

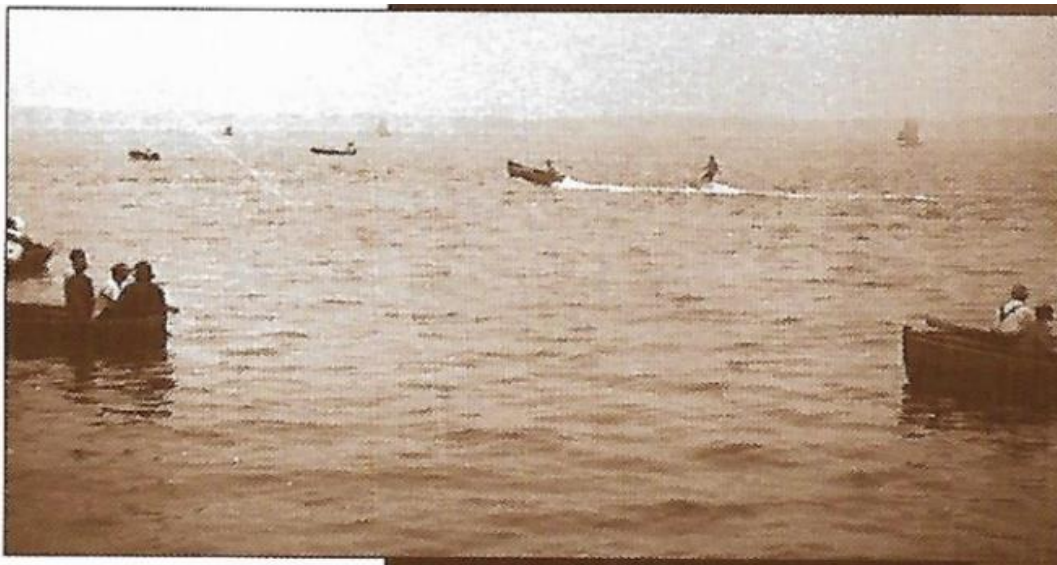


Milestones of Water Skiing in Ireland

- IWSA** - Irish Waterski Association
- NIRG** - Northern Ireland Regional Group of the BWSF (British Waterski Federation)
- NIWSA** - Northern Ireland Waterski Association (Regional branch of the IWSF)
- IWSF** - Irish Waterski Federation (Amalgamation of the IWSA and the NIWSA)
- IWWF** - Irish Waterski & Wakeboard Federation (changed from IWSF to include Wakeboarding)
- IrWWF** - Irish Waterski & Wakeboard Federation (changed from IWWF to save confusion with the International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation {IWWF}, the governing body of the sport)

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- GROUP 2-** Europe, Africa & Middle East (Region of the World Waterski Union)
 - EAME** – Europe, Africa & Middle East (Region of the International Waterski Federation)
 - E&A** – European & African Region (previously EAME and now incorporating Wakeboarding)

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- WWSU** – World Waterski Union
 - IWSF** – International Waterski Federation (previously WWSU)
 - IWWF** – International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation (previously IWSF)
-



Cobh Regatta in Cork Harbour, 1930s
A demonstration of aquaplaning, the precursor to water skiing
(see aquaplaning in the 100 years of water-skiing doc.)

- Events, achievements and recollections -

The birth place of organised skiing in Ireland was on the River Shannon, Killaloe in 1956.

There is no doubt that around the coast and the many inland waters of Ireland there were some who were experimenting with the challenge of being towed on water behind a boat, but it is Killaloe which is credited as the place where water skiing really took off in Ireland.

Hector Newenham, son of Edward Newenham the owner of the Lakeside Hotel, Killaloe, saw the potential of offering water skiing on a stretch of the river Shannon, beside the hotel. In 1956 Hector invited David Nations (BWSF) to Killaloe to help promote water skiing, particularly in Killaloe and in Ireland in general. The hotel started offering the new and exciting activity of 'water skiing', with ski lessons at 5 shillings. Shortly afterwards the Killaloe Water Ski Club (Shannonside) was formed.

1956 One of the first to make a splash

The first time that water skiing was seen in the vicinity of Carrybridge on Upper Lough Erne was during a garden party and fete organized by Mrs Deda Leigh and R C Hermon. The event, to raise funds for a building project in Derryharney, was held on the lawn fronting Belleisle House in September. During the proceedings a young man, called David Corbett, astounded the huge crowd by skimming over the surface of Corrad Bay behind a boat provided by Irvines of Enniskillen. At that time there were very few boats on the Lough capable of attaining skiing speeds, and none at all in the Carrybridge area.

It's not clear whether the 'skimming over water' was via aquaplaning (a towed board) or on skis, but it was still spectacular. A seed of interest had been sown, and it would not be many years before the first tentative steps would be taken to emulate Mr. Corbett's feat and skiing would be seen in a number of locations around Lough Erne.

1957 & 1958 Exhibitions of Water Skiing

An article in The Irish Times on 6 October 1958, under the heading 'New water sport at Lough Derg', reported that the Chairman of Bord Fáilte (Irish Tourist Board), had watched a demonstration of water skiing in Killaloe by David Nations and by members of the Killaloe club.

Henry Murdoch recalls: 'We, new and inexperienced skiers, gave an exhibition of water skiing at the Killaloe Regatta in 1957 and 1958.'

'By 1958 there were already about 70 members of the Killaloe Water Ski Club, skiing every weekend, winter and summer. Most of us wore 'skin-suits', which were specially manufactured rubber suits, which had been developed for use by the French Navy, who were pioneers of underwater swimming and exploration.'

1958 Waterski display on the River Liffey, Dublin

To help promote water skiing throughout Ireland, Hector Newenham along with David Nations and Desmond West a Dublin jeweller, organised a skiing display of general skiing, tricking and ski jumping on the River Liffey, Dublin on 21st October. At the insistence of Board Failte, the Irish Tourist Board, there had to be Irish skiers taking part, so 14 skiers from Killaloe were recruited. A number of top international skiers, including the then Ladies slalom, tricks and overall World Champion, Marina Doria from Switzerland also took part. Desmond West flew over to Paris and collected a whole stock of the Jacques Cousteau invented rubber diving suits for the Killaloe skiers.

It was scheduled to take place in conjunction with the annual Catering exhibition and the skiing demonstration was timed to take place in the evening, and as evenings are dark in October, specially mounted floodlights were erected to illuminate a part of the river. The plan was that the Irish skiers would ski from the Guinness Brewery down the river carrying Irish flags and that the star performers would follow behind them. Even though it was late autumn there was a remarkable crowd of many thousands lining the river. The parade started, multi-coloured rockets were fired, and off they went. There was about half a mile of darkness and bridges before they came into the limelight, but when the boats appeared, there was not a single Irish skier to be seen! Was it the wonderful reception at the Guinness Brewery before the start, maybe it was skiing down the river in the darkness or possibly it was their inexperience as skiers, but there wasn't an Irish skier to be seen, they had all fallen off! So, they had to turn the boats around and direct the searchlights to recover the skiers.

The display carried on and the crowds saw Marina give a breath-taking demonstration of figure skiing and Max Salic from Antwerp put on a demonstration of barefoot water skiing, **probably the first barefoot water skiing in Ireland**. Then came the jumping. The organisers found it impossible to moor the jump in the middle of the swift-flowing River Liffey, so rather than cancel the most exciting part of the show, the jump was moored against a wall!! This made the approach rather terrifying as a sideslip would hurl the jumper straight into that wall. Luckily, there were no accidents, and the show was deemed a great success.

The report in The Irish Times on 22 October 1958, under the heading 'Dublin sees novel sport on Liffey', was equally effusive and strongly supportive of the Killaloe skiers:



[*It's captured on film. britishpathe.com](http://britishpathe.com) Water Skiing at Dublin 1958

1958 Formation of the Irish Waterski Association

Hector Newenham and David Nations were instrumental in setting up the Irish Water Ski Association. Founded in September 1958 it continued until 1987 when it was superseded by the Irish Waterski Federation.



1958 World Waterski Union recognition

In December 1958, the IWSA was admitted to membership of the World Water Ski Union in Geneva, with Desmond West as the President and Hector Newenham as Secretary. The Irish Times reported on 12 December 1958 that there were then about 100 persons in Ireland who could ski.



It was not long before there were ski clubs at Balscadden Bay in Howth and at Golden Falls in Wicklow, then eventually around the country.

1959 Waterski display on the River Liffey, Dublin

A further exhibition of water skiing took place on the River Liffey, but this time in the summer and during daylight on the 12th August. It was held in association with an An Tóstal Festival of Irish music and song and the annual Liffey swim. The Irish Press next day carried an excellent photograph of a skier emerging from under the arch of a bridge with the caption, 'Water ski experts giving a demonstration on the Liffey last night'. The newspaper noted that Burgh Quay and adjoining streets were jam-packed with an estimated 7,000 people, and that traffic along Burgh Quay was diverted for three hours as the crowds spread along O'Connell Bridge, down Eden Quay and into nearby side streets.



The Irish Times captures John Poynton (Balscadden) ski jumping on the Liffey.

An amusing, if slightly embarrassing recollection by Roger Johnson: I remember a newly made jump on the Liffey for 1 of the displays and John Kelly and myself applying hot wax to the surface. We did all the surface protruding out of the water but reckoned that we should apply some to the 6 inches, or more, below the water line for safety - we thought that a ski might catch on this section and throw the skier forward! A somersault up the ramp would have looked spectacular to the crowds but would not have been ideal for the skier.

The ramp was floating at the edge of the river, by the wall up to the quay; and so, as it was a high tide, we reckoned that we would be clever by tying the ramp up and waiting for the water level to drop. While this was happening, we went into the local hostelry for "coffee". Every so often we came out to look and tried to convince ourselves that there were extra few inches of ramp visible that had not yet been waxed. After some hours we began to doubt our observations and (both being Science students - Physics and Engineering) realised somewhat shamefacedly that we had tied the ramp tightly on to a **floating barge** from which we were working, and NOT the river wall! Consequently, the barge was going down at exactly the same rate as the water (and of course as was the ramp!!).

1959 First National Championships River Shannon, Killaloe

The IWSA organised the 1st National Waterski Championships which was hosted by Killaloe Waterski Club on the River Shannon, 19th & 20th September with skiers from 4 clubs, Killaloe, Balscadden Bay, Sandy Cove and East Coast taking part. There were 27 competitors in the men's event and 13 in the ladies' event. David Nations was the chief judge.

Irish Water Ski Association



OFFICIALS

Chairman Oliver Coffey

Hon. Sec. Dr. Conor Molony

Hon. Treas. G. Doyle

Committee

Mrs. R. Bogan, Mrs. R. J. McDonnell, Messrs. C. Carr,
H. Newenham and N. T. Treacy, B.D.S.

1st Men's Irish National Waterski Champion, 1959 - David Johnson (Balscadden)

1st Ladies' Irish National Waterski Champion, 1959 - Margaret McDonnell (Killaloe)



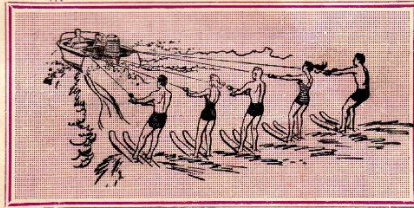
1st Irish National Men's Champions

L-R: John Poynton (Jump), David Johnson (Overall), Roger Johnson (Figures/Tricks & under 18)

**SOUVENIR
PROGRAMME**

**IRISH
WATER SKI
ASSOCIATION**

**FIRST
National Championships**



**Sat. & Sun.
September
19th & 20th
1959**

**AT
The Lakeside Hotel,
Killaloe, Co. Clare**

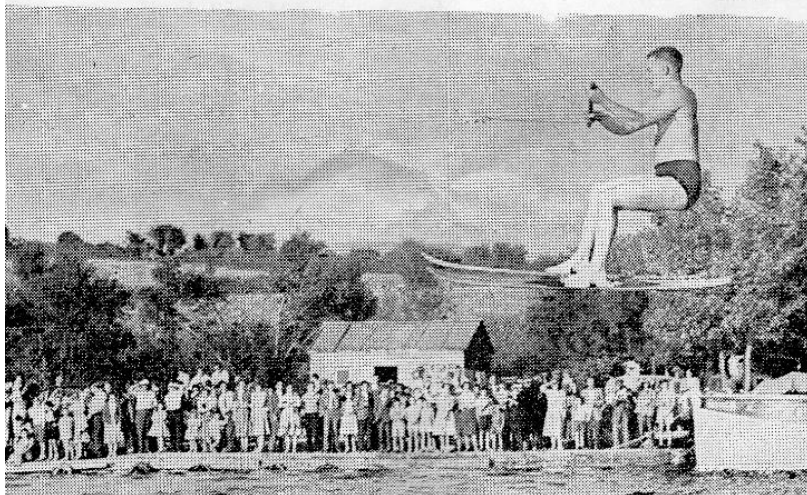
**FREE RAFFLE
ON
PROGRAMME
SEE INSIDE**

Price One Shilling

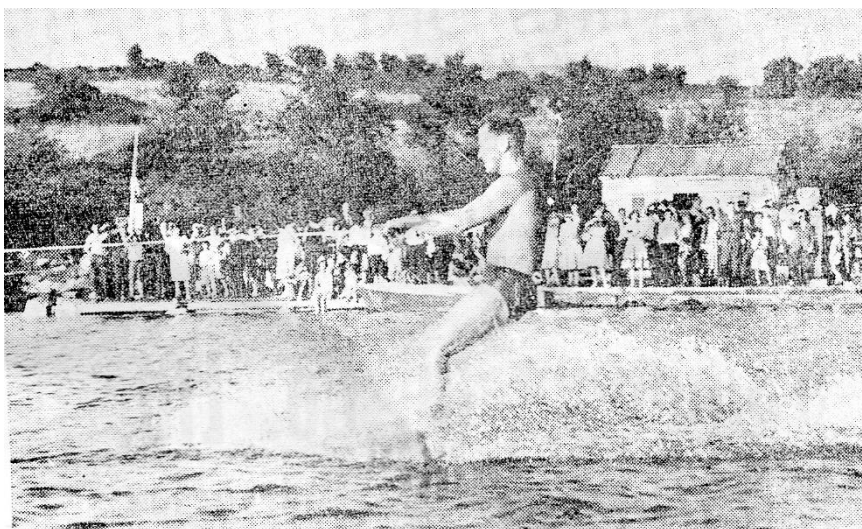
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Prizes and Donors

Event	Presented by
Irish Men's Championship Perpetual Challenge Cup	John Player & Sons, Ltd. <i>DAJ 15 RHJ 16 Gerry Doyle</i>
Irish Ladies' Championship Perpetual Challenge Cup	Lakeside Hotel, Killaloe. <i>John</i>
Irish Men's Jump Championship Perpetual Challenge Cup	P. O'Malley & Co. (Limk.) Ltd. <i>Gerry DAJ</i>
Irish Ladies' Jump Championship Perpetual Challenge Cup	West & Son, Ltd., Dublin.
Men's Slalom Course Perpetual Challenge Cup	J. L. Bradshaw, Lucas Agent, Portlaoise. <i>Gerry DAJ Gerr</i>
Ladies Slalom Course Perpetual Challenge Cup	Cliff Hotel, Howth.
Best Skier under 18 (Girls)	Barlite Ltd., Portroe. <i>Denise O'Malley</i>
Best Skier under 18 (Boys)	Bowmaker (Ireland) Ltd. <i>R.H.J.</i>
Men's Trick Ski Championship Perpetual Challenge Cup	J. Maurer & Sons, Limerick <i>RHJ DAJ John</i>

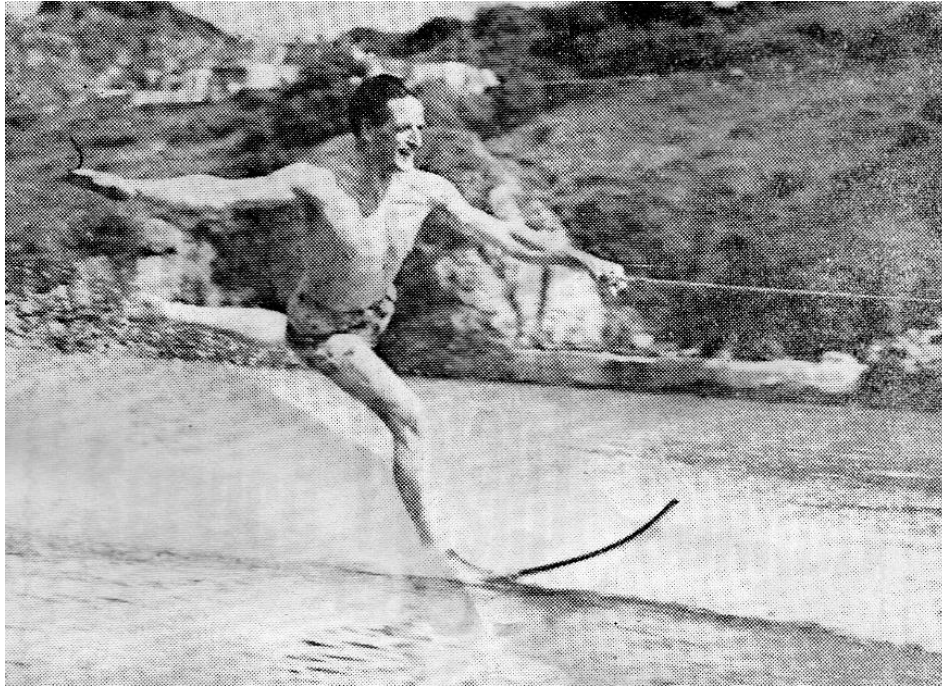


A photo of Gerry Doyle (Killaloe) which appeared in the 1959 programme.



A photo of Fred Waterstone (Killaloe) which appeared in the 1959 programme.

The 'Front Swan' position.



A photo of Joe Action (Balscadden) which appeared in the 1959 programme

Men's: Overall - David Johnson (Balscadden) 152 points; Roger Johnson (Balscadden) 149 points; Gerry Doyle (Killaloe) 137 points.

Slalom: Gerry Doyle 26 buoys; David Johnson 25 buoys; Gene Kavanagh (Sandycove) 20 buoys.

Tricks: Roger Johnson 140 points; David Johnson 90 points; John Poynton 75 points.

Jump: John Poynton (Balscadden) 52 feet; Gerry Doyle 50 feet; David Johnson 49 feet.

Ladies': Overall & Slalom – Margaret McDonnell (Killaloe).

Jump – Mary Bogan (Killaloe) 37ft.

Under 18's: Boy's – Roger Johnson (Balscadden)

Under 18's: Girl's – Denise O'Malley (Killaloe).

Roger Johnson recalls: In those days 60 points were awarded to the winner of an event, with other skiers awarded points on a 'pro-rata' basis. There were 8 buoys for a clear slalom run, 1 for each of the 6 buoys plus 2 for the gates.

I have a vague memory of David Nations being driven slowly in a speedboat, leaning over the edge and every so often dropping a buoy, attached to a line on a weight – then looking at the result and saying something like "that looks OK"!

Local favourite was certainly Gerry Doyle, he was the local hero and seen to be the expert. I think that the Killaloe folk were somewhat disappointed that these 3 "Dubs" arrived and rather took over the results!

David Johnson recalls: In figures (tricks) we might have got points for a deep-water back start! We might then have turned around to face front and tried to do a side-slide'!!



David Johnson braving the ski ramp and the elements!

Note: The jump has no 'safety' side aprons and a couple under the jump with a bucket. They were there to throw water over the ramp surface to keep it wet and reduce ski friction for the jumper.

Also: A 6ft (1.8m) ramp! No wet suit! No lifejacket! No gloves! No helmet!! – *Big Respect!!*

The first championships in 1959 attracted huge crowds who lined both sides of the river and on Killaloe bridge.

Chris Owen recalls: 'I watched the first Irish Open at Killaloe in 1959. I was a guest, with my mother, on a houseboat. That was in the days when proper large house boats existed. A friend had sailed his from about 4 miles up Lough Derg and moored it in mid-stream and we had a very enjoyable afternoon sitting on the cabin roof (in chairs, of course) watching the action and the Jumping event.'

Henry Murdoch recalls: 'The way in which we measured the jump distance was very crude and potentially dangerous. We had a floating plank of wood near the likely landing zone, with small vertical poles every foot and larger vertical poles every five feet (1.5 metres). The danger was that someone would land on these distance markers. Fortunately, it didn't happen.'



James Donnelly (Sutton) passing the jump measuring markers

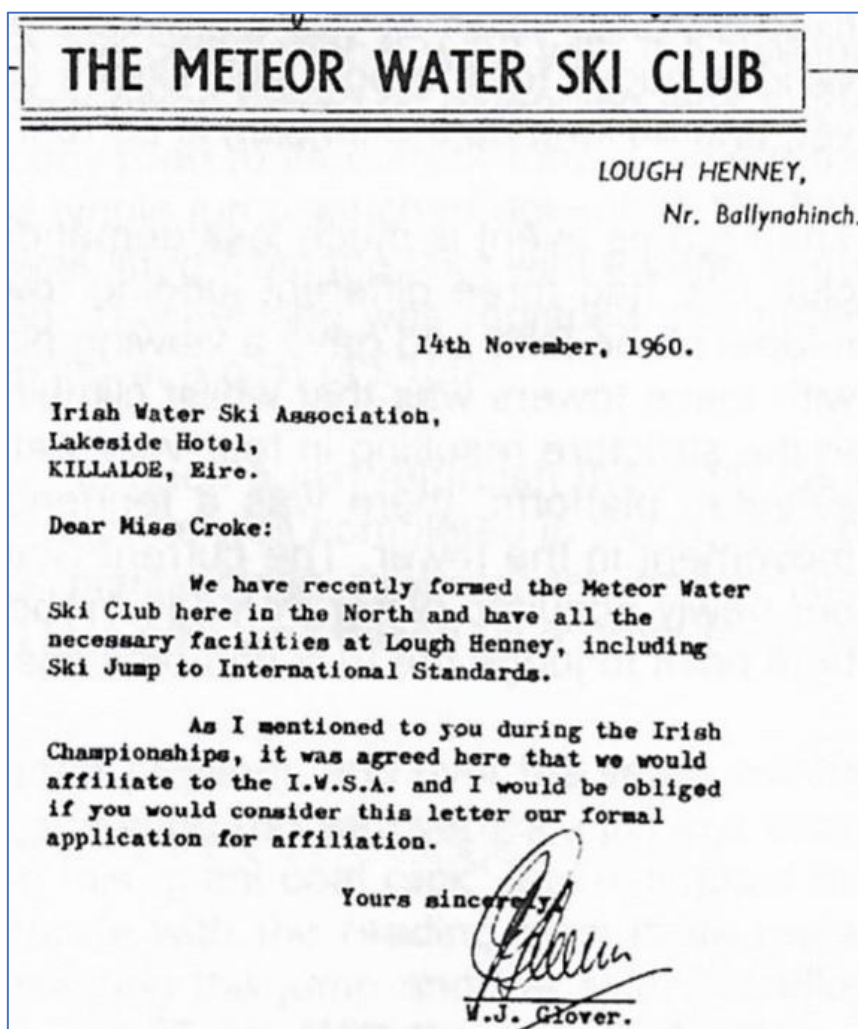
1959 Barefoot demo by a skier from Ireland- First!

At the 1st Irish National Waterski Championships, Killaloe, River Shannon, Tony McCleery (Meteor) put on a barefoot waterski demonstration, one of the first, if not the first from Ireland to ski barefoot.

1960 Affiliation of the Irish Waterski Association to Group 2

A number of skiers from Ireland attended the Waterski Congress in San Remo, at which the Irish Waterski Association was awarded affiliation of Group 2.

1960 Meteor's affiliation request to the Irish Waterski Association



1961 Initiative and determination!

Three guys, Ernie Irvine, Esmond Brown and Tommy Hall had an ambition that they would try to water ski. Carrard Bay, Upper Lough Erne to the east side of Bellisle was where they attempted it. They didn't have skis and knew no-one who had skis, so not to be disappointed, they used a 'door' (easily obtainable and it floats!) As for a rope, they used several pieces of clothes lines knotted together. After a couple of months, the door had been mastered so successfully that it was cut in half! Thoughts now turned to obtaining a pair of skis, but these were not easily obtainable, so they asked Tommy Hall, a carpenter to make a pair of skis. When it came to the bindings, they simply cut the tops off a pair of wellington boots and nailed them to the wooden skis. It took some time, and some dangerous incidents where the 2nd boat used to assist the skier to balance, collided with the fallen skier! Eventually they achieved success. Well done for pure determination and persistence.

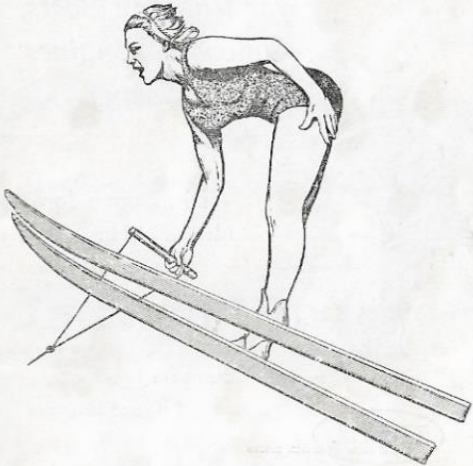
1961 First Ulster Open Waterski Championships

Over Easter Sat 1st, Mon 3rd & Tues 4th April, the Ulster Open was staged by Meteor W.S.C, at Lough Henney. The programme of events included powerboat racing and water skiing competitions for slalom, tricks and jump. Competitors included skiers from Meteor, Balscadden and Killaloe as well as skiers from England and Scotland.

PRICE: 1s. 6d.

METEOR WATER SKI CLUB

Souvenir Programme



Nelson Trophy Speed Boat Race and
Ulster Open Water Ski Championships

*Easter Saturday, Monday and Tuesday
1st, 3rd and 4th April, 1961*

LOUGH HENNEY

23

ENTRANTS — SLALOM

MEN'S SLALOM

D. H. M. CHRISTIE	Loch Lomond W.S.C.
S. BOLES	Meteor W.S.C.
R. H. JOHNSTON	Balscadden W.S.C.
P. HAMILFORD	Meteor W.S.C.
B. J. O'CONNELL	Sonning W.S.C.
N. HOGG	Meteor W.S.C.
J. M. CUNNINGHAM	Meteor W.S.C.
P. RUBEN	Princes W.S.C.
J. K. McCORMICK	Meteor W.S.C.
F. BECKETT	
A. RICHARDSON	Sonning W.S.C.
L. CALINGHAM	Ruislip W.S.C.
D. CAMPBELL	
J. L. POYNTON	Lochearnhead W.S.C.
D. THOMPSON	
T. BURKE	Meteor W.S.C.
J. GLOVER	Meteor W.S.C.
J. McDOWELL	Meteor W.S.C.
D. JOHNSTON	Balscadden W.S.C.

NOVICE SLALOM

F. BECKETT	
D. ROBB	
Miss R. PORTER	Meteor W.S.C.
O. HARCOURT	
Miss R. FUSCO	Meteor W.S.C.
Miss C. FUSCO	Meteor W.S.C.
Miss A. FUSCO	Meteor W.S.C.
R. McMILLEN	
Miss R. KERNOHAN	

LADIES' SLALOM

Miss R. PORTER	Meteor W.S.C.
Miss R. FUSCO	Meteor W.S.C.
Miss C. FUSCO	Meteor W.S.C.
Miss A. FUSCO	Meteor W.S.C.
Miss D. CROKE	Killaloe W.S.C.



Ski Jumping at Meteor Water Ski Club

The judges, in the boat, measured the jumps by aligning the point of impact with the floating markers.

1961 Live television coverage

At lough Henney, the home of Meteor WSC, a full afternoon of water activities was staged including, skiing, sub-aqua and boat racing and was covered by a live outside television broadcast.

L O U G H H E N N E Y

B A L L Y N A H I N C H

PROGRAMME - SATURDAY 12th AUGUST, 1961.

3.00 p.m.	Demonstration - Tricks	-	N. Hogg	R. Johnston
3.10 p.m.	" - Slalom	-	T. Burke	J. McDowell
3.15 p.m.	" - Jumping	-	J. Glover	J. Poynton
3.25 p.m.	" - Saucer	-	Miss C. Fusco	
3.35 p.m.	" - Doubles	-	Miss R. Porter	J. McDowell

3.45 p.m. - 4.15 p.m. F I N A L S

B.B.C. TROPHY WATER SKIING COMPETITION

<u>TEAMS</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>SOUTH</u>
	J. Glover T. Burke	R. Johnston J. Poynton
3.45 p.m.	B.B.C. Opening Remarks	
3.47 p.m.	Slalom Competition	
3.54 p.m.	Catamarans Race	
3.59 p.m.	Trick Competition	
4.03 p.m.	Sub Aqua Demonstration	
4.07 p.m.	Jumping Competition	
4.12 p.m.	B.B.C. Outside Broadcast Closing Remarks	
4.15 p.m.	B.B.C. Close Down	
4.30 p.m.	Relay Race	<u>"A" Team</u> <u>"B" Team</u>
		Miss R. Porter Miss C. Fusco
		J. McDowell S. Boles
		T. Burke K. McCormick
		B. Johnston R. Johnston
4.45 p.m.	Obstacle Race	N. Hogg J. Glover R. Johnston J. Poynton
5.00 p.m.	Marshall Speed Boats	
5.15 p.m.	Start of Race	
5.45 p.m.	Finish of Race	
5.50 p.m.	Presentations	
6.00 p.m.	Close	

Slalom, tricks and jump were interspersed with a catamaran race and a sub aqua demonstration.

1961 First Irish Open Waterski Championship

Held at Killaloe, the 1st Open attracted almost 50 skiers from 6 ski clubs (all from the island of Ireland). A 35 hp outboard was used for the ladies and the junior men and an inboard was used for the open and senior men. The slalom speed for ladies started at 20 mph and increased by 1 mph, the slalom speed for junior men started at 22 mph and increased by 2 mph.

Note - Christine Fusco's impressive score of 61 buoys. Starting at 20mph, increasing by 1 mph and with 8 buoys awarded for each clear pass, Christine would have finished her run with 5 buoys at 27mph.

IRISH WATER-SKI ASSOCIATION

Results of Championships held at Killaloe, Co. Clare, 9th/10th September 1961

<u>LADIES' OPEN</u>		<u>Slalom</u>		<u>Jump</u>		<u>Figures</u>		<u>Overall Points</u>
		<u>Buoys</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Feet</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Marks</u>	<u>Points</u>	
C. Fusco	(M)	61	60	25	60	130	60	180
R. Porter	(M)	30	29½	22	53	30	14	96½
D. Frawley	(K)	3	3	21	51	80	37	91
R. Johnson	(B)	12	12	22	53			65
R. Croke	(B)	3	3			30	14	17
H. Murdoch	(B)	3	3			30	14	17
D. O'Malley	(K)	3½	3½					

Boat used: 35 h.p. outboard. Speeds: Slalom 20, 21, 22 m.p.h. Jump up to 28 mph.

<u>MEN'S OPEN</u>		<u>Slalom</u>		<u>Jump</u>			<u>Figures</u>		<u>Overall Points</u>	
		<u>Buoys</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>1st ft</u>	<u>2nd ft</u>	<u>3rd ft</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Marks</u>		<u>Points</u>
R. Johnson	(B)	21½	60	55	67	75	59	590	60	179
J. Glover	(M)	19½	55	65	76	75	60	520	53	168
N. Hogg	(M)	19	53	F	40	57	45	450	46	144
J. Poynton	(B)	14	39	62	64	68	54	380	38½	131½
D. Johnson	(B)	13½	38	52	59	66	52	190	19½	109½
T. Burke	(M)	11½	32	44	F	45	35½	280	28½	96
T. McCleary	(M)	5	14	38	55	F	43	130	13½	70½
J. Donnelly	(M)	3	8½	34	40	F	31½			
F. Waterstone	(K)	6	16½							
S. Boles	(M)	3	8½							

Boat used: Aquila inboard. Speeds: Slalom 26, 28, 30 m.p.h. Jump up to 35 m.p.h.

<u>LADIES' CLOSE</u>		<u>Slalom</u>		<u>Jump</u>		<u>Figures</u>		<u>Overall Points</u>
		<u>Buoys</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Feet</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Marks</u>	<u>Points</u>	
R. Johnson	(B)	28	60	22	60			120
D. Frawley	(K)	1	2	F	--	50	60	62
R. Croke	(B)	4½	9½			30	36	45½
H. Murdoch	(B)	2	4½			30	36	40½
D. O'Malley	(K)	14	30					
J. Inglis	(B)	3	6½					
B. Anderson	(Sl)	2½	5½					
A. O'Reilly	(Su)	2	4½					
D. Williams	(K)	1½	3½					

Boat and speeds as for Ladies' Open

<u>MEN'S SENIOR</u>		<u>Slalom</u>		<u>Jump</u>			<u>Figures</u>		<u>Overall Points</u>	
		<u>Buoys</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>1st ft</u>	<u>2nd ft</u>	<u>3rd ft</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Marks</u>		<u>Points</u>
R. Johnson	(B)	14	60	F	60	75	60	545	60	180
J. Poynton	(B)	13½	58	63	74	72	59½	350	38½	156
D. Johnson	(B)	12	51½	64	F	F	51½	180	20	123
F. Waterstone	(K)	3½	15							

Boat and speeds as for Men's Open

RESULTS OF IRISH CHAMPIONSHIPS (continued)

MEN'S JUNIOR	Slalom		Jump			Points	Figures		Overall Points
	Buoys	Points	1st ft	2nd ft	3rd ft		Marks	Points	
A. Jamison (B)	46	60	F	F	40	52	50	11½	123½
J. Kelly (B)	6	8	35	F	F	45½	155	36	89½
B. Cullen (K)	6	8	42	46	F	60			68
W. Lacey (Su)	3	4	F	F	F	--	260	60	64
B. O'Neill (B)	12	15½					60	14	20½
R. Manthorpe (K)	12	15½	F	F	F	--	20	5	13
B. O'Flynn (B)	6	8					20	5	13
D. Nicholson (G)	3	4					30	7	11
D. Long (B)	3	4					20	5	9
T. Toher (Sl)	4	5½	F	F	F	--			5½
W. Hogg (Sl)	3	4	F	F	F	--			4
N. Broderick (B)	1½	2					--	-	2
F. Roche-Kelly (K)	1½	2					--	-	2
I. Johnston (B)	29	38							
W. Woollett (K)							90	21	
R. Stafford (B)	14	18½							
A. Murray (Sl)	12	15½							
B. Rafferty (Sl)	4	5½							
B. Galvin (G)	3½	4½							
F. Duffy (Sl)	3	4							
P. McGilligan (Su)	3	4							
B. O'Connor (B)	3	4							
P. Delamer (Su)	2½	3							
K. Hallinan (K)	2	2½							
P. McSweeney (G)	2	2½							

Boat used: 35 h.p. outboard. Speeds: Slalom 22, 24 m.p.h. Jump up to 35 m.p.h.

KEY TO CLUBS:

B = Balscadden G = Glenbrook K = Killaloe
M = Meteor Sl = Sligo Su = Sutton

Some interesting extracts from the 1961 World trick rules

Timing flags; form points; ride-out bonus; ski overhead bonus; air turns, miscellaneous tricks

11.12 There shall be a Timer on shore approximately in the center of the course. There shall be an assistant opposite each entrance buoy whose duty it shall be to drop a flag as the skier passes the entrance buoy. There shall be a Referee in the boat who shall drop a flag as the shore flag is dropped. The Timer shall start his stopwatch as the flag in the boat is dropped. At the end of 20 seconds he shall sound his audible device. The flag in the boat shall be the official start of the run and the audible device the official ending of the run. The shore flags are not official.

11.15 FORM. Judges shall score each trick pass for form, awarding up to 10 points for outstanding execution. Form points shall be awarded up to 5 points for general execution of the tricks, up to 3 points for continuity and flow of tricks, and up to 2 points for variety of tricks executed. Generally speaking, good form is that which permits the skier to perform the greatest number and variety of tricks while maintaining complete control over body and skis at all times.

11.16 RIDE-OUT BONUS. The skier shall receive the ride-out bonus if he does not fall in the course. If the skier falls as a result of a trick started before the conclusion of the pass, whether or not the trick is completed in the pass, he shall not receive the bonus.

- (b) A 15 percent bonus is given for each trick done holding a ski overhead. To receive the additional points, the ski must remain higher than the head through the turn.
- (c) A wake turn not done in mid-air scores zero. It is not scored as a water turn.
- (d) In order to receive credit for an air turn the entire

trick must be done in mid-air.


MISCELLANEOUS WATER TRICKS

28	Back swan	40	(j)
29	Back swan recovery	60	(j)
30	Deep water back start	80	(k)
31	Ski overhead, rope on toe or heel	20	(l)
32	Ski overhead recovery	20	(l)

- (j) The back swan includes ski backwards, put rope on toe, extend leg, and extend arms out to the side. The back swan recovery includes the free foot touching the ski; it need not be combined with the back swan.
- (k) The deep water back start may be done with the rope in the hands or on the foot, but only one method will be scored.
- (l) The ski overhead trick includes ski forwards on two skis, take ski off and hold over head. The recovery includes putting the ski on the free foot and touching it to the water; it need not be combined with the ski overhead.

1962 A letter that would have long lasting benefits

John Kelly and Roger Johnson (Ballscadden WSC) had been looking for a sheltered site suitable for a slalom course and ski jump and had found a potential site in the Wicklow hills. On behalf of the IWSA, they jointly wrote to the Electricity Supply Board requesting the use of Golden Falls Reservoir, Poulaphouca, near Ballymore Eustace. The ESB agreed to a 6-week trial period. After the initial trial period the ESB issued a 1-year licence. This positive response would result in the establishing of a club at the site, staging of many Irish competitions, hosting many of the top skiers in the world, securing the services of some of the best coaches in the world and generating endless memories of many happy days at Golden Falls.



BORD SOLATHAIR AN LEICTREACHAIS
 27 Sraid MacLiam lochtair : Baile Atha Cliath : Eire.
 ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD
 27 Lower Fitzwilliam Street : Dublin 2 : Ireland.
 TELEPHONES: DUBLIN 65831 & 71821. TELEGRAMS: "ELECTSUPPLY," DUBLIN.

Reference: S13/20/2. 9th March, 1962.

Messrs. John Kelly & Roger Johnson,
 "The Barn",
 Orwell Road,
 Rathgar,
 DUBLIN, 6.

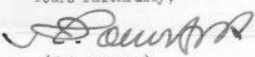
Dear Sirs,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 3rd ultimo requesting permission for the Irish Water Ski Association to use the Golden Falls Reservoir.

The Board has no objection to allowing the Association to put a boat on the water for a trial period of, say, six weeks provided the Association's activities are restricted to the wide portion of the Reservoir and provided the Association will indemnify the Board against any damage to persons or property arising from the use of the Reservoir by the Association. In this connection it will be necessary for the Association to take out a suitable Public Liability Policy in the sum of £10,000 for any one accident and to forward the Policy to the Board for approval before using the Reservoir.

It must be clearly understood that no access will be permitted through the Board's property to the Reservoir.

I shall be glad to hear further from you in the matter at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

 (J.G. Gargan)
 SECRETARY



THIS AGREEMENT made the 13th day of July, 1962

BETWEEN THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD, a Statutory Corporation having its Principal Office at 27, Lower Fitzwilliam Street in the City of Dublin (hereinafter called "the Board") of the one part and JEAN INGLIS of Dumfries, Roebuck Park, Dundrum in the County of Dublin (hereinafter called "the Licensee"), the Secretary for the time being of the Golden Falls Water Ski Club (hereinafter called "the Association"), being the person appointed by the Association to act on their behalf, of the other part WHEREBY IT IS AGREED as follows: In consideration of the payment by the Licensee to the Board of the sum of One pound ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (£1. 0. 0) (the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged):-

1. The Board hereby licences and permits the Licensee to use the wide portion of the Golden Falls Reservoir for a term of one year from the 29th day of June 1962 for the purpose of water skiing thereon and for no other purpose whatsoever.
2. The Licensee shall be at liberty to maintain and use on said waters Motor Boats for the aforesaid purpose of water skiing.
3. THE LICENSEE HEREBY AGREES WITH THE BOARD:
 - (a) Not to throw or permit to enter any matter whatsoever, including oil, into said Reservoir.
 - (b) Not to use a Boat capable of causing a wash likely to injure the banks of the said Reservoir.
 - (c) Not to cause any damage to or in any way interfere with the said banks or the fences or any other property of the Board
 - (d) Not to fish in the said Reservoir.
 - (e) Not to act in any manner which would cause a nuisance or annoyance to the Board or any persons in the vicinity of the said Reservoir.
 - (f) To indemnify the Board against all claims for injury to

The first clubhouse was donated by Fred Waterstone and had to be dismantled on an island in Lough Derg and transported on a boat trailer to Ballymore Eustace and then reassembled. Later it was replaced by a Nissen hut, donated by Alan Murray's father and transported all the way from Sligo.

1962 First to score more than 1000 trick points in competition

Alan Murray (Sligo) tricked 1755 points, which included extra *'form points'* and possibly a ride-out bonus, at an International with Belgium and Scotland at Golden Falls.



1962 Proudly displaying his silverware



*John Kelly (Golden Falls) the Junior Irish Champion with impressive silverware
Note the varied shape of the skis behind John.*



Crowds at the Killaloe competition

1963 First Golden Falls Competition

The first competition at Golden Falls Waterski Club had ski teams from Scotland, Wales and West Indies! The West Indies team were in Europe that year. It was a beautiful sunny day and it was estimated that 6,000 people came to watch, causing the biggest traffic jam ever seen in Ballymore Eustace. The club even arranged a steel band to play calypso music!! England were invited but did not come (and never did).



Some of those who took part in the 1963 competition. including - Noel Hogg (Meteor), Peter Ince (W Indies), David Johnson (Golden Falls), John McDowell (Meteor), John Glover (Meteor) & David Derverpeuil (W Indies), John Poynton (Golden Falls), Jimmy Leyden (Killaloe), John Kelly (Golden Falls)

1963 Open Championships

By 1963 there were 50 entries in the Killaloe competition, with competitors from England, Scotland, West Indies, Switzerland, N. Ireland (Meteor) and from the 7 affiliated IWSA clubs; (Balscadden, Century, Galway, Glenbrook, Golden Falls, Killaloe, and Sligo). The number of spectators was estimated by some newspapers as between 8,000-10,000.

programme price 6d
IRISH WATER SKI ASSOCIATION
OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS



SUNDAY REVIEW will be there too

IRISH WATER SKI ASSOCIATION

OFFICIALS 1963

President H. M. Newenham
Chairman C. E. Prentice
Hon. Secretary F. R. Waterstone
Hon. Treasurer H. Murdoch
Committee O. Coffey, F. Duffy, N. Hogg,
R. Johnson, D. Johnson, I. Johnston, J. Kelly.

1963 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUDGES: Chief Judges ... R. C. Panton } British
L. Drysdale } Water Ski
Federation
E. W. Cameron }
Mrs. Ann Cameron }
P. O. Coffey } I.W.S.A.
Assistant Judges ... R. Bewley } I.W.S.A.
H. Murdoch }
Judges' Secretary ... Sheila Thorne
Technical Committee ... R. Johnson, D. Johnson,
J. Kelly, H. Murdoch, J. Poynton.
Dock Marshalls ... G. Davis, B. O'Connor.
Commentator ... L. Thorne
Hon. Surgeon ... Dr. FitzJames Roche-Kelly

The thanks of the Irish Water Ski Association are due to the Killaloe Boat and Ski Club for the facilities afforded, and all owners of boats used in the Championships.

IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1963.

KILLALOE

CHIEF JUDGE:- R.C. PANTON

CALCULATOR:- LEWIS DRYSDALE

MEN	NAME	CLUB	SLALOM		FIGURES				JUMP				Overall Pts & Position	
			Pts.	Comb.	Run 1	Run 2	Pts.with Form	Comb	Feet	Form	Pts.with Form	Comb		
	Tony McCleery	Meteor	22	629	630	480	1182.9	839	111.5	78.05	1193	996	2463	- 1
	Alan Murray	Sligo	19½	557	570	370	994.7	705	88.0	55.73	935.7	781	2043	- 2
	Noel Hogg	Century	14	400	830	480	1410.1	1000	58.5	23.40	608.4	508	1908	- 3
	John McDowell	Century	19½	557	450	110	589.2	418	79.5	31.80	826.8	690	1665	- 4
	David Nicol	Locheamhead	6	171	445	150	621.75	441	112.0	78.40	1198	1000	1612	- 5
	David Johnson	Golden Falls	14	400	175	280	471.45	334	92.5	58.50	983.5	821	1555	- 6
	Roger Johnson	Golden Falls	4½	129	380	580	1023.4	726	70.5	35.25	740.3	618	1472	- 7
	Tim Burke	Meteor	19½	557	170	300	487.1	346	58.0	21.27	601.3	502	1404	- 8
	John Glover	Meteor	4	114	680	70	792.2	562	80.5	45.62	850.6	710.1	1386	- 9
	John Poyton	Golden Falls	5	143	350	100	473.0	335	89.0	62.30	952.3	795	1273	- 10
	Aubrey Sheena	Ruislip	6	171	210	175	398.65	283	81.0	40.50	850.5	710	1164	- 11
	John Kelly	Golden Falls	4	114	200	50	257.0	182	73.0	34.07	764.0	638	934	- 12
	David Christie	Loch Lomond	4	114	110	70	184.7	131	73.5	41.65	776.7	648	893	- 13
	Hans Baumgartner	Switzerland	35	1000	Fall	Fall	-	-	74.0	29.60	770.0	642	(1642)	
	Brian Cullen	Killaloe	1½	43	-	-	-	-	77.0	33.37	803.4	670	(713)	
	Jim Beaton	Loch Lomond	4½	129	215	185	416.30	295	Fall	-	-	-	(510)	
	Brian Johnston	Century	2	57	60	50	111.10	79	Fall	-	-	-	(139)	
	Fergus Lawless	Golden Falls	3½	100	100	50	152.5	108	-	-	-	-	(208)	
LADIES														
	Joyce Croal	Locheamhead	12	1000	185	50	245	1000	46	-	-	1000	3000	- 1
	Carole Walsh	Ruislip	10	833.3	150	0	155	632.2	40.5	-	-	880.4	2346	- 2

IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1963.

KILLALOE

CHIEF JUDGE:- R.C. PANTON

CALCULATOR:- LEWIS DRYSDALE

JUNIOR EVENTS MEN NAME	CLUB	SLALOM		FIGURES				JUMP			Overall Pts.& Position				
		Pts.	Comb.	Run 1	Run 2	Pts. with Form	Comb	Feet	Form	Pts. with Form		Comb.			
M. Brazier	Halstead	5	238	285	70	373	1000	55			815	2053	-	1	
B. Galvin	Glenbrook	21	1000	60	40	102	273	49				726	1999	-	2
David Pim	Golden Falls	4	190	150	35	185	515	60				889	1595	-	3
Kevin Hallinan	Galway Salthill	2	95	205	0	213	571	58				859	1525	-	4
Brian O'Neill	Golden Falls	5	238	30	100	134	359	45½				674	1271	-	5
Denis Long	Balscadden	2½	119	60	75	138	369	47				696	1185	-	6
Tony Toher	Sligo	5	238	60	40	101	272	43				637	1147	-	7
Henry Murdoch	Balscadden	1	48	130	75	213	570	F				-			
Richard Bewley	Golden Falls	4½	214	-	-	-	-	-				-			
Alan Dagg	Glenbrook	13½	643	0	60	61	164	F				-			
F.Roche-Kelly	Killaloe	5	238	-	-	-	-	-				-			
Colin Ayers	Borgfield	3	143	-	-	-	-	67½				1000			
Jim Leyden	Killaloe	3	143	-	-	-	-	-				-			
Cecil Prentice	Balscadden	3	143	130	50	184	495	-				-			
Pat Grubb	Killaloe	2½	119	-	-	-	-	-				-			
Kevin Murray	Sligo	12	571	150	120	279	748	-				-			
John Fields	Ruislip	3	143	-	-	-	-	-				-			
JUNIOR LADIES															
Roslyn Bruce	Lochearnhead	11	579	100	0	102	472	46½				1000	2051	-	1
Deirdre Frawley	Killaloe	2	105	120	0	124	572	43½				935	1613	-	2
Brenda Anderson	Sligo	3	158	100	0	103	475	36				774	1407	-	3
Jean Pim	Golden Falls	3	158	20	0	20	94	31				667	918	-	4
El Johnson	Golden Falls	11	579	-	-	-	-	33				710			
Brenda Frawley	Killaloe	19	1000	-	-	-	-	-				-			
Hilary Murdoch	Balscadden	-	-	120	90	216	1000	-				-			
Emear Frawley	Killaloe	2	105	-	-	-	-	-				-			
Wendy Wardell	Killaloe	2	105	-	-	-	-	-				-			
Ruth Johnson	Golden Falls	9½	500	-	-	-	-	-				-			
Katy Poynton	Golden Falls	2	105	-	-	-	-	-				-			

1963 Home countries Waterski Team Competition held in Ireland (First!)

Over Easter Sat 13th & Mon 15th April, Meteor WSC staged a 3-event team competition between England, Scotland, RoI & N Ireland. Possibly the first international waterski team event staged in Ulster/Ireland. Among the skiers were: John Glover (Meteor), Brian Johnston (Meteor) & David Johnson (Golden Falls).

On Saturday it was almost called off due to 9inch waves, strong winds and heavy rain, but they persevered. On Monday the weather had greatly improved to allow Tony McCleery (Meteor) and John McDowell (Meteor) to attempt a barefoot demonstration and be the first in Ireland to ski barefoot together. John faltered and Tony made it for 20yds only, but John got the better of him in the skiing competition by winning the Overall with 2152 pts while Tony was 2nd with 2005pts.

Overall placement: 1st N Ireland, 2nd R o Ireland 'A', 3rd England.



1963 First to jump 100ft (30mtrs) in competition

Tony McCleery (Meteor) jumped 104ft 4ins (31,8mtrs) at Cold Water Championships, Lochearnhead, Scotland.

1963 First European success

Tony McCleery (Meteor) achieved 4th overall with 2125 points when skiing on the NI team at the Cold Water Countries championships at Lochearnhead, Scotland. He was 7th in slalom with 14 buoys, 5th in tricks with 850 points and 1st in jump 31.8mtrs.

1964 Skiers represent Ireland at European Championships

After the Irish Close Championships at Killaloe, Co. Clare a team was selected to represent Ireland at the European & African Championships in Rome, July 27th to 3rd August 1964 and at the Northern European Championships, Amsterdam on August 21st-23rd. The skiers selected; Alan Murray (Sligo), David Johnson (Golden Falls), John McDowell (Century) & Noel Hogg (Century). Some 20 skiers and friends accompanied the Irish team to Amsterdam to give their support.

The 1964 Europeans in Rome were held on a lake at Castlegandolfo, the Pope's Summer residence.

1964 Waterski Carnival

Following the West of Ireland Waterski Championships at Hazlewood, Sligo on 17th May a Waterski Carnival was held on the Whit Monday with admission 2/6d and included barefoot skiing, jumping, ski-cycling, and ski pillow fights!



Raymond Heavey on disc and chair



Brian McCarthy, Ursula Maurer & Desmond Maurer

1964 First to score 2000 trick points in competition

Alan Murray (Sligo) was awarded the score of 2000, which would have included extra 'form points' and possibly a 'ride out' bonus.

1964 Smokey promotion for the Nationals!

In the 60s Players cigarettes bought an old tram which they trucked around the country as a promotional tool for events they were sponsoring. It came with people in period costume handing out free ciggies!



A young Alan Dagg proudly showing off his silverware in 1964

1965 10p for a ski run! (You wish.)

In 1965 Carrybridge Aqua club charged 2/- (10p) for a ski run, this was behind the club's first boat, a 16ft marine-ply open runabout constructed by club member George Montgomery. It was powered by a new 50 H.P. Penta 3-cylinder outboard motor, purchased for £245. By 1966 the engine was giving considerable problems and a new 50HP electrically started Mercury out board was purchased for £340. As a consequence, the ski run fee would have to increase by 25% to half-a-crown – 2/6 (12½p).

1965 Exams in Germany

In Trier, Germany, Cecil Prentice (Golden Falls) and Henry Murdoch (Balscadden) undertook their judge's exams. Both were successful with Cecil appointed as a National judge and Henry appointed as Ireland's first International judge. Alan Murray (Sligo) and Alan Dagg (Golden Falls) both competed in the Northern European Championships.



Cecil Prentice, Alan Murray, Alan Dagg & Henry Murdoch, Germany 1965

1965 Ireland v Denmark v Gt. Britain International

Golden Falls Waterski Club held the Leinster Open at Ballymore Eustace on Saturday 7th August followed on Sunday 8th with an Ireland v Denmark v Gt. Britain international competition. Potentially the first time that a team from mainland European had skied at a ski competition in Ireland.

Ireland Team - Alan Murray (Sligo), John McDowell (Century), Tim Burke (Golden Falls) & David Johnson (Golden Falls).

Denmark won with 5831 Gt Britain 5670 Ireland's 5409 overall points

An all-Ireland panel of officials: Chief Judge, Henry Murdoch. Panel Judges: Roger Johnson, Fred Duffy, Leo Conway & Richard Bewley.

1965 Irish Open Championships - 'with form'!

The official results of the Irish Open Championships, held at Killaloe, are some of the earliest on record. They are particularly noteworthy as they show the 'with form' for tricks and jump.

In the early days of competition 'form points', could be awarded by the panel of judges for style or form and added to the actual score. With the addition of form points a jump of 51ft could become 56ft! There

was little consistency as individual judges varied considerably in the awarding of these points. In jump, the upright style with one hand beside the leg, while in the air, was favoured. The skier who jumped furthest or scored the highest value in tricks deserved to win, but when form points were added this could change placings. This practice was eventually abolished.

IRISH OPEN WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS - KILLALOE - 11/9/65 to 12/9/65											
MENS SENIOR											
NAME		SLALOM		TRICKS			JUMP			Overall	Place
		Buoys	Points	Score	With Form	Points	Feet	With Form	Points		
L. O'Reilly	E	15	1000	665	730	650	101 $\frac{1}{4}$	107 $\frac{3}{4}$	664	2314	1
N. Vinding	D	3	200	1015	1123	1000	122 $\frac{3}{4}$	132	1000	2200	2
D. Croal	S	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	233	650	678	604	106 $\frac{1}{4}$	114	745	1582	3
J. Morse	W	3	200	395	410	366	112 $\frac{1}{4}$	119 $\frac{1}{4}$	819	1385	4
B. Johnson	S	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	233	465	512	456	90 $\frac{3}{4}$	96 $\frac{1}{4}$	531	1220	5
N. Hogg	I	3	200	720	752	670	57	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	203	1073	6
T. Burke	I	5	333	470	488	435	64 $\frac{1}{4}$	67	258	1026	7
A. Dagg	I	4	267	270	280	249	89 $\frac{1}{4}$	94	507	1023	8
J. Kelly	I	3	200	130	134	120	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{4}$	237	557	9
D. Maurer	I	1	67	95	97	87	51 $\frac{3}{4}$	53 $\frac{3}{4}$	166	320	10
D. Johnson	I	-	-	780	812	724	90	94 $\frac{1}{4}$	515	(1239)	
P. Emslie	E	4	267	650	699	623	-	-	-	(890)	
D. Walling	E	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	167	-	-	-	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	81	376	(543)	
G. Stevens	E	2	133	-	-	-	57 $\frac{3}{4}$	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	205	(338)	
B. Cullen	I	-	-	-	-	-	69 $\frac{3}{4}$	73	306	(306)	
T. McCleery	I	4	267	-	-	-	-	-	-	(267)	
J. Poynton	I	2	133	-	-	-	-	-	-	(133)	
A. Murray	I	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	167	-	-	-	-	-	-	(167)	

1966 Ireland v Scotland v Wales

Golden Falls Waterski Club held the Leinster Open at Ballymore Eustace on Saturday (Alan Murray – Sligo the overall winner) and on the Sunday May 8th staged an Ireland v Scotland v Wales competition.

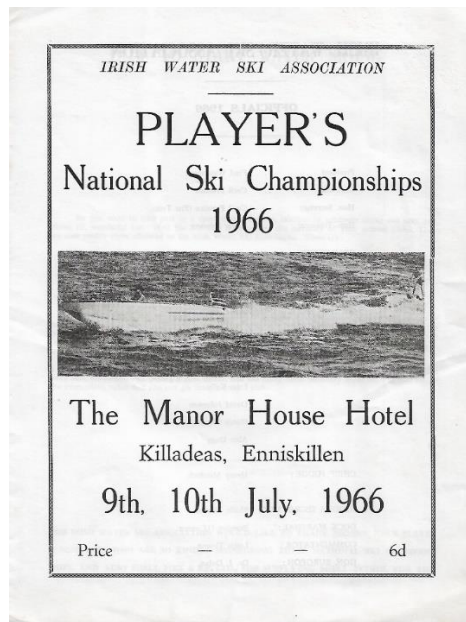
Irish team: Alan Murray (Sligo), Alan Dagg (Golden Falls), John McDowell (Century), David Johnson (Golden Falls)

Alan Murray was the overall winner and his 2556 points in tricks was the highest tricks score ever recorded in Ireland. Results: Scotland 7389pts Ireland 6300pts Wales 3569pts

1966 The Irish Nationals, which caused a bit of a stir

The IWSA held its National Championships in Enniskillen. This was the first time that a club on its own had run the National championships, up to then the IWSA organised the competition at a club's site.

The territorial area of Northern Ireland being under British jurisdiction caused an issue with the British Waterski Federation.



1966-7 A unique issue and resolution!

In 1966 there was a major jurisdiction dispute between the Irish Water Ski Association and the British Waterski Federation. The IWSA maintained it was a 32 county all-Ireland body, whereas the British Federation maintained that they had exclusive jurisdiction over the six counties of Northern Ireland. In 1966 the British Federation imposed a ban on its skiers participating in IWSA competitions. They claimed that the IWSA had no right to hold its national championships in Enniskillen the previous July, as Enniskillen, being in the territorial area of Northern Ireland, was under British jurisdiction. They further called on the IWSA to compel clubs in Northern Ireland to relinquish their affiliation to the Irish body. The matter was brought to a head at a meeting of the world body in West Berlin (then a divided city) in 1967, attended by Cecil Prentice and Henry Murdoch. The IWSA had the support of water ski clubs in Northern Ireland, whose skiers had a greater chance of being selected for a national side in Ireland than in the UK. A compromise proposal was subsequently accepted, that there should be joint jurisdiction, with clubs in Northern Ireland being eligible to affiliate to either the Irish or the British bodies.

This resolved the matter and led to an innovative Irish solution to an Irish problem. For example, Century and Meteor water ski clubs. Century affiliated to the Irish body (IWSA) and its skiers were eligible to ski in Irish competitions and ski on Irish teams, whereas Meteor affiliated to the British body (BWSF). The two clubs had a common membership, shared the same premises and the same lake!

1968 Ireland v Scotland Competition

Golden Falls Waterski Club held the Leinster Open at Ballymore Eustace on Saturday 29th June followed on Sunday 30th with an Ireland v Scotland competition. One of the first Ireland v Scotland waterski competitions held in Ireland.

Ireland team - Alan Murray (Sligo), Alan Dagg, (Golden Falls), Jimmy Leyden (Killaloe), Des Maurer (Killaloe). Scotland team – Bill Johnson, Sandy Gilmore, Ian Blackwood, Ian Brown.

It was reported that it was the finest skiing display seen in Ireland. Every skier but 1 jumped over 100ft. Despite a fierce struggle Scotland won by a narrow margin 12223 to Ireland's 12919 points.

Chief Judge, Henry Murdoch. Panel Judges: John Kelly, Richard Bewley & Cecil Prentice. Commentary by Noel Dagg.

1968 Ireland's first Interclub Competition

The Killaloe Waterski Club held the Munster Open on the River Shannon, Sunday 4th August and on Monday 5th held Ireland's first Interclub. Eight clubs were represented: Fiddown, Golden Falls, Killaloe, Sligo, Century, Balscadden, Penguin & Lough Erne. Golden Falls were the winners.

Richard Crisp recalls: 'The guy doing the commentary was so good that all we wanted to do was get back on the bank to hear the next part of the story he was concocting to fit in with what he saw on the water. Golden Falls won the competition and I'm sure the commentator deserved most of the credit. He really was very entertaining.'

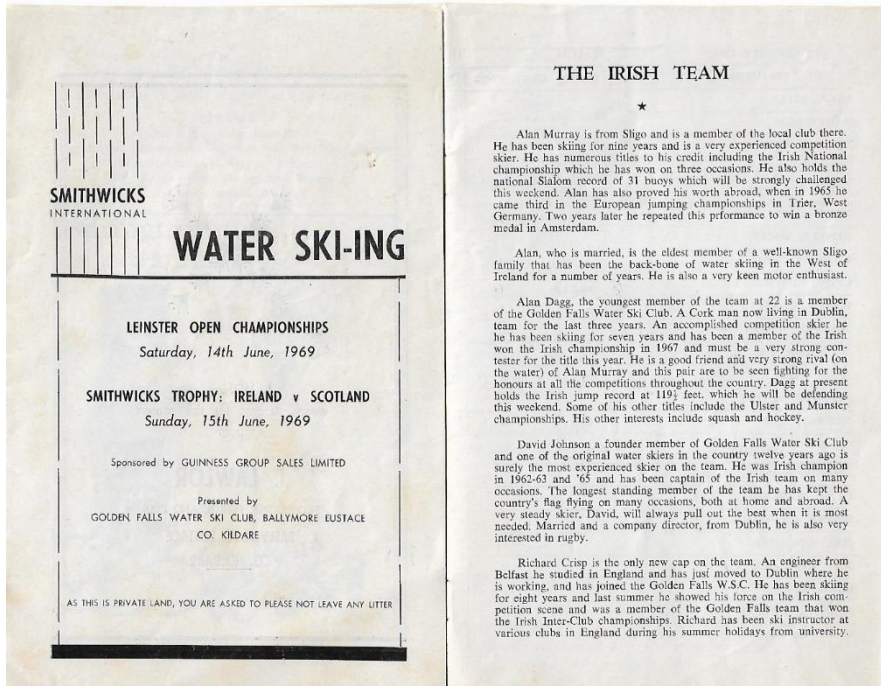


1969 Out jumped by Scotland

Golden Falls Waterski Club held the Leinster Open at Ballymore Eustace on Saturday 14th June followed on Sunday 15th with an Ireland v Scotland competition.

Ireland team - Alan Murray (Sligo), Alan Dagg, David Johnson & Richard Crisp, (all Golden Falls). Alan Murray won the tricks and Alan Dagg was the best overall skier. There were only 25 points separating the teams going into the jump, but in the end, Scotland won with 5751 overall points against Ireland's 5151.

Chief Judge, Henry Murdoch. Panel Judges: Roger Johnson, John McDowell, John Kelly & Cecil Prentice.



The Ireland v Scotland or Celtic Challenge continued on and off for many years, alternating between Ireland and Scotland, sometimes including Wales, with teams of up to 8 men and 2 ladies. Places on the team were strongly contested and it was a great honour and achievement to be selected. A highlight for many and for some a launch pad to competing in European and World Championships.



1969 Meteor and Century WSCs (same but different!)



1970 Republic of Ireland v Wales V N. Ireland

Golden Falls Waterski Club held the Leinster Open at Ballymore Eustace on Saturday 15th August followed on Sunday 16th with a Republic of Ireland v Wales v N. Ireland competition. Potentially the first time a ROI and NI waterski teams had been formed and competed against each other.

ROI Team - Alan Dagg - Captain, David Johnson, Roger Bewley (all Golden Falls), Alan Murray (Sligo).
NI Team - Richard Crisp - Captain, (Golden Falls), Geoff Shanks, Paul McCandless, Irvine McKay (all Meteor)

1st ROI 6058pts 2nd Wales 3668pts 3rd NI 2879pts

An all-Ireland panel: Chief Judge, Henry Murdoch. Panel Judges: Roger Johnson, John McDowell, John Kelly & Cecil Prentice.

SMITHWICKS
INTERNATIONAL

WATER SKI-ING

LEINSTER OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS
SATURDAY, 15th AUGUST, 1970

SMITHWICKS TROPHY:
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND v WALES v N. IRELAND
SUNDAY, 16th AUGUST, 1970

Sponsored by
GUINNESS GROUP SALES LIMITED

Presented by
GOLDEN FALLS WATER SKI CLUB, BALLYMORE EUSTACE
CO. KILDARE

As this is private land, you are asked to please not leave any litter

LEINSTER OPEN
SATURDAY

	SLALOM			
	BOYS	OVERALL	PLACE	POINTS
BOTTELLIER, DIETMAR
HOGG, WILLIE
BRAGG, ERIC
RINGWOOD, ROY
THONDOE, MIKE
LISINSKI, COLIN
HASLAM, DAVID
KAVANAGH, PAUL
SHADDICK, ROBERT
McKAY, IRVINE
SEAMAN, BRIAN
BEWLEY, ROGER
WHITLA, BRIAN
BRANHAM, LIONEL
JOHNSON, DAVID
SHANKS, GEOFF
JENKINS, CLIVE
MURRAY, ALAN
CRISP, RICHARD
LYNN, DAVID
DAGG, ALAN

SUNDAY

	REPUBLIC
McKAY, IRVINE (N.Ire.)	...
SEAMAN, BRIAN (W.)	...
BEWLEY, ROGER (R.I.)	...
WHITLA, BRIAN (N.Ire.)	...
BRANHAM, LIONEL (W.)	...
JOHNSON, DAVID (R.I.)	...
SHANKS, GEOFF (N.Ire.)	...
JENKINS, CLIVE (W.)	...
MURRAY, ALAN (R.I.)	...
CRISP, RICHARD (N.Ire.)	...
LYNN, DAVID (W.)	...
DAGG, ALAN (R.I.)	...

1970 Guinness – Long term Sponsorship of the Ulster Open

Geoff Shanks (Meteor) happened to play on the same squash team as Jim Mooney, owner of the Wellington Park Hotel, Belfast and Ray Martin the then Marketing Director of Guinness N I. It was over a lunch that the idea was floated and in 1970 Guinness agreed to sponsor the Ulster Open, for a modest £50. Guinness's unbroken sponsorship of the Ulster Open at Meteor continued for 30 years until 1999. A rare commitment by a commercial company to sponsor a sporting event for so long.

THE GUINNESS OPEN WATER-SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

— AT —
**METEOR WATER SKI CLUB, LOUGH HENNEY,
 CO. DOWN**
SATURDAY, 5th SEPTEMBER, 1970

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A great deal of effort goes into the preparation of a competition of this sort, and we are indebted to many people, particularly the following :—

<p>To : OUR SPONSORS</p> <p>OUR LANDLORDS</p> <p>DICK GRAHAM AND FAMILY</p> <p>ROBERT CRAIG & SONS LTD and HARRY BARRINGTON of Shandon Park Service Station</p> <p>WELLINGTON PARK HOTEL, Belfast</p> <p>WHITE HORSE HOTEL, Ballynahinch</p>	<p>Messrs. A. Guinness & Sons Ltd.</p> <p>Mr. S. Foreman, Mr. J. Girvan, Mr. W. Davies and Mr. Kilpatrick, who overlook Lough Henney and many other things.</p> <p>Of the Temple Service Station, who give freely of time and energy in making our inboard boat go, but are always terrified of our making off with four gallons of petrol without it being signed for.</p> <p>For sterling work and advice on our outboard motor.</p> <p>For lots of valuable behind-the-scenes advice.</p> <p>For revitalizing Meteor Club Members on Saturday Lunchtimes during the Season.</p>
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And to many others, including some of our Members who have rescued us from near disaster from time to time.

A Note on the Events is printed on the back page of this Programme.

Winners of the 1st Guinness Open - 1970

	SLALOM	TRICKS	JUMP	OVERALL
SENIORS	John McDowell	Richard Crisp	Richard Crisp	Richard Crisp
JUNIORS	Willie Hogg	Willie Hogg	Anthony Murray	Anthony Murray
LADIES	Brenda Anderson	Brenda Anderson	Brenda Anderson	Brenda Anderson

SENIOR MEN

Name	Club	SLALOM		TRICKS		JUMP		Overall Individual Totals
		Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points	
1. *P. McCandless, Q.U.B.								
2. R. Bewley, Golden Falls								
3. *B. Whith, Meteor								
4. *G. Shanks, Meteor								
5. D. Haslam, Golden Falls								
6. *J. McDowell, Meteor								
7. *R. Crisp, Golden Falls								
8. A. Dagg, Golden Falls								
9. P. Kavanagh, Golden Falls								
10. *I. McKay, Meteor								
11. Alan Murray, Sligo								

LADIES

Name	Club	SLALOM		TRICKS		JUMP		Overall Individual Totals
		Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points	
1. Claire Hekey, Golden Falls								
2. Dilys Owen, Golden Falls								
3. *Jean Drummond, Meteor								
4. *Kirsten Rally, Meteor								
5. Brenda Anderson, Sligo								
6. *Rosemarie Emmerson, Meteor								
7. *Siddley Bloomer, New Ferry								
8. Marie Cooke, Dub. Balscaddan								
9. *Jennifer Lorrimer, Meteor								
10. P. Egan, Golden Falls								

* Those names marked with an asterisk are eligible for the Ulster Close Competition, which is being run concurrently with the Guinness Open.

JUNIOR MEN

Name	Club	SLALOM		TRICKS		JUMP		Overall Individual Totals
		Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points	
1. *R. Fetherston, Meteor								
2. *R. Eves, Meteor								
3. *B. Johnston, Meteor								
4. M. Thornlee, Golden Falls								
5. J. Hickey, Golden Falls								
6. C. Owen, Golden Falls								
7. *J. Collins, Q.U.B.								
8. *P. Glover, New Ferry								
9. S. Symmons, Golden Falls								
10. W. Hogg, Golden Falls								
11. Antony Murray, Sligo								
12. *P. McCaffrey, Penguin								
13. K. Diskin, Golden Falls								
14. N. Canton, Golden Falls								
15. *D. Fair, Meteor								
16. R. Ringwood, Golden Falls								
17. *G. Gibson, Meteor								
18. C. Prentice, Dublin/Balscaddan								
19. *C. McCooke, New Ferry								
20. N. Linter, Meteor								
21. *J. Rodgers, Q.U.B.								
22. G. Sweeney, Sligo								
23. *J. Fair, Meteor								
24. *R. Campbell, Meteor								
25. *W. Crawford, New Ferry								
26. *A. McCourt, New Ferry								
27. *J. Mairs, Meteor								
28. R. McDonald, Golden Falls								
29. *J. Brown, Golden Falls								
30. *S. England, Meteor								



Lovely day for a Guinness.

Cormac Fitzpatrick and Jane Magowan in promo action in 1987 - Stout work!!



Geoff Shanks receiving the Guinness perpetual cup



1992 - Jane Magowan (Chairwoman Meteor), Cormac Fitzpatrick, Guinness rep & Barbara Fair.

The 1992 Guinness Ulster Open saw the closest finish ever with Cormac Fitzpatrick (Meteor) accumulating 1524.6 overall points as against clubmate Chris McBrinn's (Meteor) 1523.8.

1970 Best 'Overall' - 'Overall' skier.

The Irish Water Ski Association awarded the David Cosgrove Trophy to the skier, male, female, junior, or senior, who had the best total score from the following competitions: Irish Open, Irish Nationals and the 4 x Provincial Competitions. 1970 was the first year of the trophy and it was awarded to Brenda Anderson (Sligo) who scored 14,761 out of a possible 15,000 points, a magnificent achievement.

1.	Brenda Anderson (Sligo)	14,761
2.	Alan Dagg (Golden Falls)	9,879
3.	Richard Crisp (GF)	9,324
4.	Paul Kavanagh (GF)	8,304
5.	Peter Kirwan (DB)	7,618
6.	Roy Ringwood (GF)	7,604
7.	Mike Thornloe	7,473
8.	Brian Whittia (Century)	7,429
9.	David Haslam (Killaloe)	6,198



Rita Ryan (left) presenting Brenda Anderson with the Cosgrove Trophy

The 1971 Winner was Alan Dagg of Golden Falls. The top ten were as follows:-

*1. Alan Dagg.	Golden Falls W.S.C.	12885 points.	Senior
2. Noel Hogg.	Golden Falls W.S.C.	8624	Junior
3. Richard Crisp.	Golden Falls W.S.C.	7955	Senior
4. Dietmar Bottcher.	Sligo W.S.C.	6076	Junior
5. Antony Murray.	Sligp W.S.C.	6035	Junior/senior
6. Brenda Anderson.	Sligo W.S.C.	5000	Ladies
7. David Fair.	Century W.S.C.	4786	Junior
8. Gary Gibson.	Century W. EE S.C.	4637	Junior/senior
9. Rger Bewley.	Golden Falls W.S.C.	4370	Senior
10. Jean Drummond.	Century W.S.C.	4366	Ladies

The competitions which were included in the Cosgrove trophy in 1971 were-

The West of Ireland Championships, Munster Open Championships, Ulster (Guinness) Open Championships and Irish Open Championships.

1971 An Historic Photo of the IWSA Committee



(Clockwise from Left) Roger Johnson, Noel Canton, Peter Kerwan, Alan Dagg, Henry Murdoch, Noel Dagg, Richard Crisp, Cecil Prentice (President), Charles Delaney, Rita Ryan




1971 Ireland v U K Team Competition – Close, Very Close!

Golden Falls Waterski Club held the Leinster Open at Ballymore Eustace on Saturday 14th August followed on Sunday 15th with an Ireland v U K competition

Teams were comprised of 6 skiers each. The Ireland Team – Jimmy Leyden (Killaloe), David Haslam, Paul Kavanagh, Alan Dagg, Richard Crisp & Roger Bewley (all Golden Falls).

Alan Dagg took first place in slalom, tricks and jump, personally accumulating 3000 points. The final overall team points were separated by only 9 points! Ireland 7358, UK 7367.

An all-Ireland panel: Chief Judge, Henry Murdoch. Panel Judges: Roger Johnson, John McDowell, John Kelly & Cecil Prentice

<p style="text-align: center;">WATER SKI-ING C. E. CRISP</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> 1971 LEINSTER OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS Saturday 14th. Aug. </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> SMITHWICKS TROPHY Sunday 15th. Aug. IRELAND v U.K. </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Presented by GOLDEN FALLS WATER SKI CLUB, BALLYMORE EUSTACE CO. KILDARE </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> As this is private land, you are asked to please not leave any litter </p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LEINSTER PEPSI OPEN</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>McCOOKE, Charlie (New Ferry)</td></tr> <tr><td>DISKIN, Kevin (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>CRAIG, Conor (New Ferry)</td></tr> <tr><td>HOGG, Willie (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>SHANKS, Geoff (Meteor)</td></tr> <tr><td>BAILIE, Joe (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>McCANDLESS, Paul (Queen's University)</td></tr> <tr><td>RINGWOOD, Ray (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>SCOTT, Nevil (Bradford)</td></tr> <tr><td>THORNELOE, Mike (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>JOHNSON, Roger (Piddown)</td></tr> <tr><td>NEWBOLD, Jim (White Cross)</td></tr> <tr><td>HASLAM, David (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>WEBB, Kingsley (Cirencester)</td></tr> <tr><td>KAVANAGH, Paul (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>MORSE, Garry (Princes)</td></tr> <tr><td>LEYDEN, Jimmy (Killaloe)</td></tr> <tr><td>LYNN, David (Cirencester)</td></tr> <tr><td>BEWLEY, Roger (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>WILLIAMS, John (Princes)</td></tr> <tr><td>CRISP, Richard (Golden Falls)</td></tr> <tr><td>ABBOTT, John (Burghfield)</td></tr> <tr><td>DAGG, Alan (Golden Falls)</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">SUNDAY</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>NEWBOLD, Jim</td></tr> <tr><td>HASLAM, David (Ireland)</td></tr> <tr><td>WEBB, Kingsley</td></tr> <tr><td>KAVANAGH, Paul (Ireland)</td></tr> <tr><td>MORSE, Gary</td></tr> <tr><td>LEYDEN, Jimmy (Ireland)</td></tr> <tr><td>LYNN, David</td></tr> <tr><td>BEWLEY, Roger (Ireland)</td></tr> <tr><td>WILLIAMS, John</td></tr> <tr><td>CRISP, Richard (Ireland)</td></tr> <tr><td>ABBOTT, John</td></tr> <tr><td>DAGG, Alan (Ireland)</td></tr> </table>	McCOOKE, Charlie (New Ferry)	DISKIN, Kevin (Golden Falls)	CRAIG, Conor (New Ferry)	HOGG, Willie (Golden Falls)	SHANKS, Geoff (Meteor)	BAILIE, Joe (Golden Falls)	McCANDLESS, Paul (Queen's University)	RINGWOOD, Ray (Golden Falls)	SCOTT, Nevil (Bradford)	THORNELOE, Mike (Golden Falls)	JOHNSON, Roger (Piddown)	NEWBOLD, Jim (White Cross)	HASLAM, David (Golden Falls)	WEBB, Kingsley (Cirencester)	KAVANAGH, Paul (Golden Falls)	MORSE, Garry (Princes)	LEYDEN, Jimmy (Killaloe)	LYNN, David (Cirencester)	BEWLEY, Roger (Golden Falls)	WILLIAMS, John (Princes)	CRISP, Richard (Golden Falls)	ABBOTT, John (Burghfield)	DAGG, Alan (Golden Falls)	NEWBOLD, Jim	HASLAM, David (Ireland)	WEBB, Kingsley	KAVANAGH, Paul (Ireland)	MORSE, Gary	LEYDEN, Jimmy (Ireland)	LYNN, David	BEWLEY, Roger (Ireland)	WILLIAMS, John	CRISP, Richard (Ireland)	ABBOTT, John	DAGG, Alan (Ireland)
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1971 100 Miles ski on Lough Erne!

On 29th August Joe Crawford (Carrybridge Aqua Club) was the first to ski from Carrybridge to Enniskillen then to Belleck with a non-stop turnaround, returning to Carrybridge and continuing to Belturbet and back to Carrybridge. It took 4hrs 51mins and was behind a Glastron powered by a 140HP Mercruiser inboard with outdrive.

1972 The Speedy Doctor from Dublin!

Dr. Kevin Diskin, (Golden Falls) achieved a speed of 63mph when skiing at Kill Village in April. He was powered by a Triumph 1300 car driven along the road which runs parallel to the canal for nearly 2 miles. Richard Gorman, behind a Fiat 125 car driven by a rally driver, attempted to better Kevin but when travelling at a speed a little in excess of Kevin's, he came unstuck and broke his arm.

1972 Olympic Honour

Alan Dagg (Golden Falls) was 1 of only 14 skiers selected worldwide by the WWSU to compete in an Olympic waterski trial event, Munich, Germany. An amazing accolade and recognition of his skiing talents.



Alan's recount of the event:

'The 1972 Munich Olympic trial was interesting but did not showcase water skiing very well. The German Federation were responsible for all the on-water arrangements and the WWSU selected the skiers. There were 14 skiers chosen from around the world, with eight skiers in each event. So, about half skied in all three events and I was selected for the jump only.

The main stadium was in Munich but water sports like rowing and sailing were in Kiel in northern Germany, so that was also the venue for the skiing. They decided the harbour was a great location for spectators and built a ramp and slalom course. A northerly wind blew all week and in familiarisation only one skier managed a slalom pass. They brought in the German Navy who moved the slalom course

overnight to a nice lake where they ran slalom and tricks in front of 2 Olympic officials who had no idea what was going on! It was too hard to move the jump, so we jumped in the biggest rollers I have ever skied on. The jump varied in height by about 18" depending on which part of the wave was at the bottom of the ramp. Wayne Grimdich was the current world jump record holder at the time and only managed 99ft, I was luckier and got over 100ft, for about 7th place. With heaps of pass ups the whole thing was a dismal failure with Olympic officials deciding it was too dependent on mechanical devices (boats) and the drivers.

We stayed in the Olympic village and we all got commemorative medals, but I remember it as a lot of hanging around waiting for better weather and not much fun sleeping in spartan dormitories with 12 others.'

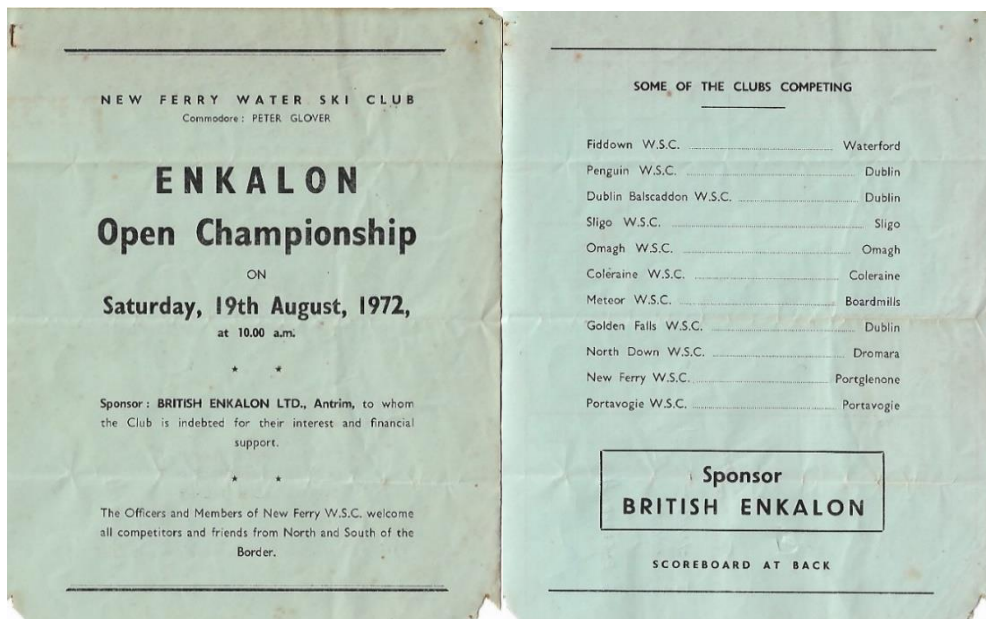
1972 Formation of the Northern Ireland Regional Group

The NI Regional Group (of the British Waterski Federation) was formed in 1972, the Chairman was Irvine McKay and Secretary/Treasurer Paul McCandless. Initially it was formed with 5 clubs (Meteor, Newferry, QUB, Omagh & Coleraine). The NIRG continued until 1981 when it aligned to the Irish Waterski Association and changed to the Northern Ireland Waterski Association.



1972 Time-bomb!

One a sunny afternoon late April a time-bomb was found at the rear of Newferry WSC boathouse. Discovered in time it was removed to a safe place by experts and detonated harmlessly. Undeterred, later that summer Newferry ran a very successful 3-event tournament with 11 ski clubs listed.



1972 Long distance record

On 27th August Joe Crawford (Carrybridge Aqua Club) undertook a skiing marathon. It was a 10-mile circuit taking in Carrybridge, Bellisle and Knock Island. Joe completed 20 circuits = 200 miles in approx. 8hrs. The drivers were Fred Johnston and Margaret & Paddy Brand. This was claimed as an Irish long-distance record and as far as is known, still is. The event raised a large amount of money for the Ulster Cancer Foundation.

1973 The end of an era.

The Munster championships, which always took place in Killaloe, had to be diverted in 1970 to Sligo as the Killaloe Club was not in a position to run the competition. The Irish Open in 1971 was offered to Killaloe but again they were not prepared to run it and Golden Falls had to step in at the last minute. Although the Munster championships returned to Killaloe in 1972 and the Irish Open championships were held in Killaloe in 1972 and 1973, no further championships were held there after that date. Skiing on the River Shannon later transferred to O'Brien's Bridge.



1973 Barefoot Record

William (Billy) Hamilton (North Down) set a Northern Ireland record (also an all-Ireland record?) barefooting for 8 minutes 24 seconds.

1974 National Barefoot Waterski Championships (First!)

Held the 8th & 9th June. The competition included start methods, wake slalom and tricks.

11 bare foot skiers took part; B Aitkins winning start methods & tricks; M Wilkes winning wake slalom. Overall placings 1st B Atkins 2842.11; 2nd M Wilkes 2162.5; 3rd A Lloyd 1794.08

An International was also staged, with S Curtis the only jump competitor and the overall winner.

1974 Waterski Racing (First!)

Held off Bangor pier, Co. Down on 30th June in conjunction with Powerboat races, the ski racing was organised by John Connery, NIRG Racing Officer and member of North Down WSC.

6 boats took part, the skiers were: Derek Russel, Jackie Crawford, Willie Hamilton, Harry Roberts, Allen Hanley & Billy Groves.

The winners were: Billy Groves and driver Hugh Holmes 441pts; 2nd place-Allen Hanley and driver R Ramsey 397 pts; 3rd place-Harry Roberts and driver Ron English 287pts.

NIRG panel of officials: Chief Judge, George Crisp. Panel Judges: Geoff Shanks & Stuart England

Stuart recalls: 'We, the judges stood at the end of the pier and never having judged such a ski race before, I naively thought we would simply start the race, watch them go around the course 5 times and award 1st place to the first to do so, easy. The first couple of laps went well but then the boat wakes started to churn up the water and the rough water started to cause skiers to fall. Drivers would then return to pick up their skiers and then continue racing. For the next few laps there were skiers falling, boats coming and going all directions, it was chaotic. How we sorted out the placings is still a mystery to me. I was glad that George and Geoff were on the ball! '

1974 First International Barefoot Success

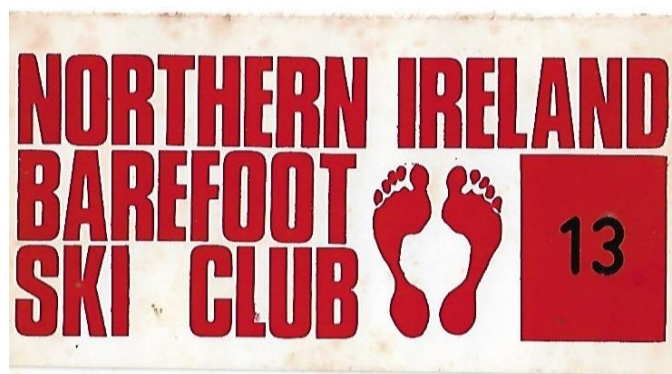
Jackie Crawford (North Down) took part in an international barefoot competition in Banolas, Spain. Jackie had not actually been over a barefoot jump before but decided to 'give it a go! He not only jumped a distance of 13.5mtrs, and with an added bonus for a feet-to-feet landing, he took 1st place in jump.



1975 Formation of the Northern Ireland Barefoot Club

Willie Hamilton (North Down) was only the 23rd graded barefoot skier (UK), he was the driving force for barefoot skiing and was instrumental in forming the NI Barefoot Club in 1975. There were only 9 graded bare foot skiers in NI at the time. To qualify as a graded skier required the skier to ski unaided on a rope for 1 minute (½ minute women & juniors).

Willie Hamilton (23), Geoff Shanks (50), John Connory (65), Jackie Crawford (66), George Gray (89), Billy Groves (90), Stuart England (92), Paul Hopkins (95), Willeen Gray (96). All were in the first 100 to ever be graded and receive their 'barefoot badge'.



1975 Irish Team (just make it)!

1975 World Championships Thorpe Park, London England



Irish Team: Alan Dagg, Richard Crisp & George Crisp (Captain) [All Golden Falls]

The jump event started early in the morning. There was no commentary. Skiers waiting their turn counted the competitors on the water. But people had withdrawn and soon there was confusion as people missed their turn. During his set Richard saw Alan still fully dressed at the far end of the lake. He yelled at him to get to ready and go to the starting dock. Alan made it. The event was stopped after the first series to allow skiers to arrive. There were protests from the skiers who had missed out and been disqualified. The protests were dismissed but later on the one minute rule for missing skiers was introduced.

1975 First qualified female Barefooter

Willeen Gray (North Down) became the first female skier (UK) to qualify as a graded barefoot skier. Willeen was registered as the 96th person to ski barefoot, when she exceeded the required 30 seconds for females to ski on bare feet. She achieved this at Newferry, Portglenone on the River Bann in June when she stayed on her feet for 57 seconds, just 3 seconds off the men's qualifying time.



1978 First Barefoot 'World' Success

Jackie Crawford (North Down) took part in the 1st Barefoot World Championships in Canberra, Australia and came 3rd in jump.

1978 Europa Pokal Barefoot Waterski Championships

Omagh Waterski Club staged a European barefoot competition at Lough Catherine, Newtownstewart on 8th & 9th July. The competition included start methods, wake slalom, tricks and jump.

Ireland Team – Rowland Smith & Stuart England

Barefooters' from Netherlands, Austria, Belgium & Great Britain competed. In the 9-man GB team were Jackie Crawford (North Down WSC), Andy Jardine & Richard Mainwaring.

SKILERS:

Peter Smulders (Netherlands)	Mike Thomas (Great Britain)
Ian Ramsey "	Jackie Crawford "
Charles Ramsey "	Dave Clark "
Robert Teuresbacher "	Mark Vanderpump "
Jan Bouw "	Martin Hutchings "
Peter Pflugl (Austria)	Andy Jardine "
Dirk Vergult (Belgium)	Ian Griswald "
Marc Strobbe "	Keith Donnelly "
Rowland Smith (Ireland)	Richard Mainwaring "
Stuart England "	

JUDGES:

Mrs Rita Ramsey - Chief Judge
Mr G Joseph
Mr Fred Van der Linden
Mr Colin Black
Mr Terry Benford

BOAT DRIVERS:

Mr David Drew
Mr Ian Birdsall

CALCULATOR: Gill Hill

* * * * *

Start Methods

In this event each competitor attempts three different types of start. He may choose a start method from each of 3 Groups and scores points according to the difficulty of the start attempted. To score he must hold barefoot ski-ing position for 3 seconds.

Wake Slalom

In this event each competitor has a run of 20 seconds in which he must cross the boat wake as many times as possible. For each full crossing he receives 20 points; however if he chooses to carry out the crossing on one foot or backwards he receives double points.

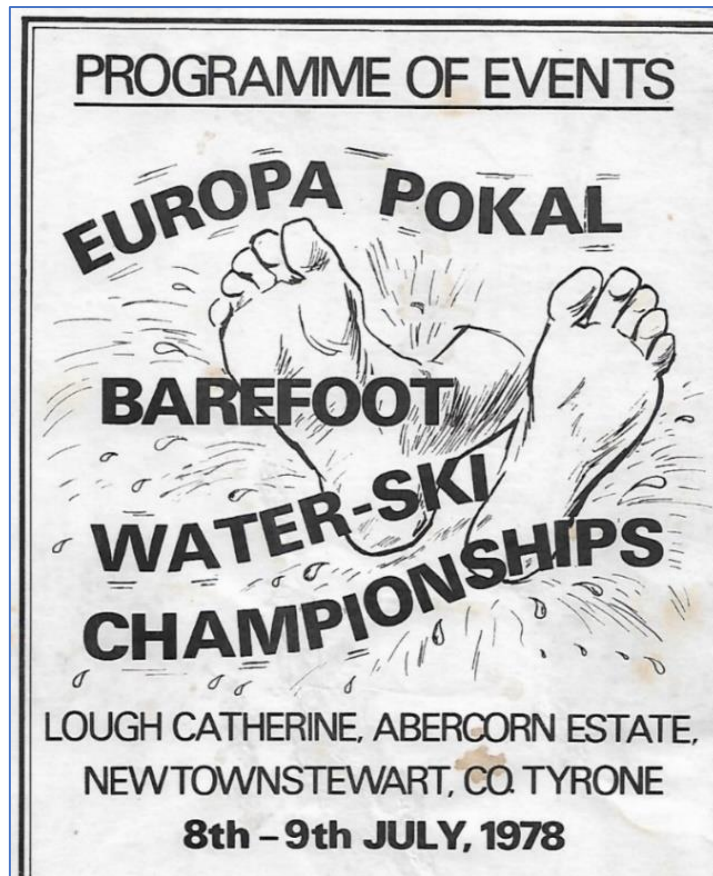
Tricks

Each competitor has two runs of 20 seconds in which time he must carry out as many tricks as possible from a laid down schedule. A typical trick run may consist of rope on neck, one foot, one foot reverse (means other foot), rope in teeth, one foot and one foot reverse; tumbleturn through 360° and reverse, tumbleturn through 180° and reverse; rope on toe. A number of competitors also carry out a trick run standing in the backwards barefoot position.

Jump

Each competitor has two jumps over a ramp which is 12 ft long - 6 ft being under water and 6 ft out of the water. The front edge of the ramp is 18" high. The longest jump wins the event.

Overall points are taken from each event and added together to obtain the positions of overall placings.



1979 World class skier takes part in Mid-Ulster competition

Any Mapple (GB), an outstanding skier who was to dominate world slalom skiing for many years, was a competitor at the Mid-Ulster competition, Lough Roughan, Newmills, Dungannon. Needless to say he won slalom, also winning tricks and overall. Alan Dagg pipped him in jump by .8 of a metre.

NORTHERN IRELAND REGIONAL GROUP OF BRITISH WATER SKI FEDERATION

DATE 23-6-79 FINAL RESULTS SHEET DIV 1 DIV 11 _____ LADIES _____ COMPETITION MID-ULSTER

PANISER _____ ORGANISING CLUB MID-ULSTER CHIEF JUDGE J.G. GORDON START 14.30 FINISH 7.30

COMPETITOR	CLUB	SLALOM		FIGURES		JUMP		OVERALL POINTS					COMPETITOR
		SCORE	PLACE	SCORE	PLACE	SCORE	PLACE	SLALOM	FIGURES	JUMP	TOTAL	PLACE	
TREVIS HILL	METEOR	17	4	1200	4	23.8	5	523	259	595	1377	3	T HILL
JOHN MONTGOMERY	"	-	-	-	-	23.25	6	-	-	571	-	-	J MONTGOMERY
P. M'CUILLOUGH	M.V.	14 1/2	6	680	9	18.4	11	446	147	362	955	8	P M'CUILLOUGH
ROBIN SKEGTON	G FALLS	12	7	1010	6	26.3	3	369	218	703	1290	4	R SKEGTON
JOHN GANNERS	"	1/2	13	580	10	23.2	7	15	125	569	709	9	J GANNERS
GEORGE SHANKS	METEOR	-	-	200	14	-	-	-	43	-	-	-	G SHANKS
ROBIN GORDON	OMAGH	25 1/2	2	2540	3	-	-	785	547	-	-	-	R GORDON
ALAN DAGG	G FALLS	21	3	2720	2	33.2	1	646	586	1000	2232	2	A DAGG
JIMMY VINT	"	2 1/2	11	970	7	19.8	10	77	209	422	708	10	J VINT
STEVE ENGLAND	METEOR	8 1/2	10	1070	5	24.8	4	262	231	638	1131	5	S ENGLAND
NEIL SCOTT	OMAGH	1 1/2	12	520	11	15.8	12	46	112	250	408	12	N SCOTT
ANDY MAPLE	PRINCES	32 1/2	1	4640	1	32.4	2	1000	1000	966	2966	1	A MAPLE
J. REGASKIS	"	10 1/4	8	340	13	23.2	7	315	73	569	957	7	J REGASKIS
BEN GERRANCE	OMAGH	16	5	490	12	21.4	9	492	106	491	1089	6	B GERRANCE
GRAHAM VETCH	"	9	9	720	8	12.00	13	277	155	86	518	11	G VETCH

SIGNED: J.G. Gordon (Chief Judge)

1979 First to score on the 14m slalom line in competition

2½@14m/58kph Robin Gordon (Baronscourt)

1979 International Barefoot Waterski Competition

The Irish Barefoot Waterski Club under the direction of Shay Pallas held an international barefoot competition 22nd & 23rd September at Shercock, Lough Scillen, Co Cavan. Irish skiers were represented in 3 different teams.

Ireland Team: Rowland Smyth, Lee Hamilton, Dave Higgins, Noel Larkin, Ken Bryan, Lesley Smyth

N. Ireland Team: Charlie Dundee, Mark Devlin, Paul Regan

GB Team: Jackie Crawford

1979/80 N I Barefoot Waterski Competition at Newferry

An historic photo of competitors who participated in a N I Barefoot Waterski competition at Newferry WSC on the Bann River (thought to be around 1979/1980).



William Hamilton, Marnette Lyons, Alister Logan, Logan Taggart, Alister McCourt, Charles Dundee, Robert Manson, Sam McAleese.

1980 First to score over 3000 trick points in competition

3180 Robin Gordon (Baronscourt) – at the Ulster Close, Meteor.

1980 Last IWSA Irish Close competition

The Irish Close, held at Annamakerrig would be the last to be held under the IWSA banner.



IRISH CLOSE WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

SATURDAY/SUNDAY, 19th/20th JULY, 1980
At ANNAMAKERRIG LAKE, NEWBLISS, CO. MONAGHAN

HELD UNDER IRISH WATER SKI ASSOCIATION RULES

Chief Judge: CHRISTOPHER OWEN
A MOST HEARTY WELCOME TO ALL OUR VISITORS

PROGRAMME 50p

1979 RESULTS :			
EVENT	DIV. 1	DIV. II	LADIES
SLALOM	1. R. Gordon 2. A. Dagg 3. R. Skelton	P. Lynam G. Wright F. McCarthy	M. Cautley D. Giles —
TRICKS	1. A. Dagg 2. R. Gordon 3. K. Scott	K. Glynn B. Galvin A. Bevan	M. Cautley D. McGlynn —
JUMP	1. A. Dagg 2. R. Skelton 3. R. Gordon	J. Dalton G. Wright F. McCarthy	D. McGlynn D. Giles —
OVERALL	1. A. Dagg 2. R. Gordon 3. R. Skelton	G. Wright F. McCarthy —	D. McGlynn D. Giles —

1980 First lady to jump 20mtrs in competition

20.m Deirdre McGlynn (-nee Frawley) (Killaloe)

1980 British All Regions Waterski Championships

Omagh Waterski Club staged the British All Regions Championships at Lough Catherine, Newtownstewart on 20th & 21st September. The competition included - Northern Ireland, Southern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and 9 English regions.

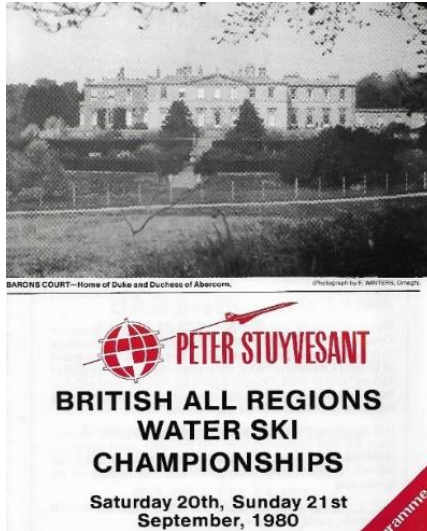
NIWSA team – Robin Gordon (Omagh), Ben Glancy (Omagh), David Maguire (Omagh), Patrick McCullagh (Omagh), Stuart England (Meteor), Jimmy Tregaskis (Long Lake) & Gavin Wright (Long Lake)

IWSA team – Jimmy Leyden (O’Brien’s Bridge), Ronan Kennedy (O’Brien’s Bridge), Alan Dagg (Golden Falls), Robin Skelton (Golden Falls), Carl Cautley (Golden Falls), Dermot Glynn (Golden Falls)

Chief Judge; Maurice Hazlewood, panel judges John Gordon (Ireland) & Geoff Shanks (Ireland).

World standard skiers from some of the other regions included amongst others: Andy Mapple, John Battleday, Tim Hazlewood, Karen Morse and Kathy Hulme.

Greater London & South East won with 9222pts, IWSA 6th with 5563pts, NIWSA 7th with 5506pts



1981 Formation of the Irish Waterski Federation

The Irish Waterski Association and the Northern Ireland Regional Group came together to form the Irish Waterski Federation. The NIRG changed its name to the Northern Ireland Waterski Association and both the IWSA and the NIWSA undertook regional matters with the IWSF having overall governing body responsibilities. The first President – Kenny Scott (Baronscourt WSC).



Irish skiers and officials at 1981 World Championships



Back Row -L/R. Irish Team - Robin Gordon (Baronscourt), Carl Cautley (Golden Falls), Gavin Wright (Meteor)–Reserve, Kenny Scott - non skiing Captain (Baronscourt)
 Front Row-L/R. Officials - Paddy McCullough (Baronscourt), Alan Dagg (Golden Falls), ,

1981 First to score on the 13m slalom line

Robin Gordon (Baronscourt) scored 1@13m/58 at the Irish Nationals Baronscourt, Omagh.

1981 It's never too young to start skiing.

Probably the youngest in Ireland and one of the youngest in the world to waterski unaided on a rope and on skis. Jonny Crawford was only 1 year 8 months old when he skied unaided at North Down WSC in 1981.



Both Jackie and mum Gail recall Jonny looking back to see the cows in the field!

1981 First combined barefoot team

For the first time a combined team from North and South, under the IWSF banner, entered the European barefoot championships. Ireland was placed 5th out of 9 countries. Charles Dundee (Newferry) was 12th in wake slalom and 20th in tricks (out of 42). Malachy Devlin (Newferry) was 21st in start methods (out of 41) and 5th in jump (out of 30).

1982 First lady to exceed 1000 trick points

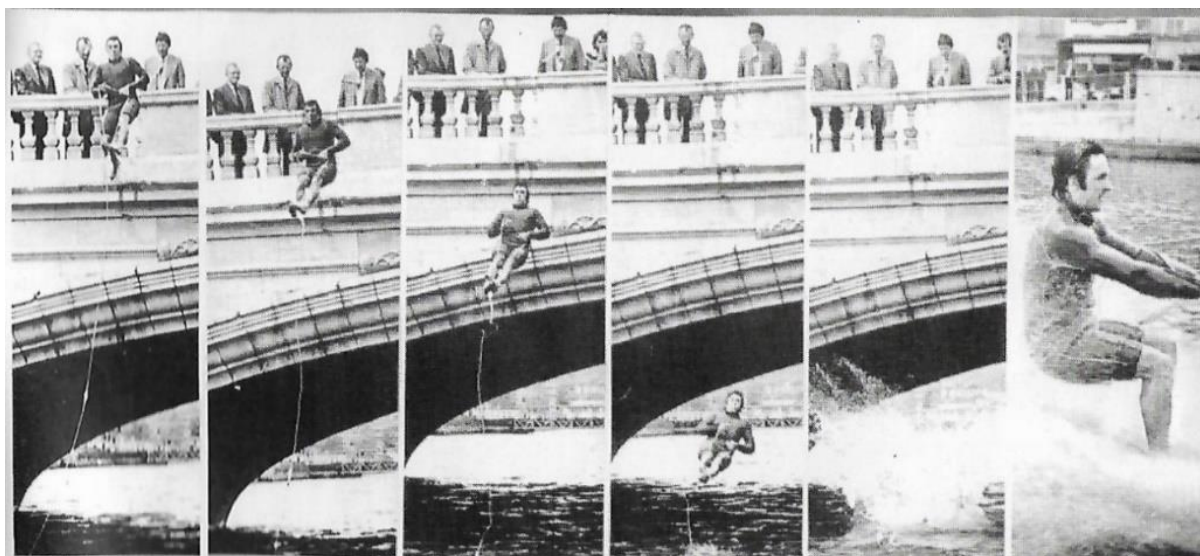
1250 Barbara Fair (Meteor) – at the Guinness Open, Meteor.

1982 First lady to score at 52k in slalom

½ @ 52 Michele Cautley (Golden Falls) at the Celtic Challenge.

1982 A record start height! – very possibly

Jackie Crawford (North Down) leapt from St. Patrick's bridge, Cork. The successful 'Flying jetty start' was on the River Lee and as an opener for the Cork Boat Show.



1983 Flash – Bang!! Don't try this at home.

A recollection by Chris McBrinn (Meteor) - I Spent some time in Abu-Dhabi winter 1982/1983. A large hotel group asked the Abu-Dhabi WSC if they would participate in the opening event of a new flagship hotel in the city centre, which had its own small lake and sandy beach. They wanted four boats with two skiers per boat, to ski around this new lake at night with fireworks packs strapped to our backs and a small detonator attached to our wrist. What could possibly go wrong. The first designed firework pack was a metal plate onto which the fireworks were attached. The metal plate was then strapped to each skier's back. After the first practice run, we determined that the fireworks were just too close to our body's as when they were set off, the downward pointing launch flame scalded a few calf's and thighs. The strap of one of the skier's metal plate broke, which meant the launch flame that was pointing down was now pointing up, causing burns to the skier's derriere. A re-design was called for. A frame was made onto which the original plate (with fireworks attached) would be mounted. The frame now created a space of around six inches between the skier's body and the fireworks. Confidence was low at this point.

On the night of the event, four boats and eight skiers prepared themselves. Jetty/dry starts were (to keep the fireworks dry of course! Our time came, we launched into the night with fireworks

attached and wrist detonators at the ready. We all got on to the water without any difficulty but as the boats were creating lots of wake, it wasn't long before this small lake became very rough and as it was dark this made it even more treacherous. The thought of falling still sends shivers up my spine. Anyway, at the appropriate moment we were all suppose to "detonate". Some had successful launches, some didn't launch at all due to water ingress or detonator failure. When our stint was over the only way to finish was to ski on to the sandy beach (in the dark). I can't believe it actually happened and that we got away with it, bar the odd light burn. Nobody fell in and nobody got run over!!

1984 First lady to score at 55k in slalom

2 @55 Gwen McFadden (Golden Falls) at the Asia Open, Malaysia.

1984 Group 2 Conference -Parlez-Vous Francais?

Chris Owen, the then President of the IWSF, was instrumental in bringing the annual Group 2 conference of the International Waterski Federation to Dublin.

Chris recalls: It was a rule that simultaneous translations in French and English had to be organised, so there was no option but to comply, even though all of the French delegates spoke English!

1984 & 1986 International Waterski Team Competition (Dale Farm Games)

The Dale Farm Ulster Games included 14 different international sports competitions held in NI during the month of June.

1984 23rd & 24th June, hosted by Omagh Waterski Club, Lough Catherine, Newtownstewart. Teams: Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Wales & Scotland.

Ireland Team – Stuart England -Captain (Meteor), Carl Cautley (Golden Falls), Robin Skelton (Golden Falls), Chris McBrinn, (Meteor), Cormac Fitzpatrick (Meteor), Barry Galvin (Cork).

Ireland placed 3rd in slalom, 3rd tricks and 1st in Jump. Denmark won 3936pts with Ireland 3rd overall with 3283pts.

Officials: Chief Judge, Les Strong (England); Assistant Chief Judge, Jan Johanessen (Norway); Panel - Geoff Shanks (Ireland), Lil Fitzpatrick (Ireland), Kay Cronin (Ireland); Calculator, Chris Owen (Ireland).



1984 Irish Team: Barry C Galvin, Carl Cautley, Stuart England, Cormac Fitzpatrick, Robin Skelton, Chris McBrinn



1986 20th & 21st June, hosted by Lough Aghery Waterski Club.

Ireland Team - Stuart England –Captain (Meteor), Carl Cautley (Golden Falls), Chris McBrinn (Meteor), Cormac Fitzpatrick (Meteor), Barry C Galvin (Cork).

Teams: Ireland, England, Belgium, Denmark, Norway & Scotland.

Ireland 2nd in slalom, 4th in tricks and 2nd Jump. England won 4747pts. Ireland 3rd overall with 3280pts.

Officials: Chief Judge, Ivan Cantacuzene (Switzerland); Assistant C J, Lil Fitzpatrick (Ireland); Panel - Geoff Shanks (Ireland), John Gordon (Ireland), Ken Scott (Ireland), Sid Adriaensen (Belgium), Brian Scoffham (G.B), H de Last (Holland); Calculator, Chris Owen (Ireland).

Lough Catherine  Baronscourt
INTERNATIONAL WATER SKIING 


23rd—24th
JUNE, 1984


Each Day from 10.00 a.m.
Finals from 12.00 Noon,
Sunday, 24th

Admission £1.00
per person
Children Free

Competing Countries:
DENMARK
SCOTLAND
WALES
NORWAY
IRELAND

Sponsored by:
DALE FARM ERGAS
OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL




 INTERNATIONAL WATER SKI TEAM TOURNAMENT

Friday 20th June – Saturday 21st June 1986
at North Down Water Ski Club, Lough Aghery

IRELAND
BELGIUM
HOLLAND
NORWAY
SCOTLAND
ENGLAND

TOURNAMENT ORGANISED BY
N.I. Water Ski Association in
conjunction with Irish
Water Ski Federation



1985 First jump over 40mtrs

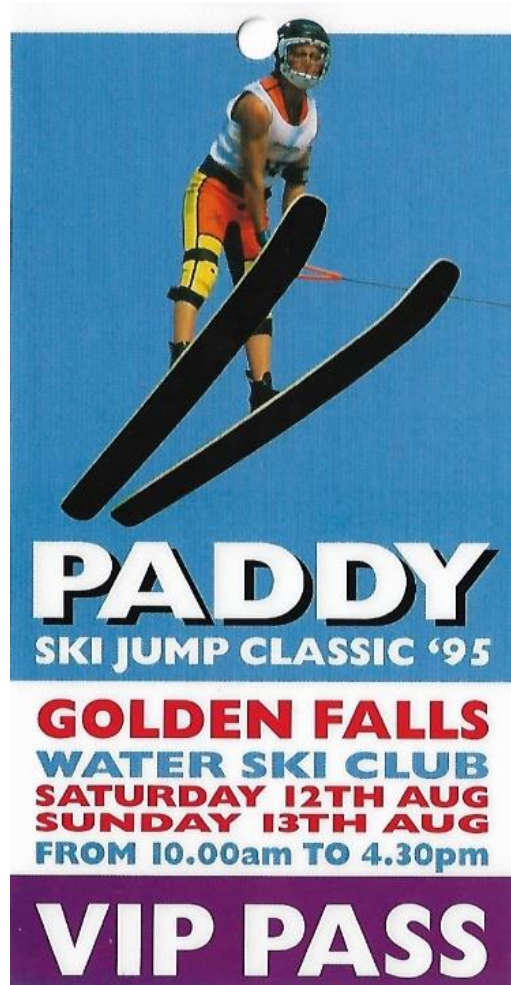
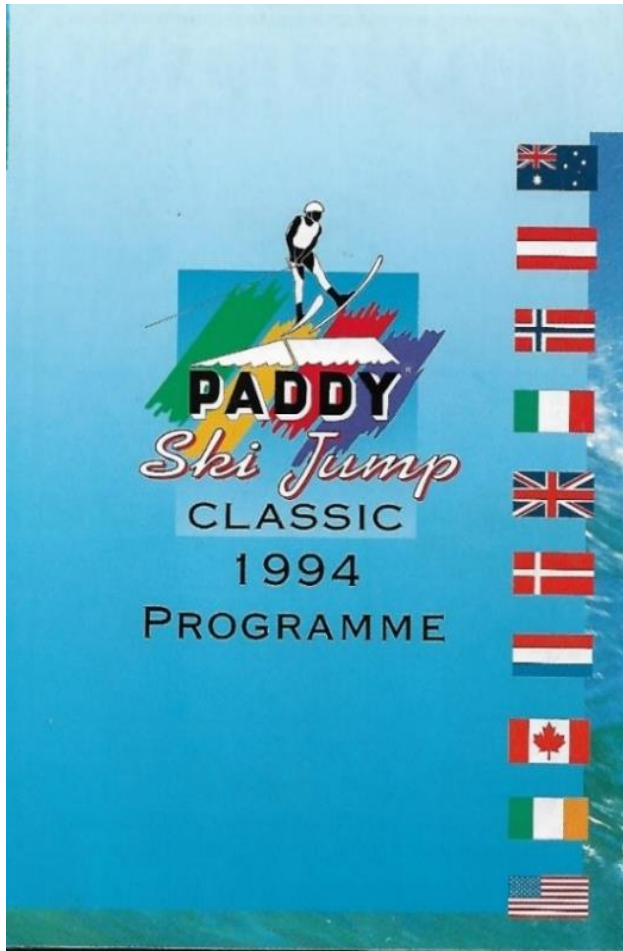
Chris McBrinn (Meteor) jumped 40.5mtrs on a 1.65m (5ft 6in) ramp at Lough Aghery competition.

1986-1996 Waterski Jump Classics

The committee and members of Golden Falls, along with Des Burke Kennedy's drive and enthusiasm, staged a national jump classic which evolved into the **Paddy Jump Classic**, a major competition attracting the best jump skiers in the world. In 1995 the then President of Ireland, Mary Robinson attended the event and presented the prizes. That year Barry C Galvin (Cork) set a new Irish jump record of 52.3mtrs and Geoff Clarke (Golden Falls) set a new Snr 1 Irish jump record. Some of the countries represented included – Australia, Canada, Georgia, Germany, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Austria, Britain, Italy, France & Ireland.

Top jump skiers in Ireland were able to compete against the best skiers in the world including - Sammy Duvall, Bruce Neville, Jaret Llewellyn, Andrea Alessi, Jim Clunie, Franz Oberleitner, Steffen Wild, Freddie Krueger, Paul Studd, Jason Seels, John Swanson, Emma Sheers, Britta Grebe, Philippa Roberts, Sherri Slone, Toni Neville, Nicola Huntridge





1987 Setback for Golden Falls WSC

Just before the start of the skiing season vandals totally wrecked the clubhouse, tearing down flagpoles, ripping up paving stones and damaging the walkway to the jetty.

1988 Irish Waterski Federation Constitution Agreed

Since 1981 the Irish Waterski Association and the Northern Ireland Waterski Association had been working in parallel under the auspices of the governing body, the Irish Waterski Federation. Eventually a new constitution and structure was agreed, which would improve the organisation of skiing in Ireland. In 1988 the Irish Waterski Federation took over the running of all skiing matters in Ireland and the IWSA and NIWSA were both disbanded.

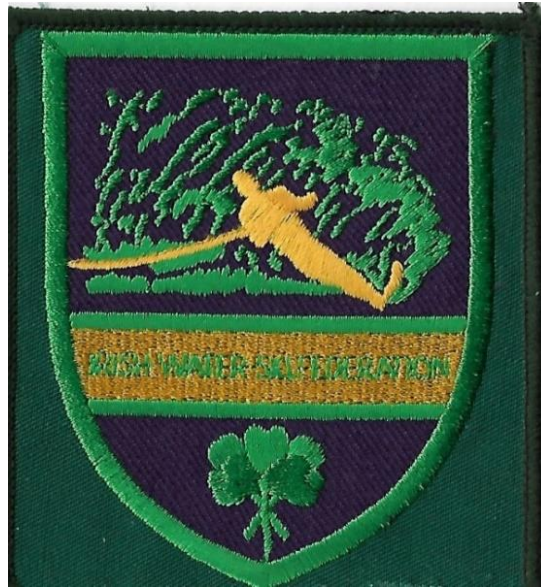
President – Lil Fitzpatrick (Carraig)

Secretary – Cormac Fitzpatrick (Meteor)

Treasurer – Carl Cautley (Golden Falls)

RoI rep – Des Burke-Kennedy (Golden Falls)

NI rep – Richard Armstrong (North Down)



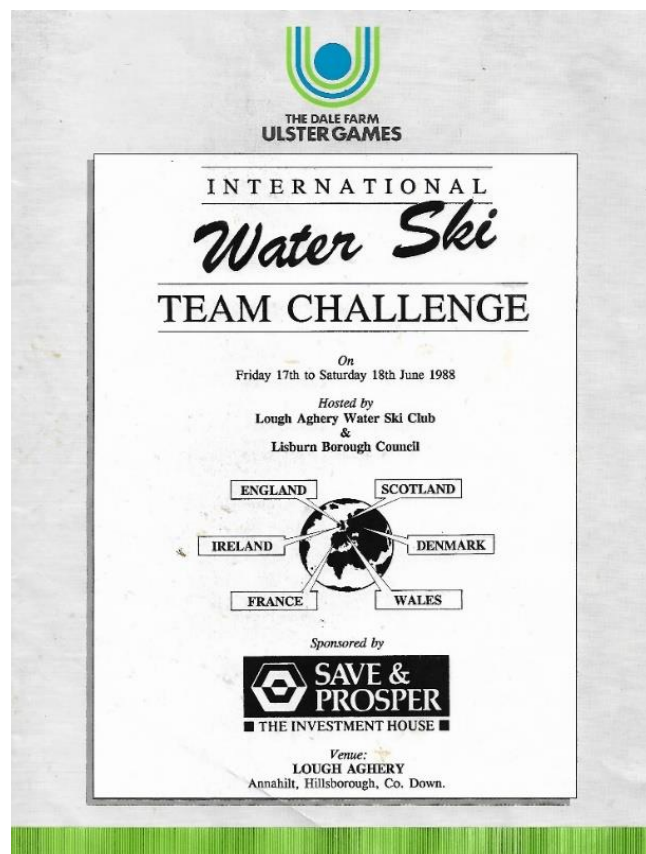
1988 International Waterski Team Challenge (Dale Farm)

Lough Aghery Waterski Club hosted an International competition 17th & 18th June at Lough Aghery, this was part of the Dale Farm Ulster Games which included 9 different international sports competitions during the month of June.

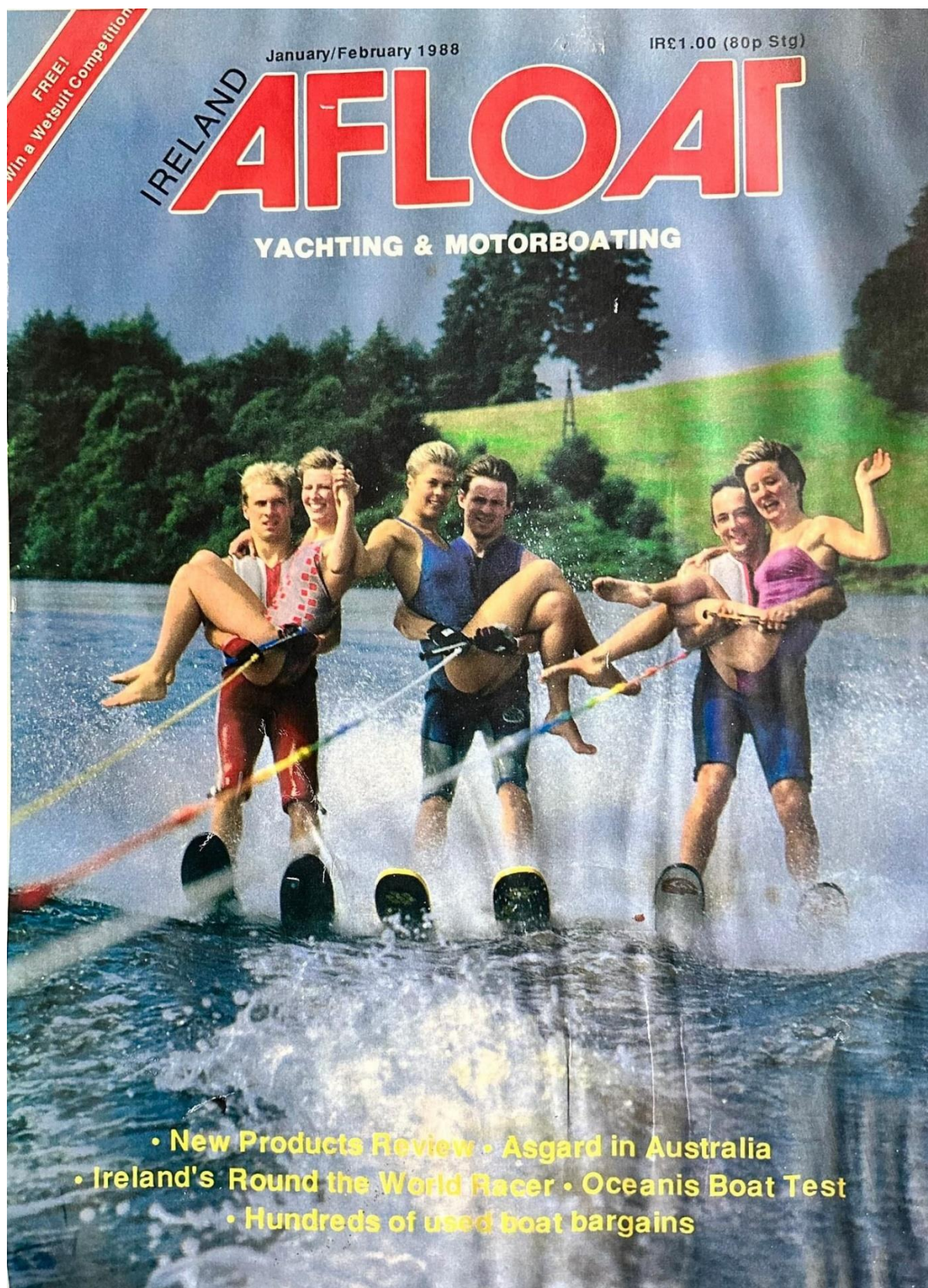
Ireland Team – Stuart England –Captain (Meteor), Robin Skelton (Golden Falls), Chris McBrinn, (Meteor), Cormac Fitzpatrick (Meteor), Barry Rankin (Meteor)

Teams included; Ireland, England, Denmark, France, Scotland & Wales.

England won 5954pts with Ireland in 5th place 3684pts.



1988 Making a big splash on the front page.



Carl & Patricia Cautley, Cormac Fitzpatrick & Michelle Cautley, John & Pat Corkery


1988 First jump over 50mtrs

Barry C Galvin (Cork) jumped 53.2mtrs at the Paddy Jump Classic, Golden Falls, a competition which attracted the best skiers from all over the world.

Geoff Skanks recalls: 'I remember being the boat judge at the '88 Nationals at GF when Barry Galvin did his 52+ metre jump - so long I thought he was never going to come down, and recalling his facial expression, I think he wondered the same.'

1989 30th Anniversary Celebrations

O'Brien's Bridge WSC celebrates the 30th anniversary of the holding of the first waterski championships in Ireland. The club was originally established 4 miles upriver at Killaloe and moved to O'Brien's Bridge in 1970. Its most notable event was the hosting of the 1982 European Youth Cup. Aubrey Sheena, the President of the World Water Ski Union Group 2, who as a visiting skier had competed in the 1959 competition, was a guest of honour at the 1989 competition.



SHIELD LIFE

1959 ANNIVERSARY 1989

MUNSTER OPEN ANNIVERSARY WATER SKIING CHAMPIONSHIPS

O'BRIENSBRIDGE WATER SKI CLUB CO. CLARE.


SATURDAY
3rd &
SUNDAY
4th June 1989

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS SINCE THE

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

IRISH
WATER SKI
ASSOCIATION

FIRST
National Championships



Sat. & Sun.
September
19th & 20th
1959

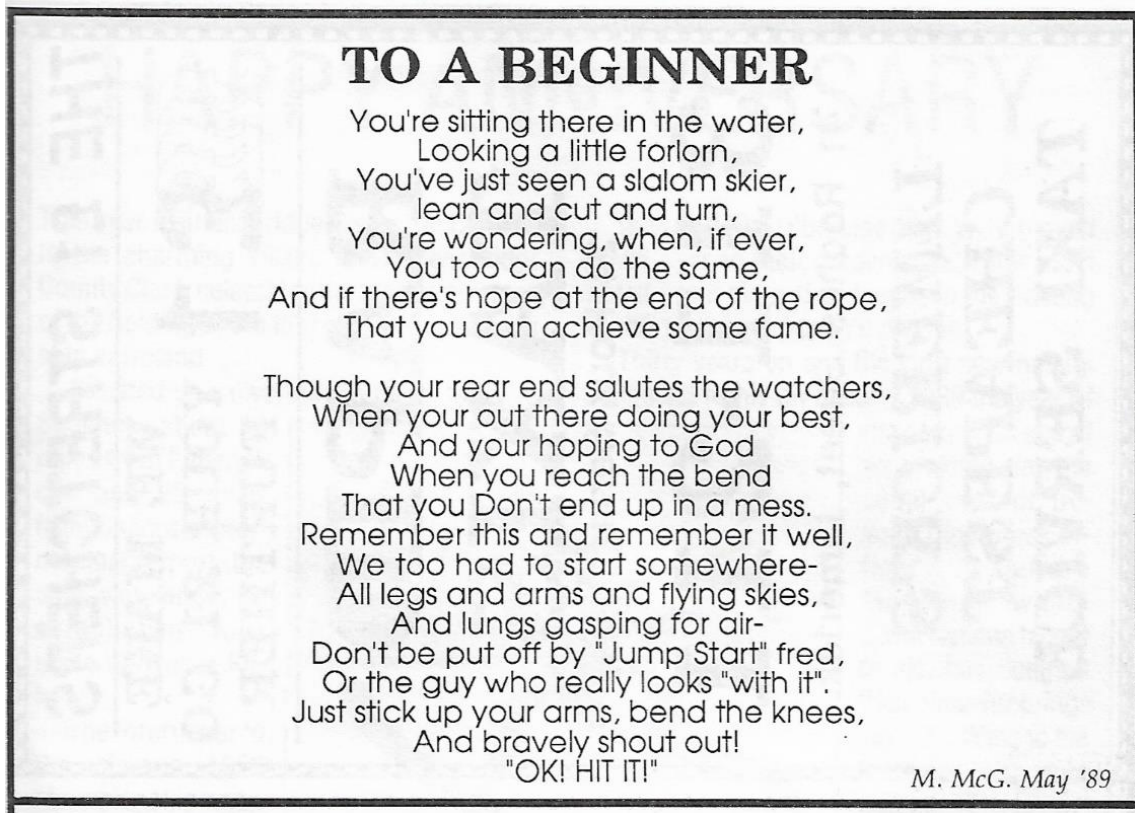
AT
*The Lakeside Hotel,
Killaloe, Co. Clare*

FREE RAFFLE
ON
PROGRAMME
SEE INSIDE
1959 ONLY

Price One Shilling N° 533
1959 - 1989

O'BRIENSBRIDGE VILLAGE & COUNTRY FAIR SUNDAY June 4th MONTPELIER

Within the anniversary programme was a poem by Michael McGlynn (Competition Director).



1991 First to score on the 12m slalom line

1¼@12m/58 Barry C Galvin (Cork) – at Meteor Handicap Competition

1991 First President of the Disabled Waterski Council

At the annual congress of Region 2 in Stockholm, Lill Fitzpatrick, Carrigadroid Ski Club, Cork was elected President of the European Disabled Waterski Council, the highest office ever held by an Irish official.

1992 First lady to get into slalom shortenings

1-16m@55 Ellen McKeown (Meteor) –at Guinness Ulster Open, Meteor

1992 European Cup Finals

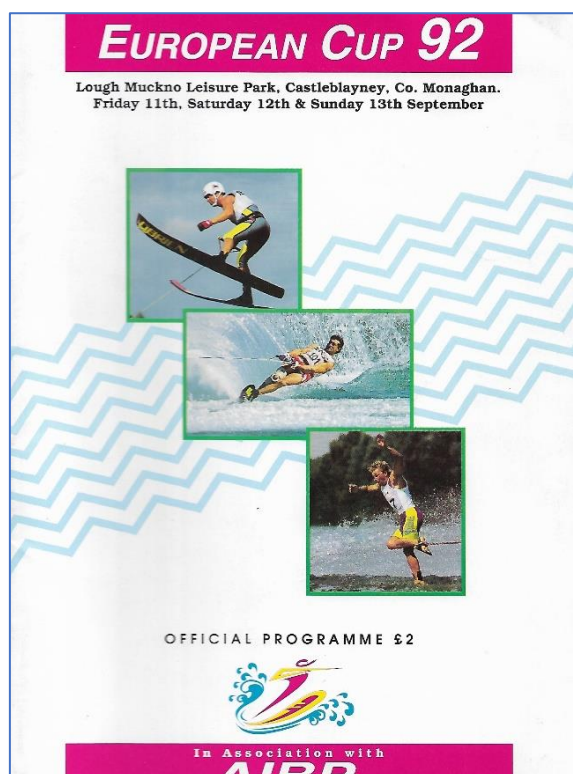
This was the most prestigious competition ever held in Ireland and was hosted by Muckno Waterski Club 12th & 13th September at Lough Muckno Leisure Park, Castleblaney.

Ireland Team – Richard Armstrong-non skiing captain (Lough Aghery), Barry C Galvin (Cork), David Galvin (Cork), Chris McBrinn, (Meteor), Rodney Watson (Lough Aghery)

Teams included. Ireland, Great Britain, France, Austria, Italy, Germany, Greece & Spain.

England won 7281pts with Ireland in 7th place 4943pts. Patrice Martin (France) set a record of 11,000 trick points.

Patrice Martin, France set a new European tricks record of 11,000.



The European Cup organising committee

Neill Wilson (Muckno), Richard Armstrong (President IWSF Lough Aghery), Mark Vergnano (Muckno)

Donal McGuiggan (Muckno), Chris Owen (Golden Falls), Eamonn Campbell (Mid-Ulster)

1993 Waterski Jump Competition on the River Lagan, Belfast

Under the heading of 'Positively Belfast', a range of water events on the River Lagan, Belfast were staged around the Irish Powerboat Grand Prix, 23rd -25th July. This was a very adventurous promotion at a time when the 'troubles' were the main thing which dominated NI headlines and the Lower Ormeau Road, close to the proposed site for the jump competition, was a bit of a hot spot. The organisers approached the IWSF and Stuart England (President) and Richard Armstrong agreed to take

on the project. It was a bit of a logistical challenge, setting up a homologated jump site on the tidal River Lagan. Lough Aghery's jump was split into two and transported from Annahilt, Co. Down.

16 of the top Irish jump skiers were invited to participate including – Chris McBrinn, Barry Rankin, Spencer Maxwell, Simon Maxwell, Geoff Clarke, Rodney Watson, David Galvin, Aidan Campbell, Donal Connolly, Andrew Skelton, Cormac Fitzpatrick, Jason Mitchell, Robin Skelton, Donal McGuigan, Barry C Galvin & Stuart England. It was run on a head-to-head knockout basis, with Chris McBrinn, David Galvin, Donal Connolly & Barry Galvin all making the semi-finals. Chris and Barry battled it out in the final with Barry (photo below) winning with a jump with 38.8mtrs.

POSITIVELY FUN

ORMEAU PARK AREA C

RIVER AREA B

RIVER AREA A

River Lagan

SAFETY

1. FOLLOW DIRECTION SIGNS TO THE SPECTATOR AREAS.
2. HEED WARNING NOTICES AND KEEP BEHIND SAFETY BARRIERS.
3. FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY AND THAT OF THE DRIVERS AND COMPETITORS PLEASE DO NOT DROP LITTER, CANS OR BOTTLES INTO THE RIVER.
4. DRIVE WITH CARE AND CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS.

CAR PARKING

SERVICE

IRISH POWERBOAT GRAND PRIX

RIVER AREA B

No PUBLIC ACCESS AT MAYSFIELD
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO RIVER SPECTATOR AREA –
RAVENHILL ROAD – GASWORKS SITE, ORMEAU ROAD

SATURDAY

10:50AM – 12:30PM	COMPETITION ULSTER BANK WATERSKI JUMP & SLALOM PREPARATION AND PRACTICE
12:30PM – 1:00PM	JET SKI RACES ROUND 1
1:00PM – 2:00PM	WATERSKI JUMP ROUND 1
2:00PM – 2:30PM	DRAGON BOAT HEATS 1 – 4
2:30PM – 3:00PM	JET SKI RACES ROUND 2
3:00PM – 3:30PM	DRAGON BOAT HEATS 5 – 8
3:30PM – 4:30PM	ULSTER BANK WATERSKI JUMP & SLALOM ROUND 2
4:30PM – 5:00PM	JET SKI RACES ROUND 3
5:00PM – 6:00PM	ULSTER BANK WATERSKI JUMP & SLALOM ROUND 3
6:00PM – 6:30PM	BRITISH TELECOM BOATS AND FLOATS – PARADE COMMENCES

SUNDAY

12:00PM – 12:30PM	ULSTER BANK WATERSKI & SLALOM ROUND 4
12:20PM – 1:00PM	JET SKI WARM-UP / PRACTICE
1:00PM – 2:00PM	COMPETITION HEAT 1
2:00PM – 2:30PM	DRAGON BOAT QUARTER FINALS
2:30PM – 3:30PM	ULSTER BANK WATERSKI JUMP & SLALOM ROUND 5
3:30PM – 4:00PM	DRAGON BOAT SEMI FINALS
4:00PM – 4:30PM	JET SKI RACE ROUND 5
4:30PM – 5:00PM	ULSTER BANK WATERSKI JUMP & SLALOM FINAL ROUND



Barry C Galvin flying high with Belfast as a background.

1993 First lady to jump 30mtrs

30.0m Louise Campbell (Mid-Ulster) – at the Irish Nationals, Muckno.

1994 European Disabled Waterski Championships

Hosted by Carrig Ski Club, Carrigadrohid, Cork 3rd & 4th September.

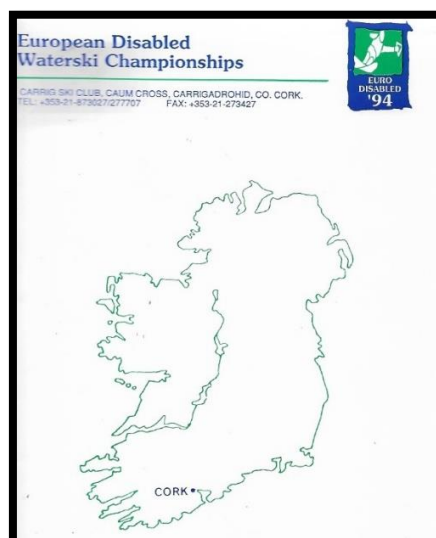
Ireland Team - Eamon Prunty, Damian McGovern, Patrick Walsh, Paula O'Toole

Teams included. Ireland, Great Britain, Switzerland, Denmark, France, Belgium, Latvia, Netherlands, & Sweden. Great Britain won with 16258pts. Ireland was 8th with 1314pts.

Eamonn Prunty took bronze in MP5 tricks, **the first podium placement in a disabled ski competition by an Irish skier**. Eamonn set an Irish record of 550 points. Paula O'Toole who competed in VHB 2 ladies wake slalom set an Irish record of 52 points.

Judge – Lill Fitzpatrick (Ireland).

Chief Scorer – Chris Owen (Ireland)



1995 Setback for Newferry WSC

On the evening of 11th July (known as bonfire night in N. Ireland!) Newferry's wooden clubhouse was maliciously set on fire and burnt to the ground. This was a setback, but even more so was the fact that the club's ski boat had also been burnt and destroyed in the attached boat house.

1996 A 'Grand' Grandstand

In preparation for the Golden Falls Jump Classic a herculean task was undertaken to create a tiered viewing grandstand. The best jump viewing vantage point in Ireland and possibly the world!



1996 First Senior medal

Geoff Clarke (Golden Falls) took Silver at the European Senior Championships, Barcelona, the first senior skier from Ireland to get a medal.

1996 Grading Structure and Certificates

A program providing progressive challenges for absolute beginners, particularly for young children.

Learn to ski (3 awards) to introduce beginners to the early stages of preparing to ski.

Ski Skills (5 awards) to encourage beginners to build up skills to become safe competent skiers.

Barefoot to encourage and recognise achievements in bare foot skiing.

National Grade (9 awards) to enable skiers to measure their standards against tournament standards.

IRISH WATER SKI FEDERATION
Affiliated to the International Water Ski Federation **IWSF**

LEARN TO SKI *Award*

This is to certify that _____

has achieved


GRADE _____

of the

Irish Water Ski Federation

Learn to Ski Award Scheme 1-3

Examiner Date



IRISH WATER SKI FEDERATION
Affiliated to the International Water Ski Federation **IWSF**

SKI SKILLS *Award*

This is to certify that _____

has achieved


GRADE _____

of the

Irish Water Ski Federation

Ski Skills Award Scheme 1-5

Examiner Date



IRISH WATER SKI FEDERATION
Affiliated to the International Water Ski Federation **IWSF**

BAREFOOT SKIER *Award*


This is to certify that _____

has achieved

on barefeet

Irish Water Ski Federation
Award Scheme

Examiner Date



IRISH WATER SKI FEDERATION
Affiliated to the International Water Ski Federation **IWSF**

NATIONAL GRADE *Award*

This is to certify that _____

has achieved

GRADE _____

of the

Irish Water Ski Federation

National Ski Grades Award Scheme

Examiner Date

1996 Richard Armstrong Memorial Trust Fund

Richard had been President of the Federation, Chairman of the NI Waterski Association, competition boat driver, 3-event skier and barefoot skier and chairman of Lough Aghery WSC. His enthusiasm was infectious and his commitment to the sport was outstanding. Sadly, Richard was taken seriously ill and died in 1993. To honour his memory and his love of skiing, his wife and family generously donated a sum of money for the benefit of skiing. Other donations were added in and a trust was set up. It was decided by the trustees that an annual bursary would be awarded to assist deserving up and coming skiers with their coaching. A magnificent skier trophy was also commissioned and is awarded along with the bursary. The first bursary was awarded in 1996 to Rodney Watson to go towards 2 weeks training in Florida. The fund has benefited tournament, barefoot, disabled skiers and wakeboarders.



Richard Armstrong

1996 New World Record

Emma Sheers (Australia), set a new Ladies World Jump Record of 48.6 mtrs at the Golden Falls Jump Classic. A stone designed to commemorate her achievement was placed on the bank of Golden Falls directly in line with where she landed on that World Record Sunday morning. Emma on a holiday a few years later was photographed sitting beside 'Emma's Rock' holding her world record certificate.



1997 1st Multiple European Disabled Championship Placements

Janet Gray (Meteor) and Eamonn Prunty (Carrig, Cork) took part in the European Disabled Waterski Championships in Lynge, Denmark. Janet took silver in slalom and bronze in tricks in the visually impaired ladies' V1 classification. Eamonn took bronze in seated men's MP3.

1997 1st Irish National Wakeboard Championships (Boat)

Hosted by Cork PB & WSC 5th & 6th July. 11 riders took part in the first wakeboard nationals, run on a 3-round format.

Barry C Galvin won the Men's Pro with total points of 21,250. Yvonne Buerkle won the Ladies with total points of 8,300.

The following IWSF records were set: Open Men - Barry Galvin (Cork) 11,400 pts; Ladies' open - Yvonne Buerkle (Cork) 2750pts; Sen Men1 – Donal McQuigan (Muckno) 4,700pts; Sen Men2 – Robin Skelton (Stillwaters) 2,025pts; Dauphine Boys (U14) - Ross Brown 1,400.

Chief Judge Gerry McInerney (Ireland); Scorer – Chris Owen (Ireland)

Late 1960s to 1998 The 'Troubles' - Northern Ireland

During almost 30 years of violence more than 3,500 were killed and more than 47,000 were injured. Many of those were innocent people going about their daily lives. The army had been deployed onto the streets and although security check points were evident, there was always the potential risk in getting caught up in something. During these difficult times life carried on as best as possible.

A recollection by Richard Crisp: -

'During my time at Golden Falls I often went back across the border to tournaments in Northern Ireland. The other Golden Falls club members though it was daft to head to the North during the Troubles. Sometimes a few came with me. They thought travelling in a car with a northern registration would reduce their risk.

For tournaments at Meteor we would all stay at my parents' house in Belfast. They would line up sleeping bags on the floor when all the beds were full.

One trip saw four of us with all our luggage and ski bags squeeze into my Hillman Imp and head to Omagh. There was a bomb scare and we spent most of the night in the street waiting for the all clear so we could go back to our beds in the hotel.'

1999 A World Champion and New World Records

Janet Gray (Meteor) took part in the World Disabled Waterski Championships in London and achieved Overall Gold in the visually impaired Ladies' V1 classification and in doing so set 3 world records in, audio slalom, wake slalom and tricks. Achieving Overall World Champion again in 2001 (Australia), 2003 (Florida) & 2007 (Australia).

2000 First lady to score on the 14m slalom line

2-14m@55 Laura McLernon (Lough Aghery) – at the Irish National Championships, Muckno.

2001 First to score on the 11.25m slalom line

1@11,25m/58 Rodney Watson (Lough Aghery) at Golden Falls.

2002 Appointment to the World Council

Des Burke-Kennedy (Golden Falls) was appointed IntWWF World marketing and media chairman, a position he held until 2017.

2003 First lady to score on the 12m slalom line

4 –12m@55 Laura McLernon (Lough Aghery) – at the Irish Nationals, Golden Falls.

2003 First lady to exceed 2000 trick points

2190 Dianne Kirby (Meteor) – at the Irish Nationals, Golden Falls.

2003 - 2008 Wake Up

'Wake Up' was a ground-breaking concept which broke away from the standard structure and judging rules as based on a traditional ski competition. It trialled a new form of contest for wakeboard competitions and is now the standard for wakeboard judging. It was developed by a number of local wakeboarders and staged at meteor WSC by Chris Elder and Stephen Scott

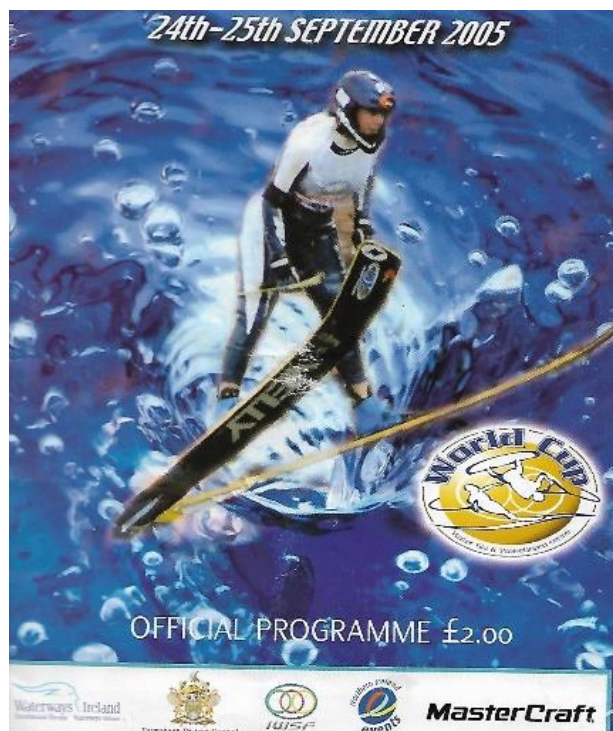
2004 - 2010 Big Air

Muckno WWC staged a very exciting wakeboard boat competition which attracted riders from all over the country.

2005 - 2007 Lough Erne WakeJam

This was the largest national wakeboard boat event in Irish history with 53 competitors from all across the country competing at Broadmeadow, Enniskillen and in front of thousands of spectators.

2005 - 2007 World Cup, Enniskillen

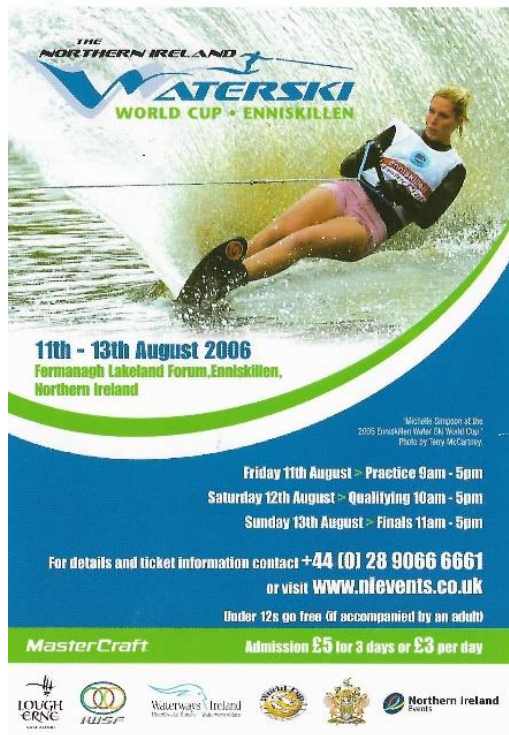


2005 -Competing Irish skiers – Barry C Galvin, Rodney Watson & Eamon Prunty.

Held on a stretch of water close to the Fermanagh Lakeland Forum and Broadmeadow, in the picturesque shadow of Enniskillen Castle. The World cup series is staged around the world, including stops in:- Singapore, Russia, Qatar, China, France and Great Britain. This 3-event competition brought the best slalom, trick and jump skiers in the world to compete in Ireland.

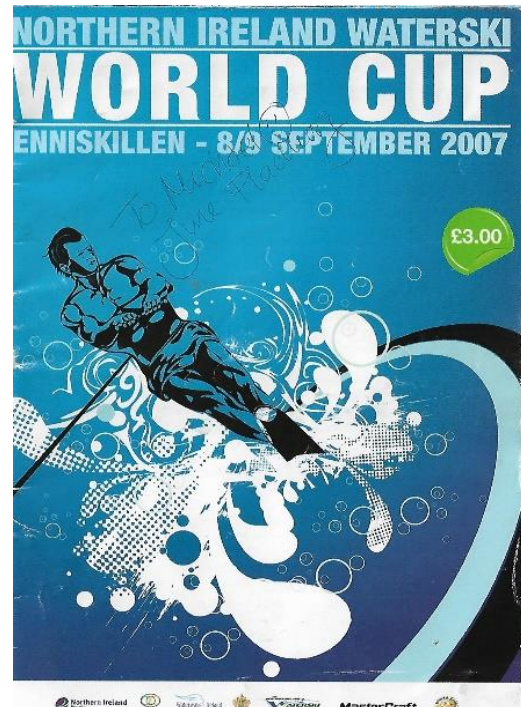
Scot Ellis, Freddy Krueger, Jaret Llewellyn, Ryan Dodd, Jodi Fisher, Ryan Fitts, Will Asher, Glen Campbell, Ryan Green, Nicolas Le Forestier, Chris Parrish, Cory Pickos, Jeff Rodgers, Jason Seels, Curtis Sheers, Jimmy Siemers, Angeliki Andriopoulou, April Coble Eller, June Fladborg, Natalie Hamrick, Sarah Green, Regina Jaquess, Clementine Lucine, Marina Mosti, Mandy Nightingale, Emma Sheers, Karen Truelove.....

This was a major coup for Ireland, but with no ski club based at the site it was a logistical challenge to set up a fully homologated 3-event site on an otherwise open and busy stretch of water. The jump had to be transported all the way up from John Prunty's site Summerhill, Co. Meath!



2006 -Freddy Krueger (USA) jumped 68.2mtrs

2007 - Final stop of the 2007 world tour and prize presentation



2006 World Record Holder

At the 2006 EAME disabled championships at Heron Island (England), Eamonn Prunty (MP3) set a new world trick record of 1190.

2006 Tragedy

At the 2006 Irish National Waterski Championships at Golden Falls an unprecedented accident occurred during the jump event, when James O'Connell suffered a fatal injury. James was a member of Stillwaters and a skier with much potential. His loss is a loss for our sport and for all of us.



2007 World Champion

At the World disabled championships at Townsville, Australia, Eamonn Prunty (MP3) was 3rd in tricks, 2nd in jump and awarded 1st overall. Eamonn went on to win another 2 World overall titles, 2011 in Westchester, USA and 2013 Idroscalo, Italy.

2008 Youngest European Gold Winner

Philip McQuiggan (Drumaheglis), was picked for the Irish Wakeboard team (boat) and won a Gold in the boys under 10 age category at the EAME Championships, Tremolate, France. The Irish team won silver in the overall team placings.

2008 European Champion

At the EAME disabled championships at Recetto, Italy, Eamonn Prunty (MP3) was 2nd in slalom, 2nd in tricks, 1st in jump and was 1st overall. Eamonn went on to win another EAME overall title, 2012 in Nemours, France.

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=D-08ITA001&page=mp3_m_overall_results

2009 First to score over 5000 trick points

Barry T Galvin (Cork) scored 5160 points – at the Irish Nationals at Lough Aghery.

2009 European Senior Champion

At the EAME Senior Championships, Maurik, Netherlands, Dianne Kirby (Meteor) took the Ladies' Senior 3 overall, one that she successfully defended and retained for many years.

<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/classic/09EAME06/>

2010 Bronze at World Championships

At the World 35+ Championships, Segrate, Italy, Dianne Kirby (Meteor) took 3rd overall in Ladies 55+.

<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/classic/10EAME09/>

2011 Number 1 World Ranking

Geoff Clarke (Golden Falls) took Gold in Lacanau, France at the EAME Senior Championships in the over 55s men jump. At the end of the season Geoff was the number 1 ranked Senior 3 jump skier in the world.

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=T-11EAC005&page=55_m_jump_results

2012 Gold, Silver & Bronze at E&A Wakeboard Championships

Lindsay Whelan took Bronze in Girl's category, Sian Hurst took Silver in Open Ladies' and David O'Caioimh took Gold in Junior Men's at the 2011 E&A Wakeboard Boat Championships, held in Feb 2012 at Vanderbeijlpark, South Africa. David Coates and Paul Johnston make it through to the Men's Open semi-finals.

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-11EAC001&page=girls_wakeboard_results

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-11EAC001&page=women_wakeboard_results

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-11EAC001&page=jun_m_wakeboard_results

2012 European Champion retains title

At the EAME disabled championships in Nemours, France, Eamonn Prunty (seated men) was 1st in tricks and was awarded 1st overall.



https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=D-12EACD005&page=mp1_m_overall_results

2012 Ladies' Open Gold, at E&A Wakeboard (boat) Championships

Sian Hurst took Gold in Open Ladies' at the 2012 E & A Wakeboard Championships held in Kiev, Ukraine. The Irish team of Lindsay Whelan, Aisling Degan, Sian Hurst, David Coates (4th Open Men), Paul Johnston Jonathan Crawford and David O'Caioimh were placed 8th overall out of 19 teams.

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-12EAC001&page=women_wakeboard_results

2013 First jump over 60mtrs

Jake Bridges (Golden Falls) jumped 62.6mtrs at the Ray Stokes Jump competition, Hazelwood's, England. At the end of the year he was ranked 12th in Europe in Open men's jump.

<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/classic/13GBR003/>

2013 First Straight Line Cable

Wake Dock, Dublin installed the first 2 tower cable system in Ireland. A few weeks later Cable & Wake installed a cable system at Titanic Dock, Belfast.

(Back in the 80s there was a temporary pulley system in Craigavon which was used in a 25mtr indoor swimming pool which could be used to tow water skiers.)

2013 First Irish National Cable Wakeboard Championships

The National competition attracted riders from all over Ireland. It was staged on a 2-point system and organised and hosted by Sam and Johnathan Crawford of Cable & Wake at Titanic, Belfast. The Open Men's was won by David Coates (Cable & Wake).





2013 Wakeboard (Boat) World Cup

This is an elite event to which only the top 20 male and top 10 female athletes from over 90 countries are invited. David Coates was invited to take part in 2013 with stops in Australia and Indonesia and achieved a very creditable 13th place. Sian Hurst has averaged 7th and David O’Caiomh was placed 4th in the China stop in 2014.

2014 Finalists at E&A Wakeboard (Boat) Championships

At the E&A Wakeboard Boat Championships at Montargil, Poland, David O’Caiomh made the final of Open Men and is placed 4th. David Coates also made the final and is finished 6th in Open Men.

Linda Johnston (Ireland) was appointed on the Jury Panel as Scorer.

<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/boatwake/14EAC001/>

2014 First to score on the 10.75m slalom line

2@ 10.75/58 Jake Bridges (Golden Falls) at Tri-Lakes, L.A, USA

2014 Finalist at Wakeboard World Cup

At the Wakeboard World Cup Boat competition at Linyi, China, David O’Caiomh made the final of Open Men and took 4th place.

<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/boatwake/14CHN209/>

2014 Talent continues to shine in the sun!

Since emigrating to Perth, Australia in 1982 Alan Dagg has continued to compete at a high level and has taken local and national titles on numerous occasions and in a number of senior age categories. He skied for the Australian team at the 35+ Worlds, Florida 2014 and made the finals in slalom, tricks and jump of 65+, finishing 3rd overall.

2015 E&A Wakeboard Officials Seminar, Belfast

The IrWWF hosted the 17th International seminar 13th-15th March. A number of IrWWF wakeboarders and officials attended and successfully qualified as wakeboard judges and calculators.

2015 - 2017 Multiple Overall European Wakeboard Champion

David O’Caiomh, Muckno WWC proved that he is consistently at the top of his sport by taking 1st place in Open Men’s at the European Wakeboard Boat Championships in 2015 (Holland), again in 2016 (Ireland) and again in 2017 (Latvia). Wow!

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-15EAC001&page=men_wakeboard_results

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-16EAC001&page=men_wakeboard_results

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-17EAC001&page=men_wakeboard_results

2015 Lowlands Irish Tour Stop

The IrWWF hosted a wakeboard tour stop on the waters at Enniskillen, attracting a number of riders from Belgium and Netherlands. Aisling Deegan took 1st Pro Ladies’, David O’Caiomh 1st Pro Men’s, Peter Stewart 2nd Pro Men, Philip McGuiggan 2nd Open Men.

<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/boatwake/15IRL03/>

2015 World Wakeboard Championships

Paul Johnston and David O’Caiomh both made it through to the semi-finals at the World Wakeboard Championships (boat) in Cancun, Mexico.

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-15MEX001&page=men_wakeboard_results

2016 Exceptional success at E&A Wakeboard Championships, Coleraine



The IrWWF hosted the E&A Wakeboard boat Championships at Coleraine on the river Bann. The Irish team was the largest ever to compete at an E&A competition and included: Zack & Julian Zebedee, Philip McGuiggan, Aisling Deegan, Nicole Carroll, Sian Hurst, Lindsey Whelan, Paul Johnston, Ashley Murray, Robin Coates, Pete Stewart, David Coates and David O’Caiomh.



David O’Caiomh took 1st place in Open Men, Pete Stewart was 1st in Master’s Men and David Coates 3rd in Master’s Men.

The Irish team achieved an excellent 2nd place in the overall (out of 15 teams). The highest place ever by any Irish ski team.



https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-16EAC001&page=mas_m_wakeboard_results
https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-16EAC001&page=wakeboard_team_classification

2017 Irish Slalom League

A new initiative to promote interest and involvement in slalom skiing was launched by Barry C Galvin. With stops at a number of ski clubs though out Ireland and with 3 divisions covering mini course, slalom course with or without gates, the winners are those who have advanced most after all stops.

2018 E&A Council member

Donal Connolly (Golden Falls) elected onto the powerful and influential E&A Tournament Council.

2018 E&A Council President

Linda Johnston elected President of E&A Wakeboard Boat Council.

2018 International Barefoot Competition, with night jump!





THE PATRICK WEHNER OPEN

BULLETIN #1

DATE
8-10/06/18

ADDRESS
NEWFERRY WATERSKI CLUB, N.IRELAND



DRAFT SCHEDULE:

Thursday 7th June: On-site training available & Opening dinner @ 8pm
 Friday 8th June: Round 1 events & Night jump party
 Saturday 9th June: Round 2 events & Charity dinner @ Titanic Pump House
 Sunday 10th June: Discounted city tours available

patrickwehneropen@gmail.com



The Patrick Wehner Open International Barefoot Waterski Competition was held at Newferry on the River Bann 9th & 10th June. Barefooters from Germany, Netherlands, Finland and Ireland took part. The Patrick Wehner Open, is an Annual International Barefoot Waterski event held to honour Patrick Wehner, an ex-World and multiple European Barefoot title winner, now suffering from ALS. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis is a progressive neurodegenerative disease which affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Both Patrick and his wife Helene were guests of honour. The event, which included a night jump was organised by Andy McDonald and his family, Newferry Barefoot Waterski Club hosted the event. Ryan McDonald (IRL) dominated Division 1, taking the Overall title. Mathijs Zielman (GER) took the Night Jump title with a jump of 19.3m.

<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/barefoot/18IRL001/>

2018 European Pro Wakeboard Success

David O’Caoimh took 1st place in the 1st stop of the European Pro Boat Wakeboard tour stop in Portugal and again 1st place in the 3rd stop in the UK.

<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=W-18POR501&page=live>
https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/boatwake/18/18GBR503/pro_m_wakeboard_results.pdf

2018 First Kneeboard Nationals

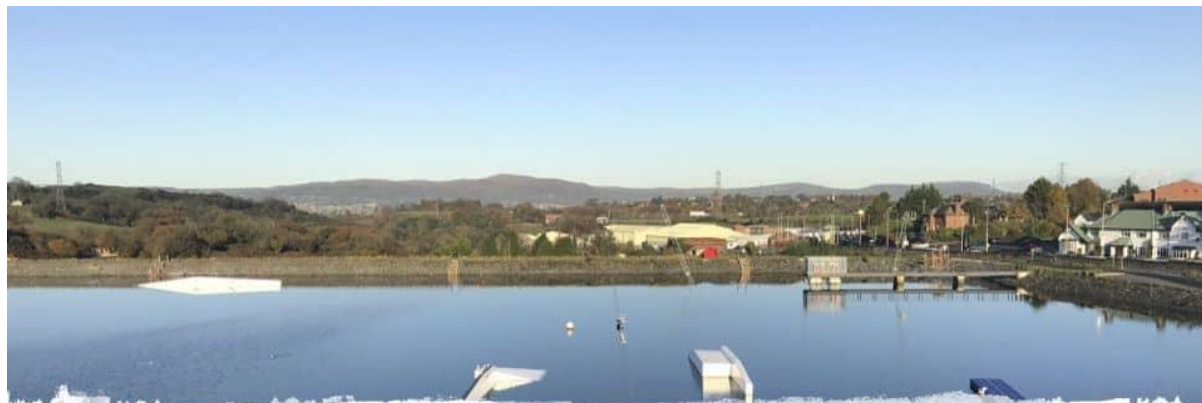
In conjunction with the Irish Wakeboard Boat Nationals. Muckno WSWC staged the first Irish Kneeboard nationals. Pat McGee won the Open men’s and Maria Jurisivene the Open Ladies’.

2019 Appointment to World Council

Linda Johnston appointed Secretary of World Wakeboard Council

2019 First Full Cable System

Let's Go Hydro, a commercial operation and part of a watersports complex on the outskirts of Belfast, installed the first full cable system in Ireland. A 5-tower continuous 568mtr clockwise cable system with a range of sliders and kickers and capable of towing up to 8 riders. Nearby there is also a single line cable system.



2019 European Champion retains title

Dianne Kirby (Meteor) wins Ladies' 65+ tricks, jump at the E&A Championships in Greece and retains her European overall title (even with a new hip!).

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=T-19EAC002&page=65_f_overall_results

2019 First 'Full Cable' Irish National Wakeboard Championships

Let's Go Hydro, Belfast staged on 17th August the first Cable National's to be held on a 'full size' continuous cable loop system. Categories; Novice Ladies, Novice Men, Under 15 Boys, Under 19 Ladies, Under 19 Men. Masters Men, Ladies' open and Men's open.

The competition Director was Michael England (Let's Go Hydro), Chief Judge -Nicole Carroll (Muckno) and Calculator – Paul Carroll (Muckno). Paul Johnston won the Open men's and Ruta Buracaite (Wakedock) the Open Ladies'.

2019 Wakeboard Euro Tour Stop, Newferry

In conjunction with the Irish Wakeboard boat National's, Newferry WSC held a qualifying stop of the Wakeboard Euro Tour on the river Bann.

Irish successes; Winners: U14 Boys, Julian Zebedee; Junior Men, Zack Zebedee; Masters Men, Peter Stewart; Open Ladies, Nicole Carroll; Open Men, David O'Caoimh.

Chief calculator – Lynda Johnston (Ireland). Irish panel judges- Paul Johnston & Nicole Carroll.
<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/boatwake/19IRL001/>

2019 World Wakeboard Boat Championships

A team representing Ireland competed in the World Wakeboard Boat Championships in Abu Dhabi. Julian Zebedee – U14 Boys; Zack Zebedee – Junior Men's; Nicole Carroll made the semi-finals of Open Ladies (9th); David Coates and Peter Stewart both made the finals of the Men's 30+, coming 5th and 6th respectively; David O'Caoimh made the finals of the Men's Open and was placed 4th.

Irish Team placed 12th overall out of 31 teams. Linda Johnston (Ireland) was the Assistant Scorer.
<https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/boatwake/19UAE002/>

2020 History of Irish Waterskiing

Launched at an evening function after the IWWF AGM 28th Feb, where a number of those who had been involved in the early days of skiing mingled with current skiers and officials. There was a power point presentation, which was a short summary of the history, some of the standout moments and an opportunity to acknowledge achievements and some of the past skiers who were in attendance.

Researched and compiled by Stuart England (Meteor).

Many contributed to the history, but a special thanks go to:

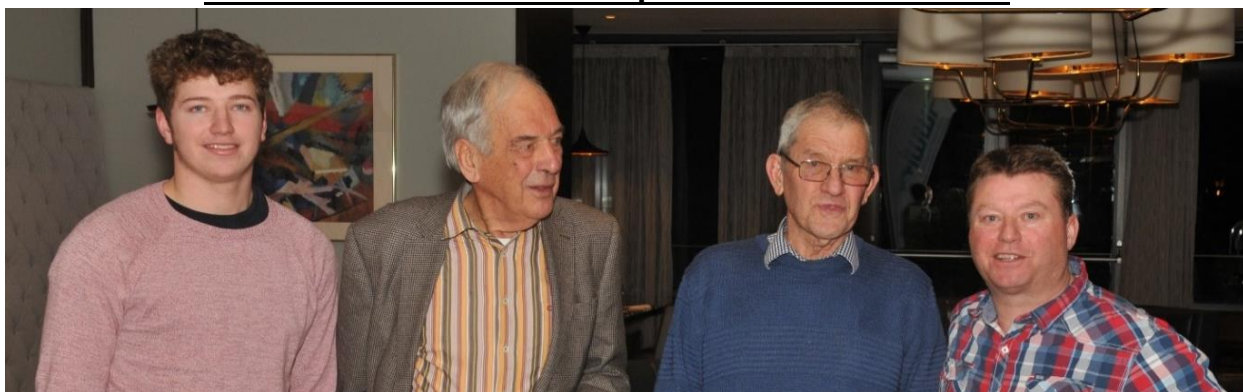
Henry Murdoch, Roger Johnson, John McDowell, David Johnson, Alan Dagg,
Richard Crisp, Geoff Shanks, Chris Owen, Irvine McKay, Brian Johnston,
Des Burke-Kennedy, Jackie Crawford and Barry C Galvin.



Some of those who attended the ski history launch event Feb 2020

Des Burke-Kennedy, Irvine McKay, Brian Johnston, Geoff Shanks, Paul Carroll, David Johnson, Elinor Johnson, Katie Warnock, Anthony Warnock, Joan Johnson, Roger Johnson, Stuart England

Irish Waterski Overall Champions - Past and Present



Daniel Galvin
2017,18,19

David Johnson
1959,62,63,65

Roger Johnson
1960,61

Barry C Galvin
1987 to 2011,13,15



At the 2020 launch night, Irvine McKay, NI regional coach in 1974, presents (at last) Brian Johnston (Meteor) with his 1974 coaching award!
Congratulations Brian, now you are an official coach - (arms straight – knees bent should still do it)!

2020 The unseen enemy

Due to social distancing restrictions, as imposed to contain the Covid-19 virus pandemic, all sport ceased in late March and water ski clubs were unable to operate. Towards the end of May some restrictions started to ease which allowed water sports, including waterskiing and wakeboarding, to tentatively restart, while still being required to adhere to 2mtr social distancing.



2021 Moving forward

Although Covid-19 restrictions impact on normal activities, it doesn't stop things moving forward.

The Federation's boat driving awards have been restructured and the revised courses and awards are now being rolled out.

Annual General Meeting – held for the first time virtually on 'Zoom'.

The committee structure has been updated with the amalgamation of cable and boat wakeboard into one committee position and a new committee position, Women in Sport has been added.

2021 Hall of Fame inductee

The IWWF International Hall of Fame is populated by those who have made the most significant and farthest-reaching contributions at the international level and who have made such a tremendous impact on our sport that their legacy deserves to be memorialized. The IWWF International Hall of

Fame recognises, appreciates and understands the incredible contributions that each recipient has made to our sport over a considerable period of years.



Des Burke-Kennedy (Ire) Official

Congratulations to Des Burke-Kennedy (GoldenFalls WSC) who has been inducted into the International Waterski and Wakeboard Hall of Fame. It is the pinnacle of awards and is the highest honour our sport can bestow. <https://iwwf.sport/hall-of-fame/wall/>

2021 2nd year of Covid disruptions

The 2021 Waterski Nationals were due to be held on 24/25 July 2021 at Cork Powerboat and Waterski Club, but taking into consideration the slow roll out of the Covid 19 Vaccine in ROI, especially among the younger population, the rise in cases of the Delta Variant and the uncertainty that this poses, it was felt that for the 2nd year in a row there was no option but to cancel the National Ski Championships.

2021 Goodbye IWWF 🙁 -- Welcome IrWWF 😊



The Federation Committee have changed the Logo to include a small 'r'. This will differentiate the Irish Federation (IrWWF) from the International Federation (IWWF) and make matters clearer in communications.



2022 Normality returns

Following 2 years of Covid restrictions, the cancelling of events and gatherings, it was a very positive step forward that the annual IrWWF Awards evening was able to be held (and in person). Allowing the 2020 and 2021 Ski League winners to (eventually) be presented with their awards.



2022 Honorary Life Membership

Following his installment into the IWWF International Hall of Fame, the IrWWF honoured Des Burke-Kennedy with Honorary Life Membership for his outstanding involvement and commitment to waterskiing in Ireland and the sport in general.



2022 New Trophy - The Cianne Naji Trophy

Cianne Naji was passionate about wakeboarding and about life. Having taken up wakeboarding at an early age she went on to win the 'Open Women Division' of the Irish National Championships in 2009 and subsequently competed on the Irish National Team in both European and World Championships.

Sadly, in January 2013, Cianne lost her life to Cystic Fibrosis at the age of only 21.



In her honour, Cianne's family presented a perpetual trophy to the IrWWF, to be awarded annually to the best up and coming female wakeboarder or water-skier under the age of 21.



Lauren Hennessy, aged 11 from Wake N Ski, the 1st winner of the Cianne Naji trophy.

2022 New Award - Young Sports Person of the Year

The IrWWF introduced a new award of 'Young Sports Person of the Year' and nominations were sought from clubs. The criteria being: to be a member of an affiliated IrWWF club; under 21 years of age; has a passion for the sport and is involved to a significant degree in a towed water sport activity in Ireland.

It is targeted at those that do not necessarily make podium finishes but could benefit from the encouragement of being recognized for their abilities to preserve and make good inroads on their

personal best. The person would be considered to be a good all-rounder on and off the water and demonstrates great potential to excel in the sport.

In recognition of her skiing achievements to date, her enthusiasm, her bubbly, jovial and infectious personality, the 1st ever recipient of the 'Young Sports Person of the year' was awarded to 13-year-old Sophia Jackson from Meteor Waterski Club.

As well as a perpetual trophy, the award comprises payment of the athlete's club membership and an amount towards sets/coaching to the value of €500 plus a commemorative hoodie.



Sophia with her trophy at the IrWWF's Awards Evening.

2022 European Champion

Dianne Kirby wins Women's 65+ age overall at the E&A Championships in Greece.

https://www.iwwfed-ea.org/competition.php?cc=T-19EAC002&page=65_f_overall_results

2022 European Wakeboard Boat Champion

Paul Johnston wins the 2022 Over 30's Men's Masters at the Europe and Africa Wakeboard Boat Championships in Cologne, Germany.



2022 New slalom achievements

Slalom results were high at the 2022 Irish Nationals in Cork, with 2 new potential records.



Rodney Watson (Meteor) 55+ Men's Slalom 1@55 11.25m

*Rodney further extended this with 1½ @55 11.25m at Gosfield, England



Arthur Murphy (Meteor) 70+ Men's Slalom 4@52 18m

2022 E&A Tricks Champion and a new record

Eamonn Prunty (Wake-N-Ski) wins seated Men's tricks (with a pending new European record of 1710) at IWWF E&A Disabled Championships in Austria and took 2nd place in slalom in his division. After a detailed review, Eamonn's trick score was later reduced to 1460.

2022 World's Success

Dianne Kirby was placed 1st in jump, 3rd in tricks and 2nd overall in Women's 65+ category at the World over 35 Championships in France.

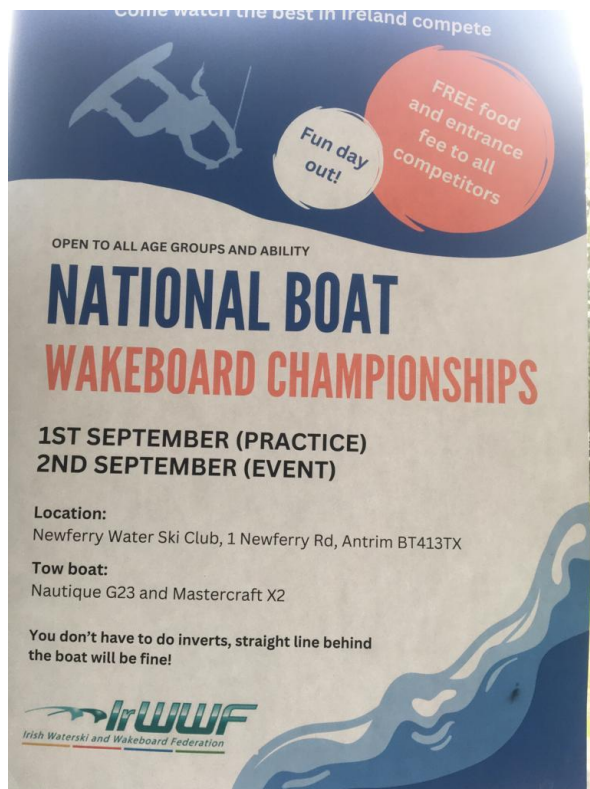
2023 Another '+' for Men's 55+ Slalom

At the Ski Nationals at Golden Falls, Rodney Watson (Meteor) extended his 55+ competition PB by ½ buoy. The score of 2 @55 11.25m is a pending new men's 55+ Irish slalom record.

2023 Cable Wakeboard gets back on track.

Following Covid restrictions and a post Covid knock on effect, Ballyhass Wake Park hosted the first Cable Wakeboard Nationals since 2019. The competition was a great success, attracting 43 riders of various standards and ages from all over the country.

2023 Boat Wakeboard Nationals beats the threat of blue-green algae



A very successful wakeboard boat nationals was held at Newferry. This was despite worries that the river may have to be closed due to blue-green algae, which had been a problem in Lough Neagh and which had flushed into coastal areas.

2023 New 35+ Ladies Slalom record

Mary Angland (Cork PB & WSC) has extended the 35+ ladies slalom record, previously held by Sue Clarke 4@16m 55k. While competing in the IrWWF slalom league Mary attained a score of 5@16m 55k and then 1@14 55k. At the Lacaneau Ski Classic in France, she further extended it to 2 @ 14 55kph.

2023 35+ team, the largest for many years

A team comprising Cork PB & WSC skiers Mary Angland, Eileen Galvin, Barry Galvin; Graeme McKibbin (Wake N Ski) and Dianne Kirby (Ind), competed in the IrWWF E&A 35+ Championships in France. The team was placed 7th overall with Dianne taking the 65+ women's overall title.

2023 World's success, and new slalom and tricks record

Eamonn Prunty (Wake N Ski) travelled to California, USA and took part in the IrWWF World Disabled Waterski Championships. Eamonn was placed 3rd in both seated men's slalom and seated men's tricks and set 2 new IrWWF records, slalom 5 @49/18.25, and tricks 1630.

2023 New E&A tricks record

Eamonn Prunty's score of 1630 at the IWWF World Disabled Waterski Championships was later reviewed as a possible E&A record. After the review it was increased to 1730 and is confirmed as a new Europe & Africa seated men's tricks record, and IrWWF record.