



RULES & REGULATIONS

The Aotearoa Stone Skimming Championships rules ensure fair competition and a consistent, enjoyable experience for all participants. We thank the World Stone Skimming Championship for their assistance with rule allocation. Please note, we have identified locations suitable for calm weather and rough weather. While this special day will determine the best skimmer – one who can perform under pressure with consistency and accuracy, and who can adapt – the true goals of the event are to raise funds for Melanoma New Zealand and to celebrate communities nationwide. We must ensure the chosen location provides the right conditions for engaging and competitive fun, as well as access to what we believe is one of New Zealand’s most stunning areas.

Please find below the rules for both locations:

- **Calm weather location**
- **All-weather location**

CALM WEATHER LOCATION



STONES

- You must use naturally formed Lake Hāwea stones.
- Stones cannot be wider than 3 inches at their widest point.
- These will be provided on the day.

SKIMMING STRUCTURE

- Skimmers will be allocated into separate groups (referred to as 'pods').
- Round robin: The winner from each pod will go through to the semi-finals.
- Semi-finals: The winner from each semi-final will go through to the grand final.
- Grand final: Between the best two skimmers in each category.

SKIMMING ATTEMPTS

- Each contestant gets three skims per 1-minute allocation.
- The skimming order will be randomly determined.
- A warm-up area will be designated.

VALID SKIMS & JUDGING

- For a skim to count, the stone must bounce at least twice on the water's surface.



- The length of your skim is measured to the point where the stone sinks.
- The longest valid skim progresses to the next round.
- See “Ties” for tie-break rules.
- You cannot have a “run-up.” Both feet must stay on the platform when you throw.

OFFICIAL SIGNALS

- A red disk means an invalid skim.
- A green disk means a valid skim.
- The judge’s decision is final.

INVALID SKIMS

A skim is invalid if:

- The stone bounces fewer than two times.
- The stone bounces or sinks outside the designated skimming lane.
- The stone connects with the designated skimming lane.

TIES

- The winner is decided by a sudden death toss off.
- This process is repeated until a winner is determined.

CATEGORIES

There are two categories:

- Open Female
- Open Male

ALL-WEATHER LOCATION



A purpose-built, 50m pond has been allocated as the all-weather location. This incredible location provides a wonderful capacity to create an exciting, engaging stone skimming arena. Though the distance is capped (in fact, the Worlds have a maximum throw distance of 63m), judgment will ensure the best skimmer who can perform under pressure with consistency and accuracy, and who can adapt to different conditions.

Here's some food for thought: Dougie Isaacs, the world record holder of 121.8m, this year struggled to hit the back wall at the Worlds!

STONES

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SKIMMING STRUCTURE

- Skimmers will be allocated into separate groups (referred to as pods).
- Round robin: The winner from each pod will go through to the semi-finals.
- Semi-finals: The winner from each semi-final will go through to the grand final.
- Grand final: Between the best two skimmers in each category.

SKIMMING ATTEMPTS

- Each contestant gets three skims per 1-minute allocation.
- The skimming order will be randomly determined.
- A warm-up area at the Lake will be designated.



VALID SKIMS & JUDGING

- For a skim to count, the stone must bounce at least twice on the water's surface.
- The length of your skim is measured to the point where the stone sinks. A "Back Wall" hit counts as 50 meters.
- The highest cumulative of the three skims in each round wins.
- See "Ties" for tie-break rules.
- You cannot have a "run-up." Both feet must stay on the platform when you throw.

OFFICIAL SIGNALS

- A red disk means an invalid skim.
- A green disk means a valid skim.
- The throw judge's decision is final.

INVALID SKIMS

A skim is invalid if:

- The stone bounces fewer than two times.
- The stone bounces or sinks outside the designated skimming lane.
- The stone connects with the designated skimming lane.

TIES

- The winner is decided by a sudden death toss off.
- This process is repeated until a winner is determined.

CATEGORIES

There are two categories:

- Open Female
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