



2024 Aquanut Senior Team Membership Guide

Senior Show Director

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Team Overview

Welcome to the 2024 Aquanut Water Shows Ski Team!

We appreciate all parents who support our team as non-skiing members. Our success relies on every one of you!

Membership & Admin Contacts

- Sandy Boerman: Email: sandyboerman@yahoo.com
- Lesley Gunderson: Email: aquanut.lg@gmail.com
- Team Communication tool: TeamSnap
- Website: <https://aquanutwatershows.com/>
- General Number: 866-754-7465: Admin@AquanutWaterShows.com
- Mailing Address: Aquanut Water Shows Inc, PO Box 118; Twin Lakes, WI 53181



Team Communication

- Each team member must provide an email, address, birth date, and cell phone number on their membership form for important team communications and tournaments.
- The team uses TeamSnap to communicate with members. The show director will send messages to communicate last-minute changes to practice times or show instructions. Please contact the show director for instructions on how to sign up.
- The team also communicates through a private page on Facebook called Aquanut Practice; please request to Join the group and your name will be added by the Administrator. Questions, please contact Ethan Shulda (ethanshulda12@gmail.com)

Membership Dues & Financial Information

Membership Perks

- **Discounted Aquanut Gear from the Web Store ONLY.**
- **Parade – Libertyfest - Village of Twin Lakes Parade at 10am on July 6, 2024.** Junior and Senior members are welcome to participate in the parade to promote the Aquanuts to the community.
- **Free Team Dinners and Events throughout the season. Non-members pay \$10-\$20 per event.**
- **No-cost State and National Team Events.**
- **No-cost Annual Awards Banquet admission. 2024 Team Banquet – Sunday, September 1, 2024, 6 pm – Red Barn at Twin Lakes Country Club.** Non-Members pay \$20 per person.
- All team members aged 14 and older are given the privilege to vote in August for the Show Director and Aquanut Board members needed for the following year.

Membership Dues

1. All Senior Team members must pay annual dues, pay USA Waterski membership, and enroll in WWSF.
2. USA and WWSF must be renewed for entire season by May 1, 2024 (must be active for dryland).
3. Safe Sport: renewed for entire season by May 1, 2024
4. Selling of raffle tickets (see "Raffle Tickets" below) **When you have completed 1-4, you will receive your raffle tickets at our next event.

Dates	Skiing Member	Non-Skiing
Early Bird - Registered and paid by April 1, 2024	\$100.00	\$40.00
Regular Dues - Registered and paid After April 1, 2024	\$150.00	\$75.00
New Members	\$100.00	\$40.00

Dues and Registration can be done by paper or online @

<https://aquanutwatershows.com/membership-requirements/>

Raffle Tickets

In 2024, each skiing team member is required to sell 15 raffle tickets (\$20/each) with an additional 5 tickets per skiing family member, up to a maximum of 35 tickets per family. Non-skiing members are required to sell 5 raffle tickets.

All ticket stubs and related money are due by August 21st, 2024.

Sold tickets stubs and money can be turned in to membership committee heads: Sandy Boerman, Lesley

Gunderson, or Mark Gurda (Team Treasurer), throughout the summer.

Selling raffle tickets is our primary team fundraiser and is crucial to our team's operation and success. They provide capital funding to maintain our equipment--skis, ropes, costumes, jump, pier, boats, and motors.

Selling raffle tickets is a part of your team dues, therefore, you are required to turn in this money for allotted tickets. If you do not sell all your tickets, you will be responsible to turn in tickets unsold along with their monetary value. The Aquanuts print up to 2,000 tickets each year. Total prizes are \$6,500. The winning prizes are tax free to the recipient. The winning tickets are drawn at our last show on Labor Day weekend.

Additional tickets: If you sell an additional 15 tickets beyond your responsibility, you will receive a sponsorship that covers your team dues for the following year. Membership sponsorship is non-transferable. (You are still responsible for USA and WWSF.)

USA Waterski Membership

USA membership must be active for **both skiing and non-skiing members** the entire ski season. If your USA membership expires anytime during the 2024 season, please renew **by May 1, 2024**.

For liability reasons, all members on the water or helping on land **must** have ACTIVE and current USA membership.

USA membership can be completed online at <https://members.usawaterski.org/member/login>. To be added to our team roster, be sure to choose "Aquanut Water Shows" as your team affiliation.

Safe Sport

Who needs to do Safe Sport:

- USA Waterski requires any team member who is 18 years or older, or who will turn 18 during our ski season, to pass the Safe Sport certification class to be eligible to participate in any team activities – this includes: skiing, riding, driving, announcing, helping on the dock, and participating in dryland practices.
- You do NOT have to complete Safe Sport to volunteer in the concessions stand or T-shirt stand.

About the Safe Sport class:

- This is an online course, and the first time will take approximately 1.5 - 2hrs., you can start and stop if necessary.
- For the next 3 years you will need to do a refresher course each year that takes approx. 15-20 minutes, you will be sent an email 6 weeks prior to expiration, then 4 weeks, and 2 weeks.
- If you take the refresher course sooner than renewal date (prior to notices), this will now be your new expiration date.
- On your 4th year, you will be required to retake the Safe Sport course in its entirety.

Safe Sport Training Process

FREE to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Members

- Log into your [Members Only page](#) using your membership number and password.
- Select ***SafeSport Training/Background Screening*** from the menu.
- Follow the applicable instructions for either first-time training or training renewal for those who have taken the course previously.
- Once you have completed the course, it will automatically be reflected in your USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Member Dashboard within 24 hours. If after 24 hours you do not see an updated "Safe Sport Status" within your USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Member Dashboard, please email your certificate of completion to compliance@usawaterski.org
- Any questions or help on Safe Sport please call USA Waterski 863-324-4341 or visit their website for more info: USAwaterski.org

Please save a copy of your certificate on your phone. Please send a copy of your completed certificate to Admin@aquanutwatershows.com

Wisconsin Water Ski Federation Membership (WWSF)

WWSF membership is required annually for all Senior members who will be competing at the WI State competition in July. WWSF membership must be completed **by May 1, 2024**, and can be completed online at <http://www.joinit.org/o/wwwsf>.

Any individual age 18 or older as of January 1st must apply for an Active **INDIVIDUAL Membership rather than bundling up in an Active **FAMILY** Membership, even if they live in the same household. When signing up for a Family membership, count the primary into your total number of members.**

Any Junior team member who is brought up to ski with the Senior team in the State competition will also be required to become a WWSF member (at that time) to be tournament eligible.

If you have any questions about these memberships or forms, please contact Sandy Boerman (sandyboerman@yahoo.com) or Lesley Gunderson (aquanaut.lg@gmail.com) for assistance.

Other Member Information

Code Of Conduct

Members are expected to treat others with respect and kindness. Safe Sport and general codes of conduct apply to all members. Bullying of any kind is not tolerated. If you are witness to, or a victim of bullying from a team member, you are responsible for communicating your concern to your show director or any board member. Bullying can be in the form or in-person physical, emotional, or online.

Those reporting any bullying will remain anonymous. The process for discipline may be private or public depending on the situation. Any incident of bullying will be considered by the Team President, The Show director and at least two other board members. Any intrateam-disciplinary action will not be posted on social media and should not be discussed online.

Costumes

Costumes are provided to each member. Each costume assigned to you is each member's responsibility. Many hours go into making these and they must be properly cared for. New costumes may bleed, so gently handwashing with vinegar and water will generally be sufficient.

Keep colors separate when wet so they don't bleed on each other. Hang up to dry in a shaded area after each use or washing. Do not dry costumes in a hot dryer or hang in the sun (they will fade).

Wetsuits

Where applicable, Team wetsuits should be purchased are yours to keep. These will be a big part of your costume and will always be worn. Contact Bob Lenz (Blenzemail@gmail.com) to purchase one--the cost TBD. If you have outgrown yours, feel free to post it on our FB practice page to sell it to a teammate.

Practice, Show Schedules, and Site Setup and Take Down

DRYLAND PRACTICE: Will be scheduled in advance based on need.

SENIOR PRACTICES: First week of May thru Labor Day - Every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5:30 pm until dusk. Additional specialty practices may be added if necessary. Always plan to practice the Monday prior to a tournament.

SENIOR SHOWS: Memorial Day thru Labor Day weekend - every Wednesday & Saturday at 6:00 pm (free admission). Every team member needs to be at the show site at 5 pm for set-up.

SHOW SITE: The Team will clean up the show site and put the pier and stage sections into the water the end of April. **(This date is to be determined and you will be notified).** On the Sunday morning of Labor Day weekend, the team gathers at the show site to take out the piers and stage sections, clean the Scout House and site.

Privacy and Security

Security cameras are installed in the Nut Hut, Concessions, and both Equipment Sheds. Please be aware of the location of the cameras for your privacy concerns.

Sponsor Support

Please try to utilize the services our sponsors provide. Twin Lakes Marine, Inc. currently provides our outboard motors and service. Other Sponsors are displayed in our program and on our docks and jump.

Contact the Program/Ad Sales Committee at AquanutAdBook@gmail.com for further information to become a team sponsor or to place an ad in our program by April 1st.

Tournaments

In addition to performing two shows a week, the Aquanuts are proud to compete in Regional, State, and National tournaments throughout the summer. You are required to provide your own hotel accommodations. The team may have reserved a block of rooms at preferred rates. Contact your show director for more information.

Wisconsin State Competition: July 18-21, 2024 - Lake Wazeecha, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. The Aquanuts compete in Division I against several other Wisconsin show teams. Team members stay at *Hotel Mead & Conference Center*, 451 East Grand Ave., Wisconsin Rapids. We have a block of rooms reserved under **Aquanuts**. Phone: 800-843-6323 Reservations: reservations@hotelmead.com Website: www.hotelmead.com

Division 1 National Competition: August 9-11, 2024 – Loves Park, Illinois. The top teams from the State competition are invited to compete at the National level. Each team presents a one-hour show and is judged by a panel of experts in such areas as Doubles, Barefoot, Ballet Line, Swivel, Big Act, and Pyramids.

It is a fun weekend of camaraderie among show teams from other towns. If you are unable to attend one of these tournaments, you should communicate this to the show director(s) ASAP. It is very important to attend all the practices and shows the week prior to a tournament. *Competitions for individuals in swivel, doubles, and jump are held two days before the Wisconsin State tournament and one day before the National tournament **(It is the responsibility of the individual or group to sign up for these themselves.)**

Show Site Team Member Upkeep Responsibilities

Using our show site is a privilege, and we are expected to take care of it. The Village has given us guidelines that we must follow. Every Team member is responsible for picking up trash around the show site, keeping all bathrooms clean, and bringing full garbage cans to the parking lot.

Team members are also expected to keep the Scout House, Nut Hut, and Equipment Sheds tidy and clean. We do not want the town of Twin Lakes to revoke our privileges. Please review the cleaning expectations from the Village on the corkboard in the Scout House.

Additional Volunteer Opportunities

Non-Skiing Members are always welcome and encouraged to assist the Team in areas such as: concessions, pin pullers (we can train you), riders in safety boats, rope and dock, after-show clean up, collections help, etc. Everyone has a talent--let us know what yours is!

Contact Bob Koehler, club President, Koehler.Aquanuts@Gmail.com and he can direct you to the proper lead person.

Adaptive Water Ski Clinics: The Aquanut Water Shows organization is committed to providing a positive and safe learning environment for individuals with physical and mental disabilities and their families.

We try to host several clinic dates per summer. All Aquanuts and their parents are encouraged to participate. Volunteer training is provided. This is a great opportunity for students/interns to obtain service hours. Go to www.aquanutwatershows.com for the schedule.

Learn to Ski Clinics: Each summer, the Aquanut team members volunteer to teach anyone who would like to learn to waterski. The dates will be listed on our website and in our program. Learn to Ski clinics are a great opportunity for the Aquanut organization to give back to the community.

2024 Board Members and Committees

Elections for Board members occur each August and the terms of office run from Labor Day to Labor Day.

Executive Board Member positions are selected for two-year terms while show directors are elected for one-year terms. The elected Board members convene after their election to select 5 board members at large, as well as possible alternate members or apprentice members. Each non-exec board position is selected to a one-year term.

2024 Board Members

- President – Bob Koehler
- Vice President – Dan Boerman
- Secretary – Amber Tosi
- Treasurer – Mark Gurda
- Show Directors – Ethan Shulda
- Junior Show Director – Maddie Boerman
- Board Members at Large – Andy Martin, Lesley Gunderson, Bob Lenz, Colleen Moore, Justin Mushel
- Alternate – Andy Amore

Board Terms

- President and Secretary – Odd numbered years.
- Treasurer and Vice President – Even numbered years.

Committees

Volunteers are needed in each committee. Please bring your time, talent, and treasure to being a volunteer. Contact any board member to let them know you would like to work on a particular committee.

1. **Adaptive Aquatics:** Oversee and run all areas of the Adaptive Aquatics, its events, and equipment.
2. **Alumni:** Development of events and communications with our alumni.
3. **Boats, Barges and Trailer Maintenance Team:** Maintenance and upkeep of all boats, barges, and trailers owned by the team.
4. **Concession Stand:** Food/drink purchasing and selling.
5. **Costumes:** Purchasing and keeping inventory of team costumes.
6. **Finance Committee:** Oversee Team finances, developing a Team budget, and presenting financial recommendations to the Board of Directors.
7. **Infrastructure (Show site, Buildings, Signs, etc.):** Show site maintenance and building development.
8. **Learn to Ski:** Organize volunteers and supervise our Learn to Ski program.
9. **Marketing/Social Media:** Find creative ways to market and promote the Team via the team website, social media, and other avenues.
10. **Membership/Raffle:** Organize and record each member's Team, USA, WWSF, and Safe Sport memberships as well as distribute and manage raffle tickets.
11. **Program/Ad Sales:** Solicit advertisers, invoicing, layout and artwork, knowledge of Photoshop and/or Adobe Illustrator, layout of logos, signs, photography featured in program and social media, and gather printing costs.
12. **Recruiting & Skier Development:** Recruit and develop skills of new and existing skiing members.
13. **Safety:** Teach Team safety procedures and maintenance of Team safety equipment.
14. **Ski Equipment:** Maintenance and purchasing of all Team skis, ropes, and related equipment.
15. **Social Events:** Planning team social events.
16. **Sound and Sound Equipment:** Maintenance and purchasing of all Team sound equipment.
17. **Spirit Wear:** Team clothing design, purchasing, and selling.
18. **Team Photography:** Take Team photographs throughout the summer for social media posts and the program.
19. **Website:** Design and manage Team website.

Aquanut FAQ's

New members might not be familiar with some of the lingo, so here are a few answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

- **Scout House:** Located at Lance Park Aquanut Show Site where team can have meetings, practice routines during bad weather, changing area, and team restroom.
- **Nut Hut:** Where we sell Aquanut apparel. Our sound crew uses the second level.
- **Concession Area:** Where we sell food and beverages.
- **Equipment Sheds:** Located down by the water. It is the skier's responsibility to keep equipment sheds clean and put things where they belong.
- **World Show Ski Team:** A team of 35 elite skiers is chosen from around the USA and brought together to compete against other countries approx. every two years. The 2022 World Tournament was held in Winter Haven, Florida and the Team took 1st Place. The next World tournament will be in 2025 in Mulwala, Australia.

- **Freezin' for a Reason: December 7, 2024** (first Saturday of December) *Gage Marine in Williams Bay, WI.* The Aquanuts support our sponsor, Gage Marine, with skiers, boat drivers, riders, and announcers. If you would like to volunteer for the day or give a donation or raffle prize, please contact Kami Koehler (Barefootingusa@gmail.com). *Freezin' for a Reason* benefits "Santa Cause." Read more at <http://santacauses.org>. We find it very rewarding to give back to the community. Many of us have been excited to say that we skied in December to help a great cause.

Think Tank – March 2024

Think Tank (Wisconsin Water Ski Convention & Expo) is the premier water-skiing education experience offering training for nearly every water ski discipline as well as seminars and forums on a variety of other topics including team management, show production, scoring, swivel/ballet/jump clinics, and insurance.

Many of the most knowledgeable and respected instructors from around the nation and the State of Wisconsin will be on hand to share their expertise to give you a jump-start on the upcoming water ski season. This is a great way to learn some new skills in the off season or take your skiing to the next level.

The expo also allows water ski industry and related businesses to showcase the latest in equipment, gear, boats, motors, and more. Think Tank 2024 will be held at Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells on March 1-3, 2024. Feel free to visit www.waterski.org



There is a lot of information here. If we have left something out, please let Ethan Shulda, Sandy Boerman or Lesley Gunderson know. This is a work-in-progress informational packet and is intended to be updated annually. Have a great Season!