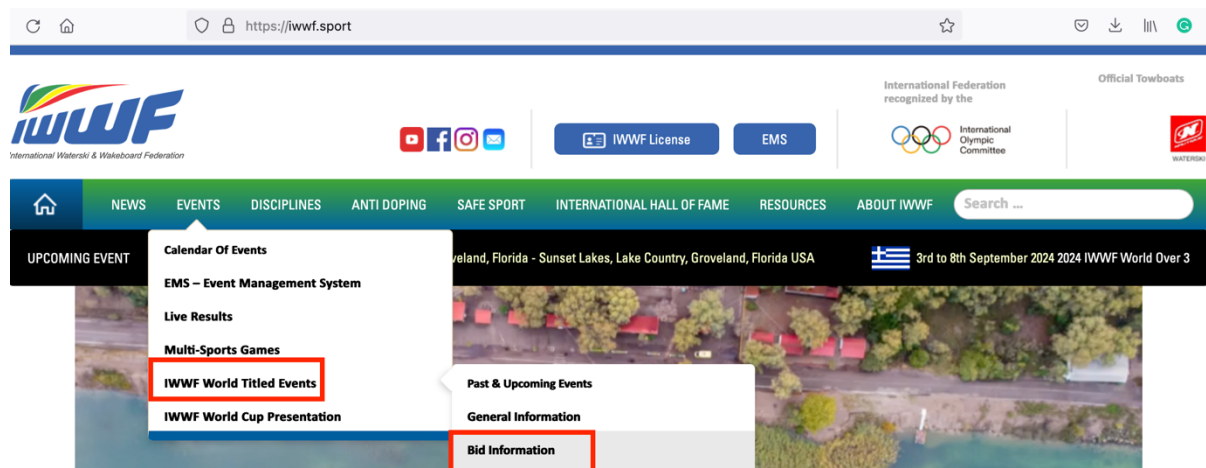


# IWWF'S PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO EUROPEAN CONGRESS 2024

## What's Coming Up in 2024?

Start Date	End Date	Event	Venue / Country
Monday, 29 July 2024	Sunday, 4 August 2024	2024 IWWF World Under 17 Waterski Championships	Predator Bay, Calgary, Canada
Saturday, 5 October 2024	Saturday, 12 October 2024	2024 IWWF World Open, Junior & Under 23 Barefoot Championships	Auburndale, Florida, USA
Wednesday, 4 September 2024	Sunday, 8 September 2024	2024 IWWF World Over 35 Waterski Championships	Sesena, Toledo, Spain
Monday, 16 September 2024	Sunday, 22 September 2024	2024 IWWF World Cable Wakeboard & Wakeskate Championships	Choisy-le-Roi, France
end October (date TBC)	end October (date TBC)	2024 IWWF World Wakeboard Championships	<City TBC> / China <b>intention to bid</b>
Sunday, 3 November 2024	Sunday, 10 November 2024	1st IWWF World Wakesurf Championships	Hong Kong, China
27 February 2025	2 March 2025	1st IWWF World University Waterski Championships	Auckland, New Zealand <b>formal bid received</b>

Information on which IWWF Events are available for bidding can be found on IWWF's Web Site under "Events"



### 1st IWWF World University Waterski Championships

FISU were previously the sanctioning body of the World University Waterski Championships, with the last edition held in 2016 in Japan. Two editions of the FISU-sanctioned event, that were scheduled to be held in Dnipro, Ukraine in 2020 and then in Minsk, Belarus in 2022 were cancelled due to the war. IWWF has now decided to run its own world-titled events for University students. New Zealand has submitted a bid to host the 1st IWWF sanctioned World University Waterski Championships in Auckland. Federations are invited to submit bids to host future editions and to consider including other disciplines, in addition to waterskiing, ie. wakeboard, cable wakeboard, barefoot, etc.

## **The World Games 2025 – Chengdu, China**

- Wakeboard Boat, Cable Wakeboard (full size cable) and Wakesurfing have been included in the sports programme, as requested by the local Federation. Qualification will be based on participation and results achieved in the 2024 IWWF World Championships
- Waterskiing has been omitted because the venue (Lake Sancha), which is not a man-made waterski venue, is deemed to be unsuitable/unsafe for high-level competitive waterskiing. IWWF has also been requested to commit in writing that the highest ranked skiers participate in the World Games. Many of the top-ranked skiers declined their invitations to The World Games 2023 in Birmingham Alabama USA, except for US skiers, and then there were many withdrawals leading up to the event, a few very late withdrawals and one no show which reflected badly on the IWWF and the waterski discipline.

## **2025 IWWF World Open Waterski Championships**

Having organized the 2021 and 2023 editions of the IWWF World Open Waterski Championships, the IWWF believes it has set the standard for its marquee waterski event and will now offer the potential organizers this model or the traditional business model where a National Federation (club or venue owner) will be the Organiser and IWWF the sanctioning body, and will be involved in ensuring that the high standards are maintained. Under this old updated model will be reduced to take advantage of the extra income generated by the IWWF license fee. IWWF will cover the cost for the IWWF Executive Board Meeting (room and board, and meeting rooms) and IWWF World Congress (meeting room). Federations are welcome to submit an official bid to host the 2025 edition.

## **IWWF World Cup Stops**

There has been interest in Asia to host IWWF World Cup stops: waterski (3 event), wakeboard boat and wakesurfing, and IWWF's Sports Business Committee is working in the background on reviving the Series.

## **SportAccord World Sport & Business Summit 2024**

IWWF (President, Executive Director and Chair of IWWF's Sports Business Committee) will attend this event to be held in Birmingham United Kingdom from 7 to 11 April. 1,500 global sports leaders and key decision makers are expected to attend. The event provides rights holders, organising committees, cities, businesses and other organisations in the world sport community with an unrivalled opportunity to gather in an exclusive networking environment, to build relationships, expand horizons and broaden sport's collective endeavours.

## **Others**

[August 10, 2023](#)

### **Participation of Athletes from Russia and Belarus**

In response to the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) recommendation on the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes in international sports competitions, the IWWF Executive Board has made the decision to allow athletes from Russia and Belarus to register and compete under the IWWF flag, for the duration of the war in Ukraine, in IWWF events **EXCEPT** for IWWF World Titled Events and IWWF Confederation Titled Events subject to the following conditions:

- a. Athletes will participate only as individuals and will in no way represent their respective countries or federations.
- b. Athletes must refrain from publicly showing support for the conflict in Ukraine.
- c. Athletes are not authorised to act or speak on behalf of the IWWF, claim any financial support from the IWWF, or claim any other affiliation or status with the IWWF.

In case of any infringements, the application by the athlete to participate under the IWWF flag will be reviewed by the IWWF Bureau and the approval could be revoked immediately.

The IWWF will continue not to sanction any events held in Russia or Belarus.

4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### **Participation of Russian and Belarusian Officials**

The Participation of Russian and Belarusian Officials in IWWF competitions under the IWWF flag has been approved by the IWWF Executive Board with the following conditions:

- Officials will apply individually to the IWWF's Secretary General. Each application will be submitted to the IWWF Bureau for review and resolution.
- For the duration of the war in Ukraine, the officials can perform under the IWWF flag in IWWF events except for IWWF World Titled Events and IWWF Confederation Titled Events.
- Officials must refrain from publicly showing support for the conflict. Any public statements, including those made on social media, will result in the authorization being revoked and further sanctions under IWWF rules.
- Officials will not speak on behalf of the IWWF.
- In case of any infringements, the application by the officials to participate under the IWWF flag will be reviewed by the IWWF Bureau and the approval could be revoked immediately.