Riders' guide for the Cable Wakeboard competitions

For a comprehensive insight into the rules, please read the Cable Wakeboard Rulebook, all relevant documents can be found at www.cablewakeboard.net.

General Expectations from the riders:

- Register in time for the competition, create / update your profile at www.cablewakeboard.net and register online
- Taking part at the whole competition, including the riders meeting, opening and prize giving ceremony
- Professional sportsmanlike behavior during the whole year, especially during the events
- Respecting other riders, judges, all officials, organizers, cable crew, media representatives and spectators
- Following the instructions from team captains, officials, judges, jetty marshal, organizer and cable crew.
- Following special rules for the event
- Following the duties of the rider liability form
- Being ready for interviews during the whole competition, especially after runs, and price giving ceremony
- Wearing life vests and helmets whenever riding throughout the competition

What are the cable wakeboard judges expecting from the riders?
How to plan your runs in order to reach max. score?

- Each rider shall be allowed two runs through the wakeboard course during which time he may perform any routine he chooses. Only the best of the two runs will be taken as a result.
- The percentage of the score for Air tricks / Features can be adapted depending on the course.
- Riders are encouraged to perform a smooth flowing routine with a wide variety of tricks. Each maneuver should be executed as cleanly as possible and taken to its safe limit.
- A trick repeated in a run will be only taken once into account but rider can repeat the same tricks in each of their runs if they want.
- Judges will evaluate each rider based on his overall impression of each run performed. The judges will score each rider in two subjective style categories, Technical performance and Impression, to arrive at a single combined score for each run. from 0,1 to 100 points:

1. Technical performance
(Level and variety of tricks performed – what did the rider perform)

This takes into account the level of technicity and variety displayed by the rider. Judges are looking for a whole run that includes the widest range of trick families in a flowing creative sequence. In the Judge's eyes, a better rider is one who throws a balanced variety of tricks, using both air tricks and features.
The judges look for:

- Technical perfection for each of the tricks performed with addition of difficulties when possible (blind landings, handle passes, unique tricks, ollie on, spins…)
- Variety of tricks using the different families of tricks and features (sliders, kickers, transfers…)
- Versatility of tricks combining all directions: inside, outside, frontside, backside, heel side, toe side,..

As a rider, it is not enough to just do the tricks, but rather you have to learn to properly combine them in your runs with the use of features as well. Throwing the same trick twice in your run will not be scored and will also affect your overall score because of the lack of diversity.
A run made of "S-bend, Double-S and S to blind" or a run with "Back roll, roll to revert and roll to blind" have very bad composition. They have been seen before in competition from good riders who didn't know how to compose their runs properly.

2. Impression
(Airtime, mastery, style and control of tricks = how did the rider perform)

The technical level is important but this is not the only thing that matters in wakeboarding. The judges assess the impression given by the run, the style and the degree of ease with which each trick is performed.

To make it simple: Try hard and go as big as you can while keeping it controlled and clean.

How impressive / intense was the routine? How long is the air time? How high is the trick / the gap or transfer?
How controlled / smooth is the rider (on the rail or funbox for example)?
How balanced is the rider in the air after a kicker or during an air trick? Is the body position good / clean (for example a clear difference between S-bend and front flip)?
Does the rider show his personal style in the trick performed?
Is the trick grabbed, boned, tweaked, shifted, pressed? If yes, what it done cleanly / clearly / for a long time?
Is the trick landed cleanly?
How good is the approach / cut of tricks (clean cuts vs double cut)?
How is the flow within the run? The tension of the rope?

Unfinished run:

One of the most important aspects is to have a successful and complete run: every trick is important. However, a rider with a really good but incomplete run could still stand to win.
Not completing a run (falling) will impact the total score as you will get fewer points for the impression and the technical performance will depend on the portion of the course used.

Tips:

Each competition is judged by the level performed at that competition only and not by the level that the judges want to see or expect to see from any particular rider.
If the event site has a lot of features, we are not expecting to see a “features only” competition. You don’t need to use all of them, but don’t avoid using them completely either or it will affect your composition points.
Try to do unique tricks taking in all the aspects of wakeboarding, combining them to produce new and sensational combinations.
We encourage the variety and creativity which can be improved by including the tricks at various spots in the course.
You have to perform your run as technically as possible but at the same time keep it clean, high, versatile and as stylish as you can. Technical performance and Impression for all of these matters combined together will give the best score.

Cutting out of the corner:

Safety is above all and we don’t want to see riders smashing on the grass / wall / spectators.
Although it is easier to do the trick with the pull of the corner, this is not what wakeboarding is about. so start cutting after your carrier passed the pulley (the wheel).

Finally, make sure to attend the riders’ meeting before the competition starts and hear the Chief Judge’s specific advises for that event.