

FAR WEST WATER SKI CLUB

May 2022 Newsletter

<http://farwestwaterskiclub.com/index.html>

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A Message from the President

Greetings All!

I hope everyone is done either licking their wounds or patting themselves on the back from this last tournament's clashes! That was a lot of skiing and just as much fun! Cool idea on the format Brian! I'm curious to see how it all plays out as we all start preparing for the next tournament on May 21,22.

Now that you all have a tournament under your belt and have skied under "pressure," hopefully you have identified some areas of your skiing that may need some attention. For me, when skiing in a "pressure" situation I try not to think about too much and just let the time on the water and muscle memory take over. If you *have* identified some problem areas, that means the next time you get on the water, your practice session should probably be modified a bit to pinpoint what is causing your skiing to not be exactly what you need it to be.

Maybe you are squatting as you cross the wake, pulling your arms in when they should be straight, turning in for the gates on your back foot, not letting your ski tip point across the wake before you begin to lean away, skiing 2 mph faster than you know you should just because it feels easier. Many, many things can happen in the split seconds that is a slalom pass!

I have found over the years that if I am working on something specific, I will tell the observer what I am trying to accomplish and have them watch for *just that one thing*. Sure, I may be doing other things wrong but that may be a consequence of me trying to fix *that one thing*. It is very easy for the observer to see other things or have other ideas of what you should do than what you are working on and tell you about them. This will begin to take your mind off of *that one thing* (SQUIRREL!) you are trying to fix and add something else to the equation...(very hard to do!) Make *them* stick to your plan! Learning to either do or not do specific moves while trying to negotiate the buoys on the slalom course can be very, very challenging! Having your crew be on the same page as you and helping you perfect one move at a time will be very beneficial to you advancing to that next speed or line length. Always remember, time on the water, patients, and a good crew are the tools we all need to be the best slalom skiers we can be!

I'll see you guys on May 21st
Ski hard but ski smart!
Bob

From the Tournament Director

Hi All,

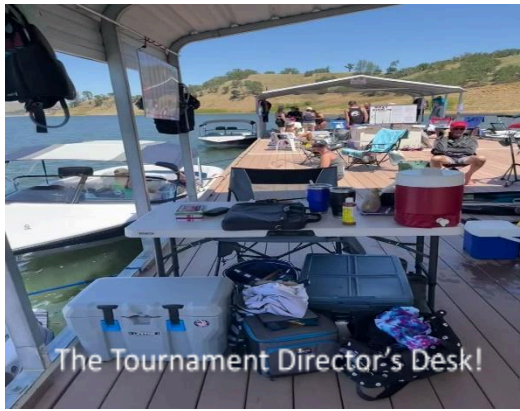
For the April Tournament we ended up with 28 skiers spread across 4 teams. We skied 2 full rounds on Saturday and another round on Sunday. Each skier was guaranteed 4 passes in each round. A few of us really needed the extra passes, but several skiers showed up in mid-year form. Kudos to them! Regardless, it was a lot of skiing and a lot of fun, which coincidentally is the goal. We had 25 skiers in the slalom group and the score from their best round was used to establish their placement against all others in the slalom group. Finishing first in the slalom group was Jim Kilsdonk, followed by yours truly in 2nd place, and a tie for third between Jim Williams and Bill Barrett.

Each skier received points for their team; the teams were established by random marble draw at the beginning of the tournament. The top skier in the slalom group received 250 points because each place is worth 10 points and we had 25 skiers in that group. The top Novice skier earns an equal number of points as the top slalom skier, and each placement in Novice earns 10 points less. Finishing first in the Novice group was Stephanie Austin, followed by Lisa Chitty and Clarke Belmont in third. A breakdown of all final scores and points is included with the newsletter.

At the conclusion of the first 2 rounds Team Blue commanded a sizable lead over 2nd place Team Pink, but Team Green showed up big Sunday morning with late entrant Scott Womack and the father and son Belmont duo (Landon and Clarke). They closed the gap to 120 points, but in the end it wasn't enough. Team Blue takes the win for the first tournament of the season.

Looking forward to our next tournament, we'll patiently wait to see what lady luck does to the random draw. Please bring your Novice skier friends to help balance the teams. The tournament is May 21st & 22nd at Lake Nacimiento. Teams will again be drawn at the start of the tournament, but we'll be back to our standard format regarding number of passes. We'll try to start a little earlier in May, so please be on the dock no later than 8 am on Saturday, May 21st. We are in need of a tow boat, so if you're willing and able to donate your boat, please contact me.

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2022 Tournament Dates

April 29 - May 1

May 21-22

June 25-26

July 16-17

August 13-14

September 3-4

October 8-9