



Development Report 2025

Introduction

2025 has been a year of **real progress and renewed energy** across the development landscape of **Waterski & Wakeboard Scotland**. The work of the Development Team – comprising of **Tegan Brady** and **Celine Grech** – has driven significant advances in participation, programme delivery, and community connection throughout Scotland.

Through an expanding range of initiatives, events, and partnerships, the Development Team has continued to create meaningful opportunities for new and returning participants to engage with the sport. From first-time experiences to structured development pathways, their work has ensured that waterskiing and wakeboarding remain accessible, inclusive, and full of momentum across the country.

Building Capacity and Delivery

With both Development Officers now established year-round, 2025 saw significant step forward in consistency, coordination, and reach. Together, Tegan and Celine have worked closely with clubs, sites, and coaches to ensure that programmes are engaging, inclusive, and sustainable.

This approach has created a clear structure for how participants can move through the sport – from their first on-water experience to club and competition participation – and has been instrumental in strengthening the connection between local delivery and national programmes.

Programmes and Participation

Across 2025, Waterski & Wakeboard Scotland delivered a dynamic mix of programmes designed to make the sport more accessible, enjoyable, and connected for people of all ages and abilities.

Highlights included the launch of Little Ripples, a family-based introduction to waterskiing and wakeboarding for children aged 1—10, and the continuation of the Women & Girls Project, which created an inclusive space for participants aged 9—72 to learn and progress together.

The Ski and Wake Development Squads continued to strengthen, with sessions delivered across multiple sites and disciplines, ensuring that developing athletes have structured pathways and quality coaching support. Guest coaching clinics from Glen Campbell and Arron Davies added further expertise and inspiration, helping participants refine their skills and confidence on the water.

Together, these initiatives have built strong foundations for growth – encouraging new participants, reconnecting past members, and strengthening links between local clubs, sites, and national programmes.

Student Engagement

Student engagement has continued to be one of the real success stories of the past year. The **WWS Student Society**, launched in 2024, now connects around **130 active members** across

universities in Scotland – creating a lively network that blends participation, social activity, and competition.

The Society's first full season of delivery has seen students take part in sessions at sites across the country and come together for the inaugural **Scottish Student Open**, which brought students and alumni together for a landmark event that will now become an annual fixture.

In addition to the formal activity, members also took part in a **trip to 313 Cable Park** in Lithuania, further demonstrating the enthusiasm within the student community. To maintain engagement through the off-season, we organised an indoor **Flip Clinic** and **Climbing Socials**, supporting students to stay active and connected throughout the year.

The student pathway is now a key part of the development structure – bringing new energy into the sport and shaping the next generation of participants, coaches, and organisers.

Competitions and Events

Competitions and events have continued to play a vital role in driving participation and connecting the community across Scotland. 2025 saw a diverse and exciting calendar that offered something for everyone – from first-time competitors to experienced athletes.

The Backyard Waterski Series expanded again this year, welcoming new host sites and giving developing skiers the chance to experience competition in a relaxed and supportive environment. The Scottish Wake Series returned in full, featuring five stops across Scotland covering both cable and boat disciplines, helping to re-energise the wake community and strengthen regional engagement.

At the national level, the **Town Loch Triple Trophy** marked the first ranked three-event competition in Scotland since 2009, attracting competitors and officials from across the UK. The **Scottish Waterski Festival**, held in September, served as an inclusive end-of-season celebration that bridged the gap between grassroots participation and ranked competition.

A particular highlight was the **Wee Board Bash**, a brand-new **team kneeboarding and wakeboarding competition** which brought together first-time, developing and elite riders in a fun, community-focused format. The event captured the positive and welcoming spirit that defines the sport in Scotland.

Together, these events have strengthened Scotland's competition pathway and demonstrated the passion, collaboration, and inclusivity that sit at the heart of our sporting community.

Workforce and Delivery Support

A strong and capable workforce remains central to the success of our programmes and events. Across 2025, we continued to strengthen the base of qualified drivers and coaches who make activity possible at clubs and sites across Scotland.

Several **SBD2 courses** were delivered throughout the year by **John Radford**, resulting in **15 new qualified drivers**. This ongoing development of skills and safety knowledge ensures that sites are well supported and that participants can enjoy the sport in a safe and professional environment.

We are grateful to all those who contributed their time and expertise to support workforce training and delivery this season. Their commitment underpins every session, event, and programme delivered across the country and continues to play a key role in the sustainable growth of the sport.

Partnerships and Collaboration

Collaboration has continued to be a driving force behind the success of our development work this year. Strong relationships with clubs, sites, and delivery partners have allowed us to expand opportunities, share expertise, and strengthen connections across the waterski and wakeboard community.

We are particularly grateful to **Loch Lomond Wake School**, **Loch Earn Wake School**, and **Foxlake** for their ongoing support of wake development. Their input has been invaluable in helping us deliver high-quality experiences for rider and grow engagement across Scotland.

We also extend our thanks to all the **clubs and sites** that hosted development sessions, events and competitions throughout the season. Their collaboration and commitment are vital to ensuring that opportunities reach every part of the country, and that participants of all ages and abilities can enjoy the sport in welcoming and well-supported environments.

Participation Overview

Participation across Scotland has continued to grow in both reach and depth, reflecting the impact of the programmes, events and partnerships delivered throughout the year. While much of the increase is linked to improved tracking and recording of activity, it also highlights the genuine growth in engagement and enthusiasm for the sport.

Overall participation is up by 251% compared with last year, with activity delivered through clubs, sites, and development programmes reaching more communities than ever before. This growth represents not just a higher numbers on the water, but a broader and diverse range of people taking part – families, students, and new participants all finding their way into the sport.

This progress demonstrates the collective effort of clubs, sites, and the development team to create accessible, inclusive opportunities and to ensure that waterskiing and wakeboarding in Scotland continue to thrive.

Looking Ahead

The year ahead presents an exciting opportunity to build on the creativity and momentum that have shaped our programmes this season. Our priority will be to keep broadening access, strengthening delivery, and inspiring new participants to discover what the sport has to offer.

We aim to develop the reach of initiatives such as **Little Ripples**, the **Women & Girls Project**, and the **Development Squads**, while also introducing new opportunities for communities and clubs to connect through waterskiing and wakeboarding. By continuing to adapt and innovate, we can ensure that our programmes remain engaging, inclusive, and relevant to everyone who takes part.

Partnerships will continue to play an important role, with a focus on supporting host sites and clubs to deliver local activity, share expertise, and grow participation sustainably.

With enthusiasm across every level of the sport – from the youngest newcomers to our developing athletes – we are confident that 2026 will bring even more people, stories, and success to Scotland's waterski and wakeboard community.

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