

## TOWNE LAKE - PROPOSED SUMMARY OF RULES RELATED TO LAKE USE\*

### OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS BEFORE OPERATING A WATERCRAFT ON THE LAKE

- Operator must provide a valid Driver's License and TP&WC Boater Safety Course license to the HOA and be familiar with the Texas Water Safety Act (obtain Act online)
- It is PROHIBITED for an Operator to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Operator must ensure: 1) all children under age thirteen (13) wear a life jacket while the boat is underway and 2) sufficient number of life jackets are available for passengers on board
- Operators on non-motorized watercraft (kayaks, canoes, sailboats, etc) are exempt from licensing requirements but must register watercraft with the HOA

### WATERCRAFT OPERATIONS

- Watercraft must be operated in a responsible and safe manner and speed with utmost concern for the rights and safety of others
- Max speed between sunrise/sunset is 30 mph. Hazardous wake or wash and wake enhancing devices or operations are PROHIBITED at all times
- Slow to wake speed (minimum steering speed) is required:
  - In NO WAKE zones (refer to map) reserved for non-motorized watercraft, swimmers, anchoring, and shore erosion buffer
  - Within 30' of a NO WAKE buoy when entering a NO WAKE zone
  - Approaching within 30' of a NO WAKE buoy when entering a NO WAKE zone
  - DISREGARDING THESE RULES MAY CAUSE DAMAGE OR INJURY TO OTHERS FOR WHICH YOU WILL BE LIABLE
- Watercraft must remain a minimum of 100' from any towed person or persons
- All non-motorized watercraft, except sailing watercraft, may operate only in NO WAKE areas except when crossing to opposite shore
- Sunset/Sunrise (nighttime) operations:
  - Maximum allowable speed is the minimum speed required to get on a plane or for safe stopping distance due to visibility (without spotlights on)
  - Must use visible navigation lights
  - No towing permitted
  - No loud music permitted- remember sound travels further over water and at night
  - No swimming or non-motorized watercraft operation permitted
- Recreational Towing requirements:
  - Towing rules are important for SAFETY, ETIQUETTE, and SHORELINE EROSION concerns the lake is too small for erratic maneuvers or large waves
  - Be alert-watch for other boats and obstacles in the water
  - Use rearview mirror and focus on operating the watercraft; spotter must watch towed persons
  - Share the water- the lake is too small to not let others enjoy the good areas
  - Power turns are PROHIBITED; power turns are turning sharply (i.e., picking up a person in the water) without powering down. Instead, power down to no wake speed while moving in the current direction, then turn
  - Figure 8's and circles are PROHIBITED unless no other watercraft (towing or not) are in the area; S turns are acceptable
  - NO WAKE speed motorized watercraft operations are required when the lake is more than 2 ft. lower or more than 1 ft. higher than normal level. Normal elevation is 134' and will fluctuate based on amount of rainfall
  - Towing is prohibited in NO WAKE zones

### ANCHORING/MOORING

- Permitted only in NO WAKE areas, or near mooring balls, HOA docks, or personal slips (private or rented), and decks. Watercraft must not block traffic
- To protect the clay lining of the lake bottom only dead weight anchors are permitted

### OVERNIGHT DOCKING

- Permitted in private or rented boat slips/docks at all times
- Permitted at private swim decks from Friday noon to Sunday 9 p.m.
- Permitted at neighborhood HOA docks from Friday noon to Sunday 9 p.m.
- PROHIBITED in slips/docks at Amphitheater, Boardwalk, Lakehouse, Island, Greenhouse Park, and any bulkhead or yard at all times

### ENFORCEMENT

- Failure to comply with Rules may result in monetary fines or removal of watercraft from the lake temporarily or permanently

### DISCLAIMER

- **PERSONS USING THE LAKE DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK. DECLARANT, HOA, AND MUD 500 ARE RELEASED FROM ANY LIABILITY**

### SCUBA DIVING

- Permitted only in NO WAKE zones and with proper dive flags and other standard scuba safety practices

### OTHER

- HOA may limit the number of watercraft operating on the lake at any given time or location
- Lake designed depth is maximum of 10' deep
- Do not remove any lake vegetation or shoreline erosion protection material
- Snakes, beavers, alligators, and other wildlife may be present in the lake; report any dangerous wildlife to the HOA office
- Boat ramp is for residents only and parking is limited
- Report any shallow areas or underwater obstructions in the lake to the HOA office

### FISHING

- Persons fishing must provide proof of residency on demand
- All guests must be accompanied by resident at all times
- Persons fishing must yield waterway to any watercraft crossing fishing lines
- Persons fishing must comply with annual fishery study. Catch/release rules may change from year to year

*\*This document is a summary for reference purposes only of certain rules, including proposed changes to current rules. The complete Amended and Restated Rules and Regulations Relating to Boats, Docks and the Use of the Recreational Lake in Towne Lake is recorded under Clerk's File No. 084-71-2823, in the Official Public Records of Harris County, Texas, as it has been may be amended or supplemented. In the event of a conflict between this summary and the recorded Rules, the recorded Rules will control.*