



2026 Masters Water Ski Criteria

There will be a maximum of eight (8) competitors in each discipline.

1. A maximum of 5 competitors will automatically earn 2026 invitations from the below tournaments:

- 2025 Masters Water Ski & Wakeboard Tournament
- 2025 Botaski Pro Am
- 2025 California Pro Am
- 2025 World Water Ski Championships
- 2026 Moomba Masters International Invitational

2. Champions of each individual tournament will receive an invitation. Upon qualifying for an invitation, repeat champions will not block additional invitation positions.

Therefore, if a tournament has a repeat champion, the next highest finisher, not already invited to the 2026 Masters, will earn the position. *Only podium positions, 1st – 3rd, are eligible for additional invitations. If all podium finishers from an event are already invited to the 2026 Masters Water Ski & Wakeboard tournament, the open position will become available at the Masters LCQ.

3. The current World Record Holder as of March 15, 2026 will be invited, provided said World Record Holder has competed in one of the above mentioned five tournaments in the 2025 season. If the current World Record Holder won one of the above tournaments, the next highest finisher at the event the World Record Holder won will earn the position.

4. The remaining 2026 invitations will be determined by the Last Chance Masters Qualifier Tournament.

Athletes will qualify for invitation according to the following criteria, in the order listed below, until eight positions are filled.

1. Defending Open Men and Open Women Champions of the 2025 Masters Water Ski & Wakeboard tournament in slalom, trick and jump.
 - Men's Slalom: Frederick Winter
 - Women's Slalom: Allie Nicholson

- Men's Trick: Dorien Llewellyn (*Jake Abelson is current approved World Record Holder)
 - Women's Trick: Giannina Bonnemann Mechler (*Erika Lang is current approved World Record Holder)
 - Men's Jump: Joel Poland
 - Women's Jump: Hanna Straltsova
2. Defending Open Men and Open Women Champions of the 2025 Botaski Pro Am in slalom and trick.
- Men's Slalom: William Asher (*Frederick Winter repeat winner)
 - Women's Slalom: Jaimee Bull
 - Men's Trick: Patricio Font (*Jake Abelson repeat winner)
 - Women's Trick: Alexia Abelson (*Neilly Ross current approved World Record Holder)
3. Defending Open Men and Open Women Champions of the 2025 California Waterski Pro Am in slalom and jump.
- Men's Slalom: Dane Mechler (*Nate Smith current approved World Record Holder)
 - Women's Slalom: Whitney Rini (*Regina Jaquess current approved World Record Holder)
 - Men's Jump: Jack Critchley (*Joel Poland repeat winner; Ryan Dodd current World Record Holder)
 - Women's Jump: Aliaksandra Danisheuskaya (*Hanna Straltsova repeat winner)
4. Defending Open Men and Open Women Champions of the 2025 World Water Ski Championships.
- Men's Slalom: Charlie Ross (*Nate Smith repeat winner)
 - Women's Slalom: additional LCQ position (*Jaimee Bull, Regina Jaquess, Allie Nicholson repeat winners and all podium finishers)
 - Men's Trick: Matias Gonzalez
 - Women's Trick: Anna Hunter (*Neilly Ross, Erika Lang repeat winners)
 - Men's Jump: Dorien Llewellyn (*Joel Poland, Ryan Dodd repeat winners)
 - Women's Jump: Brittany Wharton (*Hanna Straltsova repeat winner)
5. 2026 Moomba Masters International Invitational Champions in Open Men and Open Women slalom, trick and jump. **(Note:** There will be no minimum benchmark scores required. Additionally, all invited champions to date do not count for placement purposes for Masters invitations, however only podium position finishers are eligible for replacement positions.)
- Men's Slalom: Thomas Degasperi (*Charlie Ross repeat winner)
 - Women's Slalom: Alexia Abelson (*Regina Jaquess repeat winner)

- Men's Trick: additional LCQ position (*Matias Gonzalez, Jake Abelson and Patricio Font repeat winners)
- Women's Trick: Kennedy Hansen (*Erika Lang and Neilly Ross repeat winners)
- Men's Jump: Josh Wallent (*Ryan Dodd and Joel Poland repeat winners)
- Women's Jump: Regina Jaquess (Aliaksandra Danisheuskaya repeat winner)

6. The current **approved** World Record Holder as of March 15, 2026:

- Men's Slalom: Nate Smith
- Women's Slalom: Regina Jaquess
- Men's Trick: Jake Abelson
- Women's Trick: Erika Lang
- Men's Jump: Ryan Dodd
- Women's Jump: Jacinta Carroll

7. All remaining positions shall qualify from the Nautique Last Chance Qualifier, held May 8-10, 2026 at Champions Lake, Lake Myrtle Sports Complex in Auburndale, Florida. The single highest score from either round will advance.

****In order to be eligible to compete at the Masters Last Chance Qualifier, open skiers must meet the following minimum scores achieved at a Class R or L tournament from **January 1, 2025 – February 1, 2026. The score achieved must be a 2 score average and not a single performance.****

- Men's Slalom: 3 @ 10.25 meters
- Women's Slalom: 2 @ 10.75 meters
- Men's Trick: 10,500 points
- Women's Trick: 7,100 points
- Men's Jump: 63.5 meters
- Women's Jump: 46.0 meters

*The tournament organizer reserves the right to adjust the qualifying threshold based upon extenuating circumstances.