

## American Water Ski Educational Foundation (AWSEF) Hall of Fame

For Immediate Release:

The American Water Ski Educational Foundation's 10-member Hall of Fame Selection Committee has announced that former wakeboard athlete Darin Shapiro of Orlando, Fla., will be the 2010 AWSEF Water Ski Hall of Fame inductee. The 28th annual induction ceremony will take place April 10 at the Lakeland Center in Lakeland, Fla. Shapiro will be the first wakeboard athlete to be inducted into the AWSEF Hall of Fame.



Shapiro, 36, retired from competition in 2004 as the winningest rider in the history of the sport. He was a six-time Pro Wakeboard Tour champion, four-time world champion, four-time Masters' champion, three-time X Games champion, three-time Big Air champion, three-time Wakestock champion, and a gold, silver and bronze medalist at the Gravity Games.

Shapiro, who currently owns and operates Ride The Spot wakeboard camp in Orlando, was known for charging the wake harder than any other wakeboard athlete. He invented tricks called the Speed Ball, Orbital and Orbital 540, but was most well known for his S-bends, Vulcans, Front Flip to Blind and Tantrum to Blind. He is believed to be the only wakeboard athlete to ever land a double front flip off the double-up on the Pro Wakeboard Tour.

The 2010 Award of Distinction recipients will be announced at a later time.