



## Ladies' Irish Tournament Waterski Records and Record Holders

As the sport has developed so have skis, binders, ropes, boats, ramp surfaces etc. To keep abreast of these developments and the increase in skiers' skills, there have over the years been a number of rule and technical changes. (This should be borne in mind when comparing early records with later ones.)

Hand timing, requiring someone to hang over the side of the boat with a stopwatch, timing boat buoys as they pass them, is gladly no more. The advancement in smart boat technology has been a major development. The boat's 'brain' linked with GPS navigation now controls the speed of the boat and re-acts to the pull of the skier and ensures that boat speeds are accurately achieved and maintained.

**Slalom** - Originally a clear pass scored 8 points (6 buoys & 2 gates); ladies start speed was 20mph (32kph) increasing by 1mph; rope length was the full length of 75ft (23mts), no rope shortenings as yet; max boat speed was 38mph. Over the years, as the sport progressed and skiers' standards increased, technical changes were made:- a full pass scored 6 points; the starting rope length was shortened from 23m to 18.25m; rope shortenings were introduced; start and base speeds were changed; boat speeds increased from 1mph to 3kph; ladies' maximum boat speed was restricted to 55kph (34mph); pre-gate 55m buoys were introduced.

**Tricks**- 'Ride-out bonuses', 'form bonuses' and 'ski overhead bonuses' could all be originally awarded and added to the trick points. Over the years the points value of some tricks have changed and additional tricks have been added i.e 1968/69 rule changes awarded 250 points for a toe hold side slide held for 2 secs, but 150 points if held for 1.5 to 1.9secs.

**Jump**- The original jump height was set at 5ft 10ins. A standard height of 6ft (1.8m) was adopted. In later years 5ft 6in (1.65m) and 5ft (1.5m) ramp heights were introduced. Originally to score a jump the skier had to ski over the jump and continue to ski to a 100m ride-out buoy without falling. In the early years up to 10% 'form' points were awarded.

The early days of jump measurement was by visually aligning the splash on landing against a floating plank with markers every foot. This was improved using trigonometry when jump stations (3) with large protractors and sighting arms, 2 to a table, one above the other, were introduced. The stations were located along a pre-measured baseline facing the area where the skier would land and the angle where the skier landed was taken from each station. These were then plotted on a master board. The point of landing was where the 3 angles intersected allowing a jump distance to be worked out. This has been greatly advanced by 'SplashEye', using cameras linked to a computer program. 'SplashEye', was developed by Donal Connolly (Golden Falls WSC) and is used and accepted worldwide.

**'Native' records**, as set by Irish qualified skiers at homologated competitions held in Ireland are recorded in black.

**'Overseas' records** as set by IWWF skiers at homologated competitions outside of Ireland are recorded in blue.

All Current records (both Native and Overseas) are recorded in RED.

## Ladies' Waterski Records

Key to clubs: Ballscadden (B) Golden Falls (GF) Killaloe (K) Lough Aghery (LA)  
Meteor (M) Mid-Ulster (MU) Omagh/Baronscourt (O) O'Brien's Bridge (OB) Sligo (S)

Year	Slalom	Tricks	Jump
1959	Margaret McDonnell (K)	X	37ft Mary Bogan (K)
1960	Margaret McDonnell (K)	Dervila Healy (B)	46ft Dierdre Frawley (K)
1961	28 (4@23mph) Ruth Johnson (B) 61 (5@27mph) Christine Fusco (M)	80 Deirdre Frawley (K) 130 Christine Fusco (M)	
1962	22 (5@30mph) Christine Fusco (M)	280 Christine Fusco (M) 330 Christine Fusco (M) Cold Water Champs, Amsterdam	48ft Christine Fusco (M)
1963	19 Buoys Brenda Frawley (K)		
1964			
1965		195 Brenda Anderson (S)	49½ft Dierdre Frawley (K)
1966		263 Ruth Johnson (GF)	
1967			
1968	10 Buoys Heather Patterson (M)	316 Brenda Anderson (S)	53ft Heather Patterson (M)
1969			
1970			
1971	12 Buoys Heather Patterson (M)		
1972			
1973			18.5m Heather Patterson (M)
1974			
1975			
1976			
1977			
1978		530 Winnie McGread (O)	
1979		670 Barbara Fair (M)	
1980	4½ @49 Michele Cautley (GF)	830 Barbara Fair (M)	20.0m Deirdre McGlynn (OB)
1981	"	"	20.3m Deirdre McGlynn (OB)
1982	½ @ 52 Michele Cautley (GF)	1030 Barbara Fair (M) 1170 Barbara Fair (M) 1250 Barbara Fair (M)	"
1983	"	"	"
1984	" 2@55 Gwen McFadden (O) at Asian Open, Malaysia	"	"
1985	"	"	"

1986	"	"	"
1987	"	"	"
1988	"	1260 Barbara Dennis (nee Fair) (M)	20.6m Michele Cautley (GF) 21.9m Michele Cautley (GF) 22.3m Barbara Dennis (M) 23.8m Michele Cautley (GF)
1989	"	1270 Barbara Dennis (M)	"
1990	" 3@55 Gwen McFadden (O) at Walmsmead, Florida, USA	1350 Barbara Dennis (M)	23.9m Barbara Dennis (M) 25.0m Barbara Dennis (M)
1991	"	"	"
1992	5@55 Sue Clarke (GF) 1-16m@55 Ellen McKeown (M)	"	25.1m Sue Clarke (GF) 25.4m Louise Campbell (MU) 27.0m Louise Campbell (MU) 28.1m Louise Campbell (MU)
1993	4-16m@55 Sue Clarke (GF)	"	30.0m Louise Campbell (MU) at Irish Nationals, Muckno
1994	"	"	"
1995	"	"	"
1996	"	"	"
1997	"	"	"
1998	"	"	"
1999	"	"	"
2000	2-14.25m@55 Laura McLernon (LA)	"	"
2001	"	1580 Dianne Kirby (M)	"
2002	" 2-14.25m@55 Dianne Kirby (M) at Europeans Seniors, Austria	1580 Dianne Kirby (M) at European Seniors, Austria	28.0m Dianne Kirby (M) at European Seniors, Austria
2003	2-12m@55 Laura McLernon (LA) at Irish Nationals, Golden Falls	2190 Dianne Kirby (M) at Irish Nationals, Golden Falls	"
2004	"	"	"
2005	"	"	"
2006	"	"	"
2007	"	"	"
2008	"	"	"
2009	"	"	"
2010	" 3 ½-14,25m@55 Dianne Kirby (M) at European Seniors, Italy	"	"
2011	"	"	"
2012	"	"	"
2013	"	"	"
2014	"	"	"
2015	"	"	"
2016	"	"	"
2017	"	"	"

2018	"	"	"
2019	"	"	"
2020	"	"	"
2021	"	"	"