

**INLINE DOWNHILL**  
**RULEBOOK 2019**

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**WORLD**  
**SKATE**

## INDEX

1. GENERAL.....	4
2- AVAILABILITY OF INTERNATIONAL JUDGES.....	4
3. Race Officials .....	4
3.1 Race Director .....	4
3.2 Start Line Judge .....	4
3.3 Track judge .....	5
3.4 Finish line Judge .....	5
3.5 Head of track guards.....	5
3.6 Track Chief .....	5-6
3.7 Secretary .....	6
4. TECHNICAL REGULATION .....	6
4.1 World Championship .....	6
4.2- Competitions Categories .....	7
4.3- Championship.....	7
4.4 - Event Scheduling.....	7
4.5- Nationality .....	7
4.6- Entry procedure at World Championships.....	8
4.7- Race Formats .....	8
5. Time Trial .....	8
5.1 Qualification runs .....	8
5.2 Final run.....	8
5.3 Mass Race.....	8
5.4 Contact .....	9
5.5 Passing .....	9
5.6 Intentional Blocking .....	9
5.7 The finish .....	9
5.8 Complaints .....	10
6 - CIRCUIT .....	10
7 - RIDERS' REQUIREMENTS .....	10

7.1 Riders’ safety equipment..... 11  
7.2 Skating Equipment ..... 11  
7.3 Prohibited equipment ..... 11  
8 - PRE-RACE TECHNICAL INSPECTION ..... 11  
9 - LIMITATION OF LIABILITY FOR ATHLETES AND ORGANIZERS..... 12  
10 IMAGE OF THE DISCIPLINE ..... 12

## 1 - GENERAL

### Reconciliation

Any matters not provided for in these rules, will be in accordance with World Skate Statutes.

## 2 - AVAILABILITY OF INTERNATIONAL JUDGES

Judges for international competitions under World Skate must be International judges with a specific competence in Downhill competitions. They must be nominated by the Technical Commission.

## 3 - RACE OFFICIALS

### 3.1 Race Director

The race director's primary job is to ensure a safe racing environment and to check the rankings before publication. The race director cannot be a rider.

#### Main tasks:

- Checking the Athlete list before the competition
- Managing the Race office & remind the tasks of everyone
- Heading the briefings
- Make the schedules respected and modify it in case of need.
- Suspend, postpone or cancel the competition if he decides that the security of the athletes or the public cannot be fully guaranteed
- Announce disqualifications regarding a judgment enquiry or a high number of warnings to an athlete.
- Has the authority to make decisions for other instances not forecasted in this rulebook. The race director is to be located at the finish line

### 3.2 Start Line Judge

#### Main tasks:

- Call the athletes to the starting area
- Launch and verify the start of each athlete
- To maintain order within the starting area
- Stop the race in case of danger
- Responsible for warnings and disqualifications of riders - Evaluation of riders safety gear and equipment

The Start Judge is located at the start line area

### 3.3 Track judge

Track judge is located on strategic points of the race. He brings a support to the Track chief as official judge.

Main tasks:

- Control the adherence to race rules by the athletes
- Help the marshals to neutralize the race in case of danger
- Help the Track Chief and Race Director about the warnings and disqualifications of riders Call for the check-list at the beginning of each training run or competition run to make sure that the track is clear
- Be sure that all the tracks guards are well cared for and provided with water, food and to manage their replacement when required
- Retrieve the marshaling equipment (talkie walkies , flags & specific dress) for safe storage and inspection at the end of each day.

### 3.4 Finish line Judge

Main tasks :

- Record the times set by the athletes
- Record and confirm the ranking of athletes during the Mass race competition
- Define the race brackets for the Mass Race
- Neutralize the race in case of danger
- Receive the warnings and disqualifications of riders
- Control the respect of safety gear until the complete stop of the athletes over the finish line
- Receive the complaints

The finish line Judge is located on the finish line

### 3.5 Head of track guards

The head of track guards is responsible of all the track guards (marshals)

Main tasks:

- Manage a briefing at the beginning of each day with all the track guards to inform them about their tasks
- Make sure that every track guard has a talkie-walkie, red & yellow flags and also a specific item of dress (brightly colored T-shirt or hi-viz vest or jacket) to make them easily recognizable by the athletes, spectators and organizers.

### 3.6 Track Chief

The track chief is responsible for the maintenance of the track during the event.

Main responsibilities:

- Pre race track inspection to ensure all hazards are clearly marked and that all safety barriers are functional and in the correct locations.
- Inspection of the track throughout the event to ensure that hazards remain marked and or cleared (hay swept from the road after crashes etc) safety barriers remain functional and to ensure they are replaced or repaired where required.
- Post race inspection to ensure all safety barriers are replaced or repaired as required and that any new hazards are either marked or removed from the track to ensure the safety of the riders for the following days racing.

### **3.7 Secretary**

Assists the Finish line judge during the competition

Main tasks:

- Fill in the time keeping in the Official Excel File

**The Start-line judge, the track judge/s, the finish line judge must be World Skate International Judges.**

## **4 - TECHNICAL REGULATION**

### **4.1 World Championship**

All International events between two or more National Federations from at least two different continents must be organized with the rules mentioned in this rulebook.

Event organizers and/or National Federations may request top-class international events, which they organize on a regular basis, to be recognized by World Skate. This can be done following the World Skate procedures and these events must not have any deviation from this rulebook.

Events which have gained such recognition from World Skate Downhill Technical Commission will have first priority on the international calendar.

Once such dates are established, they can only be altered by a formal written request from the organizers.

Organization fee and entry fees should be agreed with World Skate.

### **4.2- Competitions Categories**

World championship:

- Senior Man
- Senior Women

Age categories:

Senior: 15 and over

**Note: The AGE refers to the age the skater is turning in the year of the competition (that is, in the calendar year being; 1st of January through to and including the 31st of December, in the year of the competition).**

### 4.3- Championship

World Skate Inline Downhill Championships shall be held for:

- Senior men and Senior women in Time Trial
- Senior men and Senior women in Inline Cross

This event is held once a year and is sanctioned by World Skate.

There must be at least 1 International judge during the Time Trial competition, and at least 3 international judges during Mass Race or Cross Down competitions.

There must be a minimum of two qualification runs and the World Championships will be decided in one single final run.

The competitors (one man and one woman) who set the best time will be the Inline Downhill Champion.

### 4.4 - Event Scheduling

The organizers of the world championships must provide all necessary details to the World Skate General Affairs Dept. for approval respecting the timeline included in the bidding application.

### 4.5- Nationality

Athletes participating in World and International championships, competing for their National Federation must prove that they have the passport of the same country.

Athletes who changed their nationality or having double nationality or more passports cannot represent another country if three (3) years have not elapsed from his last participation representing his previous country. Rule 41 of IOC Olympic Charter.

It is the responsibility of the Inline Alpine and Downhill Technical Commission to ensure all athletes are the same nationality as the National Federation they represent.

#### 4.6- Entry procedure at World Championships

The entries will be managed through the World Skate Entry Platform.

All fees for National Federations and participants must be paid into the World Skate account within the deadline decided by World Skate.

#### 4.7- Race Formats

Downhill is a discipline of inline skating in which a downhill section (steepness may vary, see below) of tarmac road must be covered in the shortest possible time.

World Skate sanctions 2 different formats of Inline Downhill Races:

- . A) Time trial
- . B) Mass race

## 5 - TECHNICAL

### 5.1 Qualification runs

In this kind of competition, a single rider, (riders go down one by one) must cover the race track in the shortest time possible.

The best time set by each rider in one of the multiple attempts (runs), decides the qualification ranking.

Normally each rider has two runs, the best of which counts for the qualification ranking. The best time of the two runs counts for the final ranking.

In case of *ex aequo* / tie (two riders have set the exact same time in their best run), the best of the slowest run will count.

The start list of the first run is decided by the organizer, according to BIB numbers, or following any other criteria, possibly in agreement with the race director.

The ranking of the first run must be provided to the riders before the beginning of the second run.

### 5.2 Final run

This final run must be started in the reverse order of the results of the qualifying runs (Last starts first). The World Championship final is limited to 60 competitors including men and women (40 best men / 20 best women of the qualification runs).

Different formats may be arranged considering the number of the registered athletes (at least 50% of each category).

### 5.3 Mass Race

In this race format a group of riders (heat) competes at same time on the course. Partial rankings are decided by the classification of each heat. According to the features of each race track (width, number of turns, etc.) heats might consist in a number between



2 and 6 riders. Normally 4 riders fill one heat and top 2 go to the next round. The first round of heats is decided according to the ranking of the time trial qualification ranking (see 8.1.2). Top 8 of the mass race are easily taken from the ranking of Final A (rank 1-4) and Final B (Rank 5-8). Riders who ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the two semi finals will qualify for final B (or Consolation Final).

The number of qualified riders for Mass Races (8, 16 , 32 or 64) is given by half of the number of registered riders, and rounded off to the closest number. EG: 40 registered riders / 2 = 20, which will be rounded off to 16. That means that top 16 riders of the time trial competition are qualified for the Mass Race. This general rule may be tailored to the needs of each event, in collaboration with the race director and with the WORLD SKATE Technical Commission.

Each rider, at the time of his/her registration to the race, must declare if he will take part in the mass race if qualified. If a qualified rider decides not to take part in the mass race, he must inform the race director immediately after the end of the Time Trial Competition, so that the first non-qualified rider may be included in the heats.

#### **5.4 Contact**

Riders who deliberately make contact in an effort to hinder the performance of another rider will be penalized (either relegated behind the rider has damaged with his move or disqualified, the decision is taken by race-judges).

Some contact in close racing is natural and inevitable. Racers who purposely block, or cause another racer to crash will be penalized

(either relegated behind the rider he has damaged with his move or disqualified, the decision is taken by race-judges and the Technical Commission).

Any deliberately aggressive contact or rough riding is not allowed and may result in disqualification.

#### **5.5 Passing**

Riders who decide to pass another rider bear the responsibility of the safety of their move. However, the rider who is in the lead may not take defensive measures such as changing his line to prevent the other rider from taking the lead.

#### **5.6 Intentional Blocking**

Intentional blocking of another racer is prohibited and may be penalized and/or disqualified (see above for penalties).

#### **5.7 The finish**

The official finish is when the first wheel crosses the finish line.

## 5.8 Complaints

Official complaints must be presented to race-judges and the WORLD SKATE Technical Commission before the following heat; or, within 20 minutes after the end of the race, in the final only.

## 6 - CIRCUIT

**Circuit:** A downhill course that complies with the WORLD SKATE guidelines must be between 1000 and 3500m long and shall consist of a section of an asphalt or concrete road in good condition with a surface smooth enough to be suitable for top level inline skating. Possible dangerous spots shall be detected by the Race Office and clearly marked on the asphalt in order to be clearly visible by the riders whilst during pre race inspection and during high speed riding.

These spots shall be pointed out to the riders during the riders meeting (or pre-race briefing).

The recommended average incline of the course is 8%-12%.

The starting line is a white line on the surface of the race-track at least 5 centimeters wide. The start has to be marked with a starting-box and/or with a start ramp (the use of a start ramp and the ramp itself shall be approved by the Inline Alpine and Downhill Technical Commission).

The finishing-line is defined as a white line on the surface of the race-track at least 5 centimeters wide. It is advised that the finish line is marked with banners and/or with a finishing-arch.

Chicanes and jump ramps may be included on the race track in order to make it more technically demanding, or to slow down in case of straight-high speed sections, but always maintaining the features of a road. Chicanes shall not give life to a sort of slalom section of the course. All these additional elements must be approved by the WORLD SKATE Technical Committee prior to the beginning of the official training / practice runs.

Any additional element shall be guarded by an appointed marshal or track guard, named “jump guard” or “chicane guard” at any time during the race, no run shall be allowed without the ramp or chicane guard at work.

## 7 - RIDERS' REQUIREMENTS

Any athlete taking part in a WORLD SKATE Sanctioned race or in the WORLD SKATE World Championships shall be responsible for his/her own safety, wearing all the compulsory safety equipment and any other approved safety equipment in order to race with the

highest standard of safety possible. A technical inspection will be run by WORLD SKATE Technical Committee or a Race Office member.

### **7.1 Riders' safety equipment**

Following safety equipment is compulsory:

Full-face helmet

Knee pads

Elbow pads

Wrist Guards and / or Gloves Back-protector

Padded shorts (hips and buttocks protection)

All this equipment must be worn at all times while skating (helmet straps must be always firmly fastened).

Leather-suits (as for motorbikes' races) with back and knee protection is also allowed.

### **7.2 Skating Equipment**

Only athletes using skates with wheels fastened in line (inline skates) or quad skates can participate in the inline downhill World Championships.

A maximum of six wheels per skate is allowed. The maximum diameter of wheels must not exceed 125 mm for the World Skate World Championships. The skate frame must not exceed 50 cm in length (axel to axel). Skates must be firmly attached to the shoes. Clap skates are allowed without propulsive gear. Heelbrakes are permitted. Custom made brakes must be approved by the WORLD SKATE Technical Committee and prior to use.

### **7.3 Prohibited equipment:**

Propulsion devices or mechanisms

Parachutes, Poles, and similar devices.

Equipment that is consumed, discarded, or jettisoned during the race. Steering mechanisms activated by means other than lean-to-steer.

## **8 - PRE-RACE TECHNICAL INSPECTION**

All racing equipment shall be submitted to a pre-race technical inspection to ensure compliance to World Skate rules.

Pre-race technical inspection shall consist of a visual inspection of the appearance of the rider's equipment.

It is not the technical inspector's responsibility to identify or fix problems that may affect the performance or the resistance of the equipment or its actual safety during the race.

It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure that the equipment is ready, legal, and safe for competition before inspection.

If there are any equipment legality questions, they should be raised with the Technical Inspector prior to submitting the equipment for inspection.

Equipment failing technical inspection must be corrected by its owner/competitor and be resubmitted for technical inspection before being accepted into the race field. Any equipment changes made after passing Technical Inspection must conform to all World Skate rules and regulations and must be resubmitted for technical inspection.

Using equipment that does not conform to World Skate regulations is grounds for immediate disqualification.

The start line judge may make a visual / physical inspection of rider safety equipment at the start line prior to race commencement and reserves the right to stop the rider from partaking in the event until such time as the correct equipment is produced or in the event that it is unsuitable or defective, returned to a safe working order. Passing technical inspection does not deem equipment to be safe or free from defects.

## 9 - LIMITATION OF LIABILITY FOR ATHLETES AND ORGANIZERS

All competitors act on their own responsibility. All competitors shall be aware of the dangers which might occur during the competition and shall participate in total awareness. No claims can be made against World Skate as far as World Championships, World Cup, International Cups, are concerned. As mentioned before, every competitor must fill in and sign a standard declaration of responsibility. If this declaration is not presented, the rider will not be allowed to compete.

## 10 - IMAGE OF THE DISCIPLINE

The race director and/or the Inline Alpine and Downhill technical commission reserve the right to ban a rider from a competition if his racing suit or racing clothes are not decent in appearance. Ripped suits, jeans trousers, t-shirts, badly repaired skinsuits and visible homemade pads, or any non-proper clothes might damage the image of the discipline.

Long or short sleeved skinsuits are recommended, leather suits are allowed. These rules apply during racing runs only.

T-shirt and shorts and any other clothing is allowed during training and practice runs.