



Ski Broncs Water Ski Show Team

Membership Handbook

Shorewood Park Loves Park, IL 61111

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About the Ski Broncs

Mission Statement:

To improve our community, and promote the sport of water skiing, through the impact we have on our participants and those who relate to us as a water ski show team.

Ski Broncs Water-Ski Show Team

The Ski Broncs Water Ski Show Team is a non-profit organization located in Loves Park, IL. The team was incorporated in 1967 and averages 100 members annually. Indoor practice starts winter; water practice starts April or May depending on weather. Our shows are Wednesdays and Fridays from Memorial Day weekend until Labor Day weekend. We practice on the water after Labor Day until it gets too cold to ski.

Team Philosophy

Ski Broncs is a 100% volunteer organization. Members work hard to raise funds and keep participation costs reasonable. By producing free community ski shows and hosting large tournaments, we have a positive impact on our community and the sport of water skiing. While our purpose is to serve, we do it for the love of our families, friends, fans, and fun (water skiing)!

Sign-up for Membership

Prospective Members are encouraged to join the club at any time. The membership director will provide information and required forms (skibroncs@gmail.com attention membership director)

Parental Participation

At least one adult family member for children under the age of 17 is desired to support activities, club practices, shows and join committees. There are many opportunities for parents to participate. We need parent commitment to help with our fund raising activities, help with costumes, assist with dock operations during practices and shows, and spot for boat drivers. One adult family member, or adult designee, must be on site for any child age 13 and under.

USA Water Ski (USAWS) membership

USA Water Ski is the national governing body for our sport. Each team member is required to join USA Water Ski as an active member to be covered by insurance while participating with the team, as long as you assist with any practice or show in any way. Parents of young adults over the age of 18 who are self-sustaining (college students, etc.) are encouraged to join USAWS and participate in club activities. Contact the membership director for required forms. On-line USA Water Ski membership registration is available at <https://www.usawaterski.org/members/join/>. Prices are subject to change.

Insurance Coverage

Only Active USAWS members may participate in USA Water Ski-sanctioned events (Ski Broncs practices, shows and tournaments. Supporting members must, annually, upgrade to Active status to participate. Active members are eligible to receive secondary medical expense coverage of up to \$10,000 (subject to a \$1,000 deductible) for accidental injuries sustained during participation in any USA Water Ski-sanctioned event. Members are responsible for addressing insurance claims directly with the USAWSA.

Safety

Safety is the #1 priority on the team. All ski team members must follow the safety rules and abide by the directions of the safety coordinator and show director. The show director and safety coordinator have the authority to stop the show or act at any time they feel a skier/act may be in danger. Skiers must stop skiing immediately and follow all directions. It is important to be alert and keep safety in mind at all times. This is important for skiers, boat personnel and anyone helping out with the show.

- Horseplay is not tolerated during practice and shows. This includes no running on the dock and no pushing skiers off the dock.
- The dock is reserved to include only Ski Broncs members during practice and shows. Parents, relatives, or friends who are not active members of the ski club are not allowed on the dock during practices and shows.
- Use ski equipment that is appropriate for your size and skill level; ask a member of the show directing team if you are not sure.
- Always be aware of your surroundings when skiing or riding in the boat.
- Helmets are required for all jump acts, ATB, and some other specialty acts.
- Every boat must have a spotter when pulling a skier.
- When you fall and are not injured, always smile and wave a hand above your head. Make sure the towboat and pick up boat can see you. Look directly at the towboat driver, the driver will direct you which way to swim. The tow boat or the pick up boat will get you. If you are close to shore, you may swim in.
- If you fall as a group, **STAY TOGETHER** and get clear of ropes. It helps the boat get everyone faster. People come first, not equipment.
- If there is a serious injury, **CROSS YOUR ARMS OVER YOUR HEAD IN AN X FIGURE**. The show/practice will be stopped and medical attention will arrive ASAP.
- If you are alone and you are injured, **DO NOT WAVE**. If you can, cross your arms over your head in an **X FIGURE**, medical attention will arrive ASAP.
- If you are injured listen and follow directions of the safety person. If you need to be placed on a back board, an ambulance will be called.
- No gum or food while skiing. This is a choking hazard.
- Jewelry, including earrings or other body piercing jewelry, should not be worn while skiing. This could cause serious injuries.

Hand Signals

Review and know the water ski signals.

<http://www.usawaterski.org/BasicSkills/LearnToShowSki.pdf>

Code of Conduct

TEAM EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES:

You are expected to attend all practices unless you are working, ill or have previously arranged to be excused. Participation in the shows is dependent on practice participation, conduct, ability and size. Parents please complete a practice-show schedule form and identify planned vacations so the show director will plan act practice accordingly. Absences the week before a tournament are strongly discouraged. Show positions are appointed by the Show Director

COOPERATION: is absolutely essential. This means listening to directions in order to keep practice safe and productive. All members must follow directions of the Show Director at all times. The Dock Boss supervises all activities on the Dock. Skiers that do not follow the Show Director's or Dock Boss' directions can be dismissed from the practice and shows.

RESPECT: It is important to treat all team members and volunteers with respect. Keep in mind that people may be new and it is all of our responsibility to help one another. Negative comments do not help. Do not post negative comments regarding Ski Broncs and its members on social media forums. Be positive, constructive and encouraging. Remember, we do this because we like water skiing and want to put on the best show we can.

BOAT BEHAVIOR: The boat drivers volunteer their time to support this club. It is mandatory that all skiers respect the driver and the condition of their boats. When on the water do exactly as instructed by the driver. Skiers wipe down boats immediately after shows and practice. A kind "Thank-you" is appropriate to the driver/spotter after each pull.

CONDUCT: Members will not be under the influence of alcohol/drugs at any event. Consumption on days of practice and shows will not be tolerated. No smoking in the building, ski areas, boats and docks. Inappropriate language will not be tolerated. Should a concern or a dispute occur, contact the show director or members of the show directing team first. If the issue is not resolved, contact an officer of the Board of Directors.

SHOWMANSHIP: We are a show TEAM, and we have to keep a positive mental attitude at all times. That means enthusiasm, smiling and waving. You are an entertainer. The show must go on even if mistakes are made. Work together and keep the team and show in mind.

BOAT DRIVING and SAFETY RELEASE: Boat drivers drive the boats according to boat safety and show patterns. Spotters and release people are required and are critical to safety. The safety boat and passenger also have an important role with team safety. All boat drivers and riders must be alert at all times. Skiers need to make sure that they communicate with drivers and spotters before each pull.

Practices

Times: Practices schedules (with times and dates) will be e-mailed to all members. Season practice starts in April/May depending on weather conditions. Weekday practices will generally run from 5:30 pm to dusk. Skiers are required to get the equipment and ropes from the ski-building to the dock and return all equipment to the building as soon as practice is over. All skiers are required to help with clean-up after each practice. This includes storing all equipment and ensuring the dock area is clean. If everyone works a little bit, the work is fun for everyone.

What to bring to practice: Wear your swimsuit and always dress in layers, especially at the beginning of the season. (You may want to bring a hat and gloves during the April/May practices. Yes, you will be in the water.) When climbing or doing doubles, girls need to wear leggings or spandex shorts. We also encourage people to bring water and healthy snacks. The club provides skis, wakeboards, helmets and other special equipment needed for practice. The equipment is VERY expensive so do not drop or throw skis. Skiers are allowed to bring personal equipment but it must be marked with the owner's name. The club is not responsible for any personal equipment used in practice.

Planned Practice Schedule

Practice schedule may be changed at the discretion of the show directing team to accommodate club needs.

Costumes: Keep costumes in separate bags according to color. Mark personal belongings with your name. Try to keep your equipment in a single place, away from the building and out of the way for safety. Always rinse and hang your costumes up to dry after each show. It is your responsibility to keep your costume smelling clean and fresh. **DO NOT PUT COSTUMES IN THE WASHER OR DRYER!!! THIS WILL RUIN THE FABRIC AND CAUSE MAJOR FADING.** Please bring plastic grocery bags to separate certain colors of costumes as some of the fabrics will bleed and RUIN other costumes.

Costume director may hold a deposit per skier (cash or check) until the end of the season when costumes are returned in good repair. Skiers may also be asked to sign a contract.

Parking

No parking beyond chain at practices and shows; tow and service vehicles only.

Show Time

Arrive by 5:30 PM at Shorewood Park to begin preparation for 7:00 pm show. Put on costume and wetsuit right away. Place all show equipment on the dock, floaters and other designated areas. Ensure ropes are rolled properly. The show will promptly start at 7:00. After the show: All skiers must help with cleaning and proper storage of all equipment. Everyone is expected to help with "End of the Year" clean up party.

Show and Practice Cancellation:

Practices may only be cancelled on site at Shorewood. Cancellations may be called by

1. Safety Director
2. Show Director

COMMITTEE'S

(Members are required to participate in at least one committee)

Committee Responsibilities

1. **Concession Committee:** Organize, oversee and budget for the establishment of menu items, prices, inventories, accounting, and operating personnel for concession sales at home shows. A person on this committee must take a course and be certified through the Health Department. Submit budget to Board
2. **Dock and jump:** Organize, oversee, and budget for the maintenance, replacement, launching, and removal of this equipment before and after the season. Must submit tentative dates for launch and removal to Board. Submit timeline and budget to Board.
3. **Photography Committee:** Organize, oversee, and budget for the taking of such photographs and videos as the Club may require. Responsible for creating digital library and make available to team members.
4. **Site committee:** Organize, plan, oversee, and budget for the maintenance and improvement of the site, including but not limited to stage, beach, grass and building. Create a schedule for members to rake beach and sweep stage. Responsible for scheduling, organizing, and making all workdays productive. One Board appointed person on this committee will be responsible for communicating with Park District. Submit time line and budget to Board.
5. **Social committee:** Organize, oversee, and budget social gatherings and events intended to maintain Club contact and morale and make these events available to all members. Submit budget to Board.
 - a. Jr. Social committee: Appointed by Social Committee chairperson. Organize events intended to create a community amongst junior members and recruit potential new members.
6. **Sound equipment Committee:** organize, oversee and budget for maintenance and additional equipment. Operate the sound system for all shows, tournaments and other events as needed by the Club.

Show Director Appointed Positions

1. Show Committee: Responsible for development of theme
2. B-team Committee: Responsible for developing, overseeing, and coordinating all phases of the B-team show.
 - a. Announcer
 - b. Sound
 - c. Costumes
 - d. Drivers
 - e. Spotters
3. Costume Coordinator: Organize and budget for the design, purchase, production, and maintenance of costumes as required by the nature of the theme. Responsible for arranging for costumes to be cleaned or assigned to skiers. Submit budget to show director.

4. Music Coordinator: Select music and sound effects to coordinate with the show. Responsible for filling out paperwork for National Tournament and establishing a library reference.
5. Prop Coordinator and Committee: Organize the budget and design the construction of props needed for the show. Submit budget to show director.
6. Dock and Boss Crew: Responsible for coordinating skis and ropes on the docks. Delegates crew to work south and north docks including checking site for equipment at end of show.
7. Chief Boat Driver: Responsible for the selection of tow boat drivers and safety boat drivers along with show director. Responsible for maintaining list of qualified boat drivers.
8. Safety Director and Committee: Responsible for the overall safety during shows and practices, selection of spotters for tow boats and safety boats, maintaining personnel log for emergency medical use, and an inventory for First Aid Supplies, training of safety boat spotters and dock personnel, ensuring that all Club members sign waivers of Club liability annually.
9. Skis and Ropes Committee: Organize, oversee, and budget for maintenance and replacement of all skis and rope equipment used for the Club. Submit time-line and budget to show director.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many other volunteer opportunities as well. Here are some of the awesome events where the Ski Broncs are represented:

- Learn to Ski
- Adaptive Ski
- Parades
- Casino Nights
- Broncs Bash
- Committees
- Boat Show
- Peak FitFest
- Concession Stand – special events
- Tournaments

We need everyone to participate. Think about which committee works best for you. If you do not sign up for a committee by April, you will be assigned a committee. Thank you all, we hope to have a fun filled summer.

For further questions or information contact current membership director skibroncs@gmail.com. Please put 'Attention membership director' in the subject line.