

Ski Tuning Hints

Bindings:

Generally Fwd = easier turns Back = more acceleration

In the glide, water should break at front foot ankle.

15-22 off: 1 hole FWD

28-32 off: center holes

35-38 off: 1-2 holes back

Move bindings back if breaking over on both sides.

Move bindings forward if tip of ski is very high on both sides.

-If ski won't turn on off side and/or hopping coming into buoy, move front binding Fwd.

-If ski is stopping on off-side, move front binding back.

-If ski won't turn on on-side and/or falls over and/or hooks up suddenly and hard at end of turn, move rear binding back.

-If ski turns too hard on both sides, turn rear binding counterclockwise for RFF. clockwise for LFF.

Fin Depth (tail): This is the depth of fin at lowest point (towards back of fin).

-Hard to turn: shallow up fin

-Fin too deep: Tip comes up out of turn resulting in double turn or flattens out toward boat after turn necessitating jerking the ski around across course.

-If ski leans you over unpredictably toward end of turn (both sides), fin is too deep.

-If you fall over on onside turn, or get dumped many times, add depth

-If ski is overturning or your style rushes finish of turn, add depth.

-If tail slides out, deepen fin.

Set depth to offside turn. Deep as possible still being able to push ski around when you are scrambling.

The rear of fin controls amount of pressure required to push ski thru turn. Too deep of fin will make large radius turns.

Raising rear of fin may improve follow thru by helping connect the turn to the pull.

After ski is set up pretty well, small changes in depth of the rear of fin will dial in intensity out of turn.

Distance from Tail (DFT): Horizontal movement of fin.

Fin FWD = less ski in water; AFT = more ski in water

Fin FWD = binding back

- If you move bindings fwd .25", move fin fwd about .10" (vic/versa)

- If you move fin Fwd, decrease length. **(very useful piece of info)**

- If ski leans you over too much at buoy, move fin back

- If tip grabs at end of **on side** turn, move fin forward.

- Fin Fwd will quicken on side turn (also brings tip up)

- If you have slack on onside turn, move fin fwd.

- If you pull arms in high to the shoulder closest to boat on on-side turn, move fin fwd.

- If ski tail stands into off side (on-side pull), move fin back.

- If ski hops or skips on either side, move fin back.

Length (tip): This is the depth of front of fin. Adding tip (lowering front of fin) lowers tip of ski in the water.

Too much tip:

- Break at waist on off side finish of turn
- Bucked forward at second wake
- Turns too aggressive on off side
- Skis narrow
- Over turn at finish (either side)
- Too much angle through wakes in off side pull

Too little tip:

- Wheelie at finish of turn
- Creates wrong way falls: At the off side edge change, ski heads out and away from the direction you expected it to go. Feels like you hit a patch of ice. (sometimes the wrong way fall can happen due to too much tail)

- If off side turn causes breaking at waist, raise front of fin until breaking over stops and ski follows through from end of turn into lean without hesitation.

- If you have too much speed coming into on side buoy, raise front of fin until intensity is to your liking.

Gates:

- Tail wind, go earlier. Pull out when bow touches 55s

- Head wind, go later. Pull when 55s disappear.

- Pull out, weight the front foot in the glide driving down with front foot to initiate turn.

- Keep handle in close to body right after wakecrossing and even pull it up a little (from hips to midsection) then edge change will be more productive.

- Get at least as wide as buoy line, make gradual turn in with handle at chest height.

When 10 feet outside of wake, move handle to hip and DON'T pull. Trying to keep the ski on edge until after the 2nd wake, getting angle not speed.

Turns:

- Look down course in turn to prevent breaking at waist/ lets ski finish turn.

- At 32 off, if you are skiing narrow; try moving back binding back one hole.

- Don't pull too long

- Keep handle in longer (out to the buoy line), cast ski outbound; avoid getting sucked in narrow.

Cold Water: Need to get tip up a little by increasing DFT or reducing Tip.

Warmer Water: reverse above to get ski to ride a little flatter due to tail sinking in "softer water".

Pull Out: If ski does not get out wide enough on pullout, ski needs to be faster. Move fin FWD, bindings back, reduce wing angle.