a warm welcome to all skiers, their families and friends, IWSF World Council Members, tournament officials and spectators. It is truly our pleasure to be hosting this premier event.

We hope that you can find, and will take the time to enjoy all that our city has to offer. We also ask that you do your best to support the businesses recognized in this program and other tournament publications, as well as on the tournament announcements. Without their support this tournament would not be possible.

Finally, we wish all the competitors the best of luck. May you all ski your best!

Sincerely,
Douglas J. Koch
Tournament Director



112 West Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 868
Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0868
218-739-2251

Welcome Barefoot Water Skiers, Spectators and Media!

As Mayor of the City of Fergus Falls, I am honored to welcome you to our city for the World Barefoot Water Ski Championship Tournament. Like you, we have spent many months preparing for this event. We are proud of this community and pleased to share its beautiful river, lakes, neighborhoods and retail areas with you.

During your stay here, please take time to walk along the paved trail that follows the Otter Tail River through downtown. Visit our antique and specialty shops. Enjoy a meal at our many restaurants. Stroll around Lake Alice, surrounded by historic homes and stately shade trees. Visit our newly-renovated historic Fergus Theater on Lincoln Avenue. Golf at our outstanding Pebble Lake Golf Course. We have over 500 acres of parks within the city limits, including playgrounds, softball fields, tennis courts, beaches and camping facilities.

As our guests, your enjoyment, comfort and convenience are our top priorities. Have a great time in Fergus Falls during this exciting World Championship event.

Sincerely,

Kelly Ferber

Kelly Ferber
Mayor

List of Participating National Teams

Australia
Belgium
Canada
France
Great Britain
Germany
Netherlands
Italy
New Zealand
South Africa
Sweden
United States

10th World Barefoot Championships Officials & LOC

World Barefoot Tournament Officials

| Name | Position | Federation |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Brian Price | Chief Judge | United States |
| Oscar "Foot" Mann | Asst. Chief Judge | United States |
| Chico Cohan | Homologator | Holland |
| Dawn Farrell | Chief Scorer | United States |
| Lynn Neiman | Appointed Scorer | Belgium |
| Pam Shadwell | Appointed Scorer | Australia |
| Linda Heeny | Reserved Scorer | United States |
| Amy Bramlitt | Appointed Judge | United States |
| Bob Londrigan | Appointed Judge | United States |
| Bruce Lonnenberg | Appointed Judge | Canada |
| Romain Gilot | Appointed Judge | Belgium |
| Lesley Evans | Appointed Judge | Great Britain |
| Sue Carne | Appointed Judge | New Zealand |
| Margaret Lynn | Appointed Judge | Australia |
| Claire Willard | Appointed Judge | New Zealand |
| John Brownrigg | Reserve Judge | United States |
| Daryl Long | Reserve Judge | Australia |
| Leroy Brown | Appointed Driver | United States |
| Eckhard Bencina | Appointed Driver | Germany |
| Nick Hunt | Appointed Driver | Australia |
| Tim Pellaton | Safety Dir./Reserve Dir. | United States |
| John Pattinson | Reserve Driver | New Zealand |
| Brian Heeny | Computer Support | United States |

International/National Barefoot Officials

Selwyn Neiman IWSF Council Chairman
 Charles Ramsey IWSF Council Secretary
 Dawn Hartmen Farrell ABC President

Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Members

Doug Koch
 Tournament Director & Public Relations Chair United States

Pat Koch
 LOC Hospitality Chair United States

Gary Johnson
 LOC Venue Chair United States

Pete Beithon
 LOC Finance Chair United States

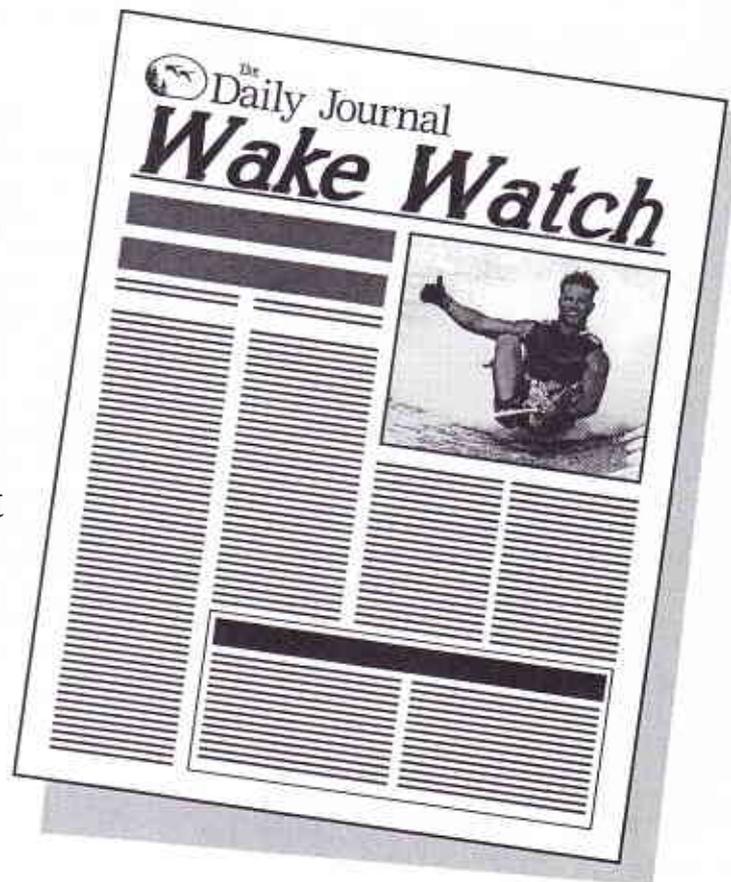
Chuck Kretchman
 LOC Site Chair United States

V.J. Block
 LOC Volunteer United States

Kevin Whipple
 LOC Concessions Chair United States

Event Results Every Morning!

The Daily Journal has been serving Fergus Falls and surrounding communities with the latest news, sports and information for years. During the World Barefoot Waterskiing Championships we'll give you even more. Look for event results and special interest stories inside *The Daily Journal's* "Wake Watch" available at 6:00 am at the tournament, August 23, 24 and 25.



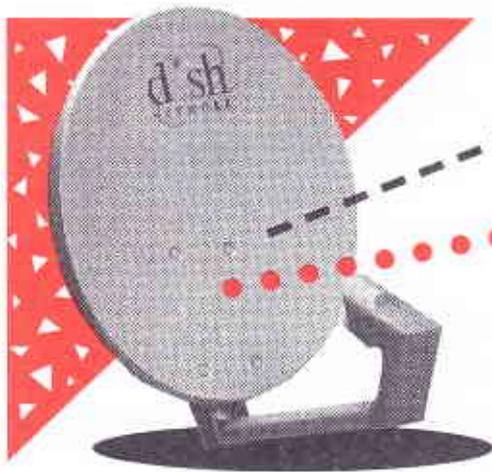
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World Barefoot Water Ski Championships Schedule of Events

Tournament Site – Ottertail River Park, Fergus Falls, Minn.

Tuesday, Aug. 20

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. — World Barefoot Council Meeting
Noon to 6:30 p.m. — Site Familiarization
5:30 p.m. — Officials' Meeting
9 p.m. — Opening Ceremonies

Wednesday, Aug. 21

7 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. — Site Familiarization
8 a.m. to 11 a.m. — Team Registration
1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. — Elimination Rounds
Male Tricks
Male Slalom
Female Jump
Male Jump
7:30 p.m. — VIP Welcome Reception

Thursday, Aug. 22

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Elimination Rounds Continue
Male Slalom
Male Tricks
Male Jump
Female Slalom
Male Tricks
Female Jump
6 p.m. — Community Steak Fry and Skier Social

Friday, Aug. 23

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Elimination Rounds Continue
Male Tricks
Male Slalom
Male Jump
Male Tricks

Friday, Aug. 23, con't.

Female Tricks
Female Slalom
Male Jump
8 p.m. — World Teams Reunion

Saturday, Aug. 24

8 a.m. — 7 p.m. — Semi-final Rounds
Female Slalom
Male Slalom
Female Tricks
Male Tricks
Female Jump
Male Jump
7 p.m. — Little Crow Ski Show
9 p.m. — Dance

Sunday, Aug. 25

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. — Final Rounds
and Boat Parades
Female Slalom
Male Slalom
Female Tricks
Male Tricks
Female Jump
Male Jump
6 p.m. — Awards Ceremony and Banquet

(Outdoor Sunrise Church Service will be held at 7 a.m. Sunday at Ottertail River)



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SLALOM, TRICKS & JUMPING

World Barefoot Championships | Fergus Falls, Minnesota



WHAT YOU'LL SEE

Wake slalom – each contestant skis two 15-second passes, points are awarded for successfully crossing the towboat wake – one pass facing forward and one backward – on one or two feet

Tricks – each contestant tries to perform as many tricks as he can during two 15-second passes, each trick has an assigned point value and a contestant may perform each trick only once, tricks are performed either with the contestant's foot attached to the handle, called toehold tricks, or with the handle held in the contestant's hand

Jumping – each contestant has three passes through the course to leap as far as he can



TOOLS OF THE TRADE

Towrope – 21.5 meters (70 feet) in length, braided strands of a synthetic material

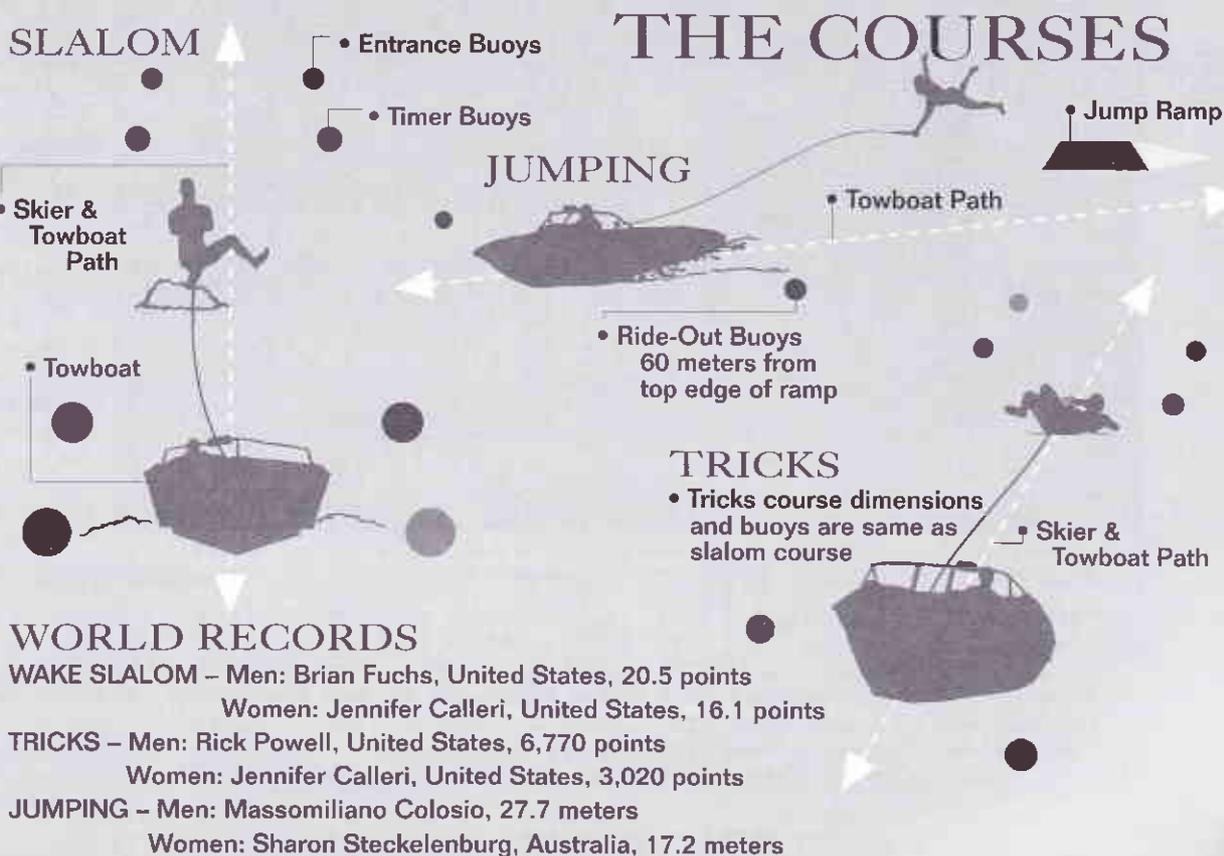
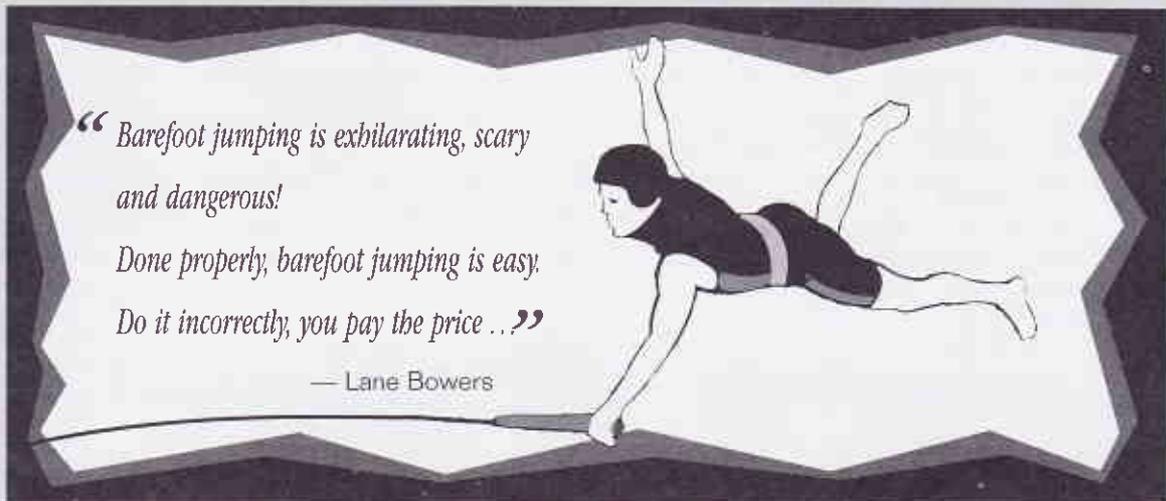
Handle – stainless steel or aluminum cylinder with rubber grip and plastic assembly attached to bridle and towrope, slightly larger than traditional handle for each event, toe-strap inside tricks handle is wide to immediately jettison foot if skier falls

Gloves – nylon and padded with velcro fasteners, prevents blisters and callouses

Flotation – U.S. Coast Guard-approved type III personal flotation device, a wetsuit constructed of synthetic materials with extra padding in seat, chest and thighs

Protective headgear – worn for jumping only, usually a plastic helmet with chin strap and foam padding inside

Barefoot water skiing is the most physically demanding discipline of the sport. Spectators often utter a collective "Gasp!" upon witnessing the severe falls barefoot skiers experience during competition. Barefoot events – wake slalom, tricks and jumping – are similar to traditional events. However, there are no buoys in slalom and the ramp is lower – 45.5 centimeters (18 inches) – in jumping. Nevertheless, the courage it takes to compete without skis at speeds of up to 72 kilometers (45 miles) per hour more than makes up for these differences.



Upper Midwest Barefoot Water Ski Association



FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

In the mid-1980s, six young men in the Fergus Falls, Minn., area frequently got together to barefoot ski. One had learned how primarily because of the coaxing of his older brother (who often times baited his younger brother into awkward situations). But they had to go to the opposite side of the lake to learn, because their parents thought the sport to be too dangerous. Another's claim to fame was the now famous "Steak House" start. He worked in an awning shop where he made himself a pair of shorts with eight layers of truck tarp sewn into the "butt." While wearing these specially designed shorts, he would be pulled off the steps of the Ten Mile Lake Steakhouse, across a paved highway, down the beach and into the water where he would stand up and ski barefoot. A third person learned to ski at the age of 10, but only after his two older brothers carried him down to the

sociation. In 1989 the club was incorporated and chartered as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the state of Minnesota. The purpose of the club, as stated in the bylaws, was 1) to work with property owners and government agencies for the development of quality ski sites; 2) to work with area media to promote the sport of barefoot water skiing; and 3) to promote the sport through

*Upper Midwest Club
has received
tremendous support
from area businesses
and the community*

the sponsorship; of activities such as clinics and tournaments.

The club hosted its first clinic in June of that same year. It drew about

the Fergus Falls Barefoot Open for the next three years. In 1993, the club hosted the tournament on its own for the first time. In 1994, the Minnesota State Barefoot Championships were held in Fergus Falls, followed by the Midwest Regional Championships in 1995.

Much of the growth of the club, the growth of the sport of skiing in this area, and the club's ability to attract more and more prestigious tournaments is a result of a close working relationship with Lake Region Community Television. Lake Region CTV has covered every tournament the club has hosted since 1991, including pre-tournament publicity, and has produced a one-hour highlight video of each tournament. For the Midwest Regionals in 1995, Lake Region CTV provided video-graphers for the tournament. With assistance from the Upper Midwest Barefoot Water Ski Association, Lake Region CTV introduced to the sport the instant replay system you see at this tournament. As a result of this, as well as other media coverage, the Upper Midwest Club has received tremendous support from the businesses in the area and the community itself has come to identify with the sport.

The club has now grown to include more than 50 members, many of whom have no connection to the sport other than they identify with the goals of the club and the dedication of its members. The club has also produced six national champions in its short history.

And what of those young men who founded the club? Well, the one who pioneered the Steak House start is Gary Johnson, who chairs the venue committee for the tournament. The one who was afraid to get wet, was Mark Cory, who was Men' 1 National Tricks Champion in 1989 and Men's 1 National Barefoot Jump Champion in 1991, and for this tournament coordinated the practice sites and boats for competitors. And finally, the one who had to travel out of the sight of his parents to learn how to barefoot is none other than U.S Team member, and former world record holder in the in the jump event, Jon Kretchman.



Club founding members (left to right) Mike Schultz, Mark Cory, Barry Lindbloom, Gary Johnson and Jon Kretchman. Missing from the picture is Daryl Maahs. Photo was taken in 1987.

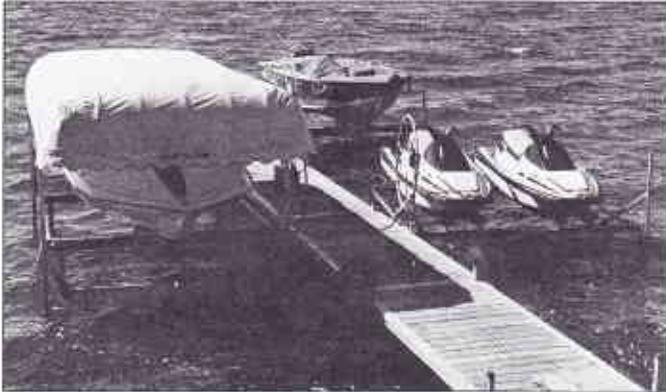
lake and put him in the water, because he was afraid to get wet.

In 1987, the six decided it would be neat to have jackets made. They called themselves the Upper Midwest Barefoot Ski Team. This was the birth of the Upper Midwest Barefoot Water Ski As-

20 participants, many of whom became club members. Later that summer, with the help of the Minnesota Barefoot Association, the club hosted its first tournament. The Minnesota Barefooters Association continued to help the young club by assisting with

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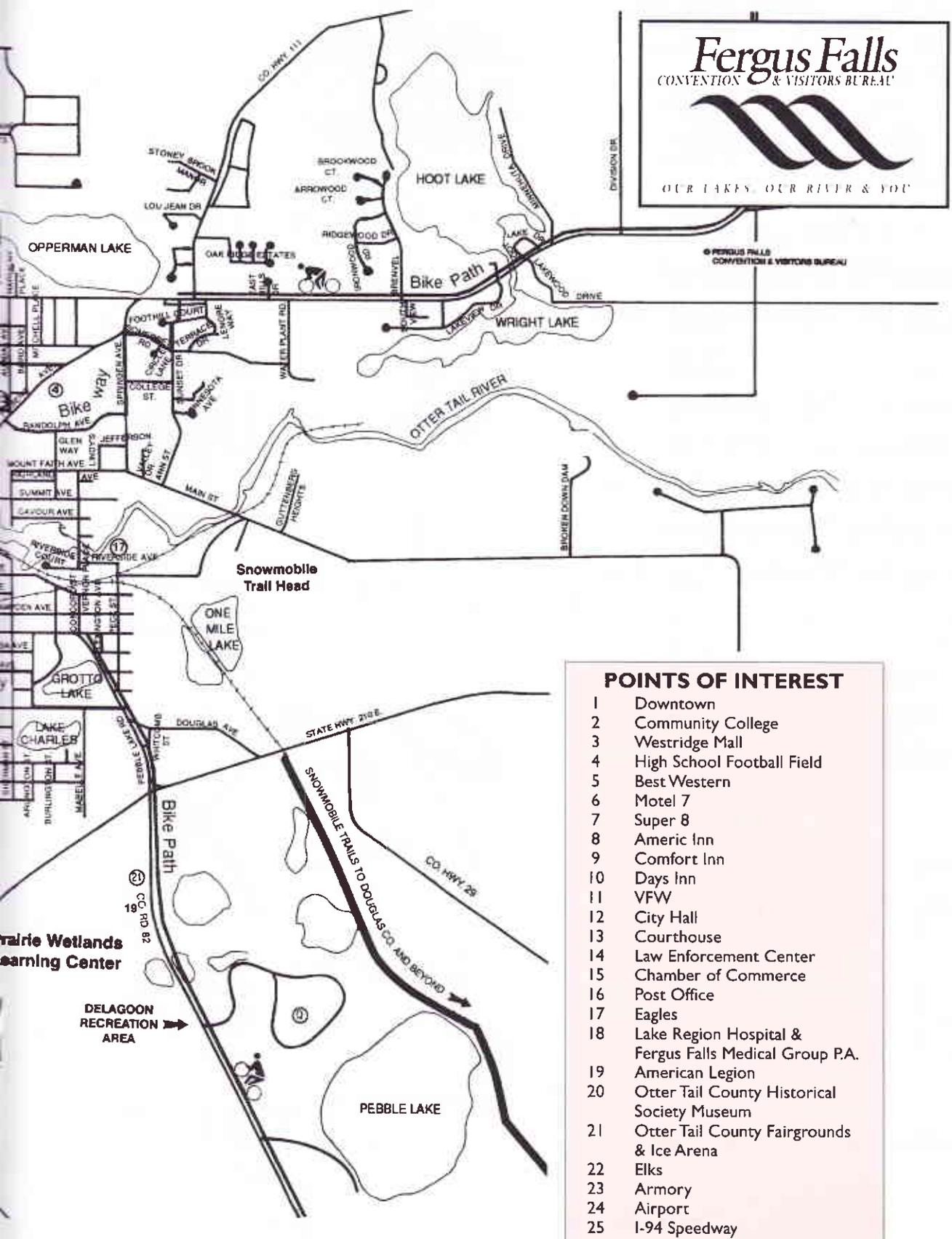


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- 5 Best Western
- 6 Motel 7
- 7 Super 8
- 8 Americ Inn
- 9 Comfort Inn
- 10 Days Inn
- 11 VFW
- 12 City Hall
- 13 Courthouse
- 14 Law Enforcement Center
- 15 Chamber of Commerce
- 16 Post Office
- 17 Eagles
- 18 Lake Region Hospital & Fergus Falls Medical Group P.A.
- 19 American Legion
- 20 Otter Tail County Historical Society Museum
- 21 Otter Tail County Fairgrounds & Ice Arena
- 22 Elks
- 23 Armory
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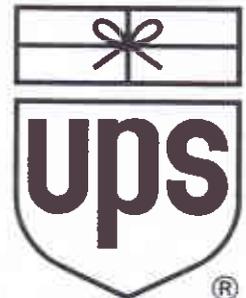
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Past World Barefoot Champions

Top three places since inception of the tournament in 1978

1978 ❖ Canberra, Australia — Winning Country ❖ Australia

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Brett Wing | Women | Wake Slalom | Colleen Wilkinson |
| | Starts | Brett Wing | | Starts | Colleen Wilkinson |
| | Tricks | John Stekelenburg | | Tricks | Gillian Shipp |
| | Jump | Greg Adams | | Jump | --- |
| | Overall | Brett Wing | | Overall | Colleen Wilkinson |

1980 ❖ Redwood City, California — Winning Country ❖ Australia

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Brett Wing | Women | Wake Slalom | Kim Lampard |
| | Starts | Brett Wing | | Starts | Debbie Pugh |
| | Tricks | Brett Wing | | Tricks | Kim Lampard |
| | Jump | Brett Wing | | Jump | --- |
| | Overall | Brett Wing | | Overall | Kim Lampard |

1982 ❖ Acapulco, Mexico — Winning Country ❖ Australia

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Mike Seipel | Women | Wake Slalom | Kim Lampard |
| | Starts | Brett Wing | | Starts | Lori Powell |
| | Tricks | Brett Wing | | Tricks | Debbie Pugh |
| | Jump | Ron Scarpa | | Jump | --- |
| | Overall | Brett Wing | | Overall | Kim Lampard |

1984 ❖ Canberra, Australia — Winning Country ❖ Australia

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Ron Scarpa | Women | Wake Slalom | Kim Lampard |
| | Starts | Gavin O'Mahoney | | Starts | Kim Lampard |
| | Tricks | Mike Seipel | | Tricks | Debbie Pugh |
| | Jump | Peter Wellham | | Jump | --- |
| | Overall | Mike Seipel | | Overall | Kim Lampard |

1986 ❖ Kelheim, West Germany — Winning Country ❖ United States

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Ron Scarpa | Women | Wake Slalom | Kim Lampard |
| | Tricks | Mike Seipel | | Tricks | Kim Lampard |
| | Jump | Gavin O'Mahoney | | Jump | Michelle Dougherty |
| | Overall | Mike Seipel | | Overall | Kim Lampard |

1988 ❖ Melbourne, Australia — Winning Country ❖ United States

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Ron Scarpa | Women | Wake Slalom | Jennifer Calleri |
| | Tricks | Rick Powell | | Tricks | Lori Powell |
| | Jump | Rod Trevillian | | Jump | Steffi Hermann |
| | Overall | Rick Powell | | Overall | Lori Powell |

1990 ❖ Jacksonville, Florida — Winning Country ❖ United States

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Brett Sands | Women | Wake Slalom | Jennifer Calleri |
| | Tricks | Ron Scarpa | | Tricks | Jennifer Calleri |
| | Jump | Mike Seipel | | Jump | Amy Lawler |
| | Overall | Rick Powell | | Overall | Jennifer Calleri |

1992 ❖ Thurrock, England — Winning Country ❖ United States

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Ron Scarpa | Women | Wake Slalom | Jennifer Calleri |
| | Tricks | Ron Scarpa | | Tricks | Jennifer Calleri |
| | Jump | Lane Bowers | | Jump | Beth Leboff |
| | Overall | Ron Scarpa | | Overall | Jennifer Calleri |

1994 ❖ Sydney, Australia — Winning Country ❖ United States

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Men | Wake Slalom | Brian Fuchs | Women | Wake Slalom | Jennifer Calleri |
| | Tricks | John Pennay | | Tricks | Jennifer Calleri |
| | Jump | Brett Fritsch | | Jump | Sharon Stekelenburg |
| | Overall | John Pennay | | Overall | Jennifer Calleri |

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BAREFOOT WATER SKIING

History and description

Barefoot water skiing began in Florida as a recreational activity in the late 1940s and was quickly introduced into the water ski shows at Cypress Gardens, Fla. Interest in barefooting grew, and in 1961 The American Water Ski Association (AWSA) organized the American Barefoot Club (ABC), and today it is a Sport Division of the AWSA. Originally, membership in the ABC was reserved for barefooters who could stay on their feet for a minimum of 60 seconds.

The barefoot craze spread overseas, becoming especially popular among the Australians, who eventually organized the first barefoot tournaments. They were patterned after conventional competition, with an added discipline called "start methods," which has since been discontinued.

Today, barefooting is a world-wide sport recognized by the International Water Ski Federation, the world governing body. A World Championship tournament is held every two years, the most recent being in 1994. The United States Water Ski Team has won the Team World Championship title five times consecutively: in 1986 in Kelheim, West Germany; in 1988 in Melbourne, Australia; in 1990 in Jack-

sonville, Fla.; in 1992 in London, England; and in 1994 in Sydney, Australia. The Australian Barefoot Team won the Team Title the first four World Championships: 1978, 1980, 1982 and 1984.

In the United States the American Water Ski Association sanctions more than 50 barefoot tournaments each year. The National Barefoot Water Ski Championships, held each August, attracts more than 150 of the nation's top barefooters who compete for event and overall medals. The 1996 Barefoot Nationals were held Aug. 14-17 in DuQuoin, Ill.

This year, the fourth U.S. Barefoot Open was held in conjunction with the Barefoot Nationals, Aug. 17 and 18. More than 30 of the world's elite barefoot skiers compete in this event. The U.S. Barefoot Open was filmed for broadcast on ESPN cable network's Summer Nights series in 1997.

The Barefoot Events

Barefoot water ski events – wake slalom, tricks and jumping – are similar to the three events in traditional water skiing. Differences arise in the speed of the boat and the skier (depending upon age division, barefoot events are some-

times faster, with a top speed for the Open Division of 43.2 mph), in the lack of buoys in slalom, and the height of the jump ramp (18 inches as compared to five or six feet for traditional jumping). The absence of skis more than makes up for the differences in the equipment on the ski course.

In wake slalom, points are awarded for full crossing from the outside of the first wake wave to the outside of the second, for crossing one wave only, and for straddling a wake wave at the moment the 15-second pass is terminated. Crossings can be made on one foot or both feet, the barefooter facing forward or backward. Point values increase for the more difficult methods.

Barefoot trick runs also are 15 seconds in length and are scored by judges in much the same manner as those in conventional trick skiing.

In barefoot jumping, the takeoff edge of the ramp is approximately 18 inches above the water line. Jumpers must step off a ski prior to reaching a step-off buoy, located 165 feet before the ramp, and maintain a barefooting position into the ramp. Jumping distance requirements to qualify barefooters for Open competition are 35 feet for women and 50 feet for men.

Simplified Barefoot Tournament Rules

Common Rules for Events

- Two 15-second passes for both wake slalom and tricks events.
- Timing buoys at each end of course – skier must start pass or a penalty
- 3 judges in boat. Each judge writes shorthand codes of what the skier is performing and also operates a timer.
- Skiers choose their own boat speeds – commonly between 40 to 45 mph.
- There are Team Skiers and Independent Country Skiers
- All skiers use the same boat (Flightcraft by Malibu powered by Mercury) and their driver is assigned.

Team Scoring

- Maximum 6 members on a team plus 2 reserve skiers.
- A full team must have both a male and female competitor.
- The best 3 scores (placements) out of a possible six (irrespective of sex) will be used to compute team scores in all three events.

Wake Slalom Event

- "Compulsory Event"
- Object is to cross back and forth across the boat wake as many times possible in time allowed.
- Most commonly see 1 forwards skiing pass and 1 backwards skiing path to maximize points.
- A cross on 1 foot are worth more than crosses on 2 feet – 1

foot cross equals 1.0 points; 1 cross on 2 feet equals .5 points.

- All skiers use the same handle and 75 foot rope.

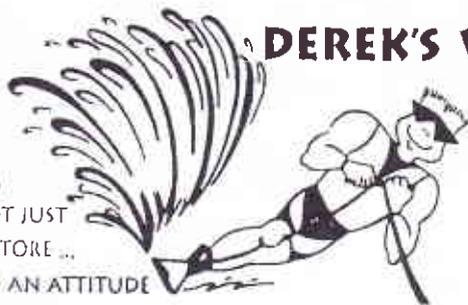
Tricks

- "Freestyle Event"
- Skiers chose tricks to perform with assigned point values and different degrees of difficulty.
- Skiers attempt to package combinations of tricks to get the most possible points during their tricks run.
- Skiers provide their own equipment (called trick ropes and handles) and chose their rope length (skiing distance behind the boat).
- Skiers are also awarded points for different "start trick" methods.

Jump

- 18" high ramp with a minimum 3-1/2 maximum 5-1/2 feet in width for both male and female competitors.
- All competitors wear safety helmets and other protective equipment.
- Maximum speed is 43.5 mph. Skier can ask for different boat paths through the jump course.
- No style points – purely for distance only.
- Must have the handle and ski past a designated 60 meter marker ball for the jump to credit. Skier given three jumps in a round.

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57 Years Of Water Skiing

It was one of those cool northwoods summer days 74 years ago when Ralph Samuelson attached himself to a couple of barrel staves and managed to ski a few feet across the waters of Lake Pepin, Minnesota. Although, like the Wright Brothers and their first flight, he didn't get far, it was an historic event in the world of water sports. A few days later, using a pair of eight-foot-long boards with tips that had been steamed and bent back, Samuelson was able to get up and ski around the lake.

What Samuelson originated in the summer of 1922 soon became an exhibition sport on both sides of the Atlantic. It developed officially into a competitive sport in 1939 when the American Water Ski Association (AWSA) was organized and held the first annual National Water Ski Championships at Jones Beach, Long Island, New York. Today, AWSA sanctions more than 800 tournaments a year throughout the United States. These range from small, local events for novice skiers to national and world-level events for more experienced competitors. Male and female skiers of all ages can compete in traditional three-event (tricks, slalom and jumping) tournaments, as well as in tournaments for barefoot, kneeboard, show, collegiate ski race and physically challenged skiers.

As the national governing body for organized water skiing in the United States, AWSA is affiliated with the International Water Ski Federation (world governing body). It also is a member of the Pan American Sports Organization and the United States Olympic Committee. Affiliated with AWSA as sport divisions are the American Barefoot Club, American Kneeboard Association, National Collegiate Water Ski Association, National Show Ski Association, National Water Ski Racing Association and Water Skiers with Disabilities Association.

From the beginning, AWSA has had a dual mission of promoting the growth and development of recreational water skiing, and organizing and governing the sport of competitive water skiing. The largest and most active water ski federation in the world, AWSA has a paid staff of 18 persons in Winter Haven, Florida. It serves 30,500 members in five regions across the country. Approximately two-thirds of AWSA members are involved

in tournament competition each year; the remainder are recreational water skiers.

AWSA programs include: water ski instructor certification; learn to ski clinics; officials' education; junior skiers' development; legislative coordination and oversight; safety training and information dissemination; membership development and affiliation of state federations and local water ski clubs; public communications and media information; industry relations; and local, national and international competition ranging from novice to world-class tournaments. AWSA also trains and maintains performance records for competitive skiers and nearly 3,000 judges, drivers and scorers who officiate at sanctioned tournaments.

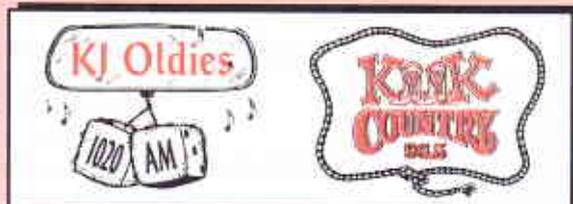
AWSA's communications program includes publication of a seven-times-a-year magazine, *the Water Skier*, sent to all members and other persons with an interest in the sport, and numerous educational materials addressing all aspects of water skiing.

Throughout its history, water skiing has closely paralleled the development of recreational boating in its appeal to the general public. Over the years, water skiing has shown almost continuous, sustained growth. Surveys of sports participation show that there are from 13 million to 16 million water skiers in the United States, with 1.7 million new participants being attracted each year.

Water skiing is a family-oriented activity. Sixty-two percent of our members are

30 years of age or older; 49 percent are between 30 and 40, and 50 percent are married. Three-fourths of our members are college educated and many are career professional and administrators — physicians, attorneys, psychologists, business owners and top-level administrators, among others. Approximately 580 local water ski clubs throughout the United States are affiliated with AWSA. The clubs provide a working base in almost any locale for development of AWSA programs, and in addition are the local organizers for nearly all water ski competition in the United States.

Interest in competitive water skiing has grown considerably over the years and continues to attract many more enthusiasts. As a member of the International Water Ski Federation, AWSA and its Sport Divisions select teams that compete in several world-class tournaments, notably the traditional World Water Ski Championships, World Junior Water Ski Championships, World Cup, World Barefoot Championships, World Ski Racing Championships and World Disabled Championships. The traditional U.S. Water Ski Team has an unparalleled record, having won 21 of the 24 Team Championships since the first World Water Ski Championships in 1949 in France. U.S. Teams are representing the country at several international events in 1996. ❖



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