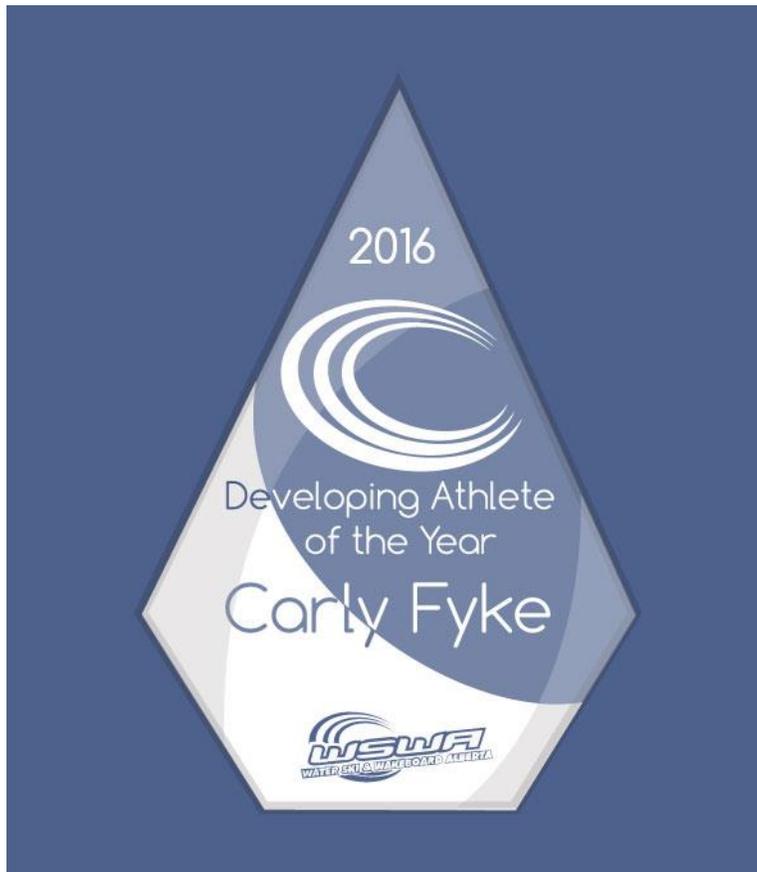


# Congratulations to our Developing Athletes of the Year

The young athletes in Alberta never fail to impress, and this is a hard award to give to just one person. The selection committee believes both recipients are very deserving!

## Carly Fyke



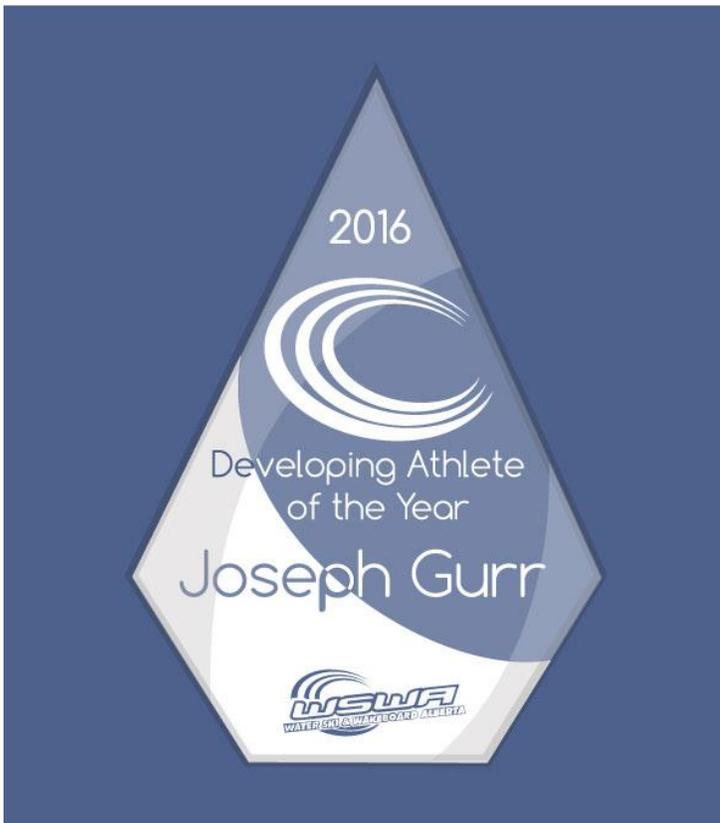
Carly's hard work and discipline has led to an extraordinary improvement this year. In 2015, she began competitive slalom water skiing, able to run the course, but not quite enough to make the Junior team. She took that as a challenge to improve, and by the end of this season she reached exceptional success.

How exceptional? Carly is now Nationally ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in U14 girls slalom. She won gold at every slalom event she entered, and gold or silver at every trick event she entered. She learned to jump, and is well on her way to the podium in that event as well.

How do you end a season like that? You get selected to the Canadian CanAm U17 Team, and compete in your first International competition!

Great work Carly, congratulations!

## Joey Gurr



Beginning with winter training in Florida, where he took every opportunity to jump on the end of the rope whenever one of the other athletes hesitated, Joey set high goals for himself in 2016. Whether training at the gym pre-season and during poor weather, or overcoming several injuries he received through the season, Joey is a dedicated and talented young wakeboarder, committed to the sport, and capable beyond his years.

Joseph started the season on April 2<sup>nd</sup> in freezing water, at a reservoir that was half full with only a strip of water in the middle. It wasn't just a token run. He got out as often as he could in those early months and was serious about his riding, putting in over 150 hrs

behind the boat. There were many early mornings on the lake during the week before school started. There were also many late nights getting home on school nights. But he knew that the boat didn't move unless he kept his school marks high, and he did.

Joey attended every Wake Stop this year and competed in Wakeboard, Wake Surf and Wakeskate. At Nationals he took silver in U13 Boys. He also put in more hours than any other athlete in attendance (from anywhere) in an effort increase his skills and be competitive for Alberta in his cable division. He did not hit the podium but everyone knew who he was by the end of the competition.

Beyond competition, Joey's love for wakeboarding is clear. He volunteered at the Supra pro event, working the rider tent and the rope on the boat, and has kept up communication with the riders he met there. On the dock, he supports and encourages other athletes. He is a junior official, and puts in many hours in the boat as a judge.

Congratulations on a great season, Joey!