

**BOATING, SKIING AND SWIMMING RULES**  
**Revised 4/9/2024**

In addition to RomeRock "Boating, Skiing, and Swimming Rules" all State of Ohio "Boating, Skiing and Swimming Rules" apply on Lake Roaming Rock.

Security for Lake Roaming Rock will be provided by the RRA.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources has the right to enter Lake Roaming Rock and inspect any watercraft.

Lake Roaming Rock will abide by all State Department of ODNR rules and regulations for this size lake.

All boat trailers must have a decal placed on them, showing that they are registered to a property owner. The decal will be issued yearly by the RRA at the same time as the boat decals are issued and purchased.

**WATERCRAFT**

**1. Membership Identification Decal**

**S/L 1.1** All watercraft must have a current membership identification decal with RomeRock Association located on the stern of their boat and have the state registration on board for that watercraft.

**L 1.2** Only watercraft owned solely by an Active Member(s) may apply for and receive a membership identification decal which must be issued before any watercraft may be stored or operated in, on or within any property or facilities owned, managed, controlled, or regulated by RomeRock Association, Inc.

**L 1.3** Proof of ownership by state registration and certificate of title (if applicable) must accompany the request for the membership identification decal. Title required only when registering a watercraft with the RRA the first time." (A valid "bill of sale" may be used for temporary registration only.)

**L 1.4** Current state registration and title may be used for RomeRock Association membership identification decal. Original or certified copy of title required the first time a watercraft is registered with the RRA.

**S 1.5** All watercraft required to be registered in the State of Ohio, must be registered, must display the registration number and must comply with the regulations set down by the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Watercraft and be Coast Guard equipped.

## **2. IDENTIFICATION**

**L 2.1** All watercraft must be PROPERLY identified. This shall consist of the members LOT NUMBER in three (3) inch numbers of a contrasting color and the ASSOCIATION STICKER displayed on both sides of the watercraft at the rear above the waterline. Alternate placement arrangements may be made with the RomeRock Association office.

**S 2.2** The state registration number and sticker shall be displayed in three (3) inch numbers of a contrasting color on both sides of the bow.

**L/S 2.3** No watercraft shall be permitted on any of the properties or facilities owned, managed, controlled, or regulated by RomeRock Association, Inc. without permanently attached Association and state registration stickers and numbers.

**L 2.4** Watercraft with only electric trolling motors are not required to register with the RRA ; they are only required to display a valid state tag and registration number and lot number.

## **3. SPECIFICATIONS**

**L 3.1** Other than float (pontoon) boats and racing shells, no watercraft shall be longer than twenty-one (21) feet in length.

**L a.** Any deck boat with full hull will not be considered a pontoon boat and must adhere to the 21 foot length limit.

**L b.** A pontoon boat can have no more than three (3) independent pontoons to support the deck and be no longer than 28 feet.

**L c.** Sailboats over 21 feet and hand powered racing shells over 35' will be considered by the RomeRock Board of Directors on an individual basis.

**L d.** Any boat over the length limit will be considered by the Board of Directors on an individual basis.

**S 3.2** All operation of a watercraft must comply to its Capacity Plate.

**S 3.3** No watercraft with a toilet or sanitary system capable of discharging in Lake Roaming Rock will be allowed. Only gray water may be directly discharged from watercraft sinks into the Lake.

**L 3.4** Hydro-planes, air-boats, submersibles, water-jet packs, wing-in-ground crafts, hovercraft, hydrofoils, house boats and motorized power boards (e.g. surfboards, body boards, jet boards and hydrofoils) are PROHIBITED from Lake Roaming Rock.

**L 3.5** All power-craft consisting of an inboard will be required to have a fully enclosed cover over the existing engine. No boat shall be altered from the manufacturer's specifications to enhance the noise nor have any opening in said cover to allow any extrusion, resonators, carburetors or devices to enhance noise of the engine.

**L** \*ANY WATERCRAFT NOW REGISTERED, OR REGISTERED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1985 FOR POWER BOATS OR JANUARY 1, 1996 FOR PONTOON BOATS AND ARE IN VIOLATION OF RULE NO. 1 IN THE SPECIFICATIONS ABOVE, MAY CONTINUE TO BE REGISTERED AND OPERATED, BUT ONCE NOT REGISTERED IN ANY MEMBERSHIP YEAR SHALL FOREVER BE BANNED FROM THE LAKE. PERMISSION TO REGISTER AND OPERATE A CURRENTLY REGISTERED OVERLENGTH WATERCRAFT CANNOT BE TRANSFERRED TO ANY OTHER MEMBER.

ANY WATERCRAFT, NOT PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED, MUST COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE SPECIFICATIONS.

#### **4. OPERATION**

**S 4.1** OPERATOR/MEMBER/OWNER OF WATERCRAFT ARE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYONE OPERATING THEIR WATERCRAFT AND WILL BE CITED FOR ANY RULE INFRACTION.

**L 4.2** All watercraft shall travel in a counterclockwise direction. Either direction of travel is acceptable within 75' of shore at "NO WAKE" speed. ("NO WAKE" speed means no faster than needed to maintain direction and maneuverability.)

**S 4.3** ALL watercraft shall have a Coast Guard approved life preserver for EACH person aboard. Children under 10 years of age must wear life preserver at all times while on board.

**S/L 4.4** Watercraft within (75) seventy-five feet of shore, "NO WAKE" buoys, swimming areas, in coves and fishing arms, and in areas designated by "NO WAKE" buoys, must reduce speed to "NO WAKE".

**S 4.5** No watercraft passenger may sit, stand, or walk on any area of the watercraft not specifically designated for that movement when the watercraft is underway, except when immediately necessary for the safe and reasonable navigation or operation of the watercraft.

**S 4.6** All watercraft must be operated at reasonable speeds for given conditions and circumstances.

**S/L 4.7** No watercraft shall be operated in such manner as to create excessive or unreasonable noise. NO person shall remove, alter or modify a muffler/resonator in a way that prevents compliance with this section. No person shall operate or allow to be operated a powercraft with an altered muffler/resonator or muffler cutout or in a manner that bypasses or reduces the effectiveness of any muffler/resonator system.

**L 4.7.a** Operating or playing of radios, stereos, loudspeakers or similar devices on a watercraft, in such a manner as to create a noise greater than 60 db, at 50 feet from the watercraft is not permitted.

**L/S 4.8** Sailboats and non-powered watercraft shall have the right-of-way, common sense prevails. All powered craft must maintain a distance of at least fifty (50) feet from non-powered, stationary, and anchored watercraft.

**S 4.9** Operators of watercraft towing persons must be aware of appropriate distances and not put the person(s) being towed in danger.

**S 4.10** All watercraft operating after sunset must have running lights (red, green and white) displayed. All boats must display anchor lights (a 360 degree white only, red and green OFF) while anchored or drifting from sunset to sunrise. Canoes, kayaks, rowing shells and some other small non-powered vessels are only required to exhibit a lighted lantern or an electric torch showing a white light in sufficient time to prevent a collision

**S 4.11** Operating a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is prohibited.

**S 4.12** Anyone operating a watercraft in a reckless or unsafe manner will be cited and REQUIRED to leave the lake. Per State law ORC 1547.07 Unsafe vessel operation includes, without limitation, any of the following:

(1) A vessel becoming airborne or completely leaving the water while crossing the wake of another vessel at a distance of less than one hundred feet, or at an unsafe distance, from the vessel creating the wake;

(2) Operating at such a speed and proximity to another vessel or to a person attempting to ride on one or more water skis, surfboard, inflatable device, or similar device being towed by a vessel so as to require the operator of either vessel to swerve or turn abruptly to avoid collision;

(3) Operating less than two hundred feet directly behind a person water skiing or attempting to water ski;

(4) Weaving through congested traffic.

**L 4.13** Unorganized racing is not allowed without permission of the RomeRock Association Board of Directors, with input from the Boating Safety Committee.

**L 4.14** No watercraft may be used as a dwelling or overnight camping.

**S 4.15** Disabled watercraft MUST display an international orange distress flag.

**L 4.16** No watercraft may exceed 50 MPH at any time.

**L 4.17** In an emergency the Operations Manager or Board of Directors may declare the lake "NO WAKE" by prescribed methods, currently flashing amber lights at Clubhouse, Beach 2, Marina and 6-12 locations on private docks located around the perimeter of the Lake.

**L 4.18** Any boat failing to stop for Lake Patrol will be cited and banned for remainder of boating season.

**L 4.19** No "OVERNIGHT" docking will be permitted at beach no. 1 or 2

**L 4.20** No boats can be beached at Beach 1. Boats may be beached at Beach 2 in the designated areas.

**S 4.21** State requirements for age requirements must be adhered to.

**S 4.22** No watercraft shall use docking lights (head lights) for anything other than docking.

**S 4.23** No person born on or after January 1, 1982, shall operate a powercraft powered by more than 10 horse power unless the operator has received a certificate for successful completion of either the following:

- A boating course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA),
- A proficiency examination approved by the ODNR Division of Watercraft.

**S/L 4.24** Lake Roaming Rock will be "NO WAKE" from sunset to sunrise, with the exception of Fireworks night, which is "NO WAKE" from 8:00 PM till the following sunrise.

## **5. SKIING/TUBING/TOWING**

PLEASE NOTE: THESE RULES APPLY TO ALL PERSONS BEING TOWED BEHIND A WATERCRAFT.

**S 5.1** Water-skiing/tubing/towing is prohibited between sunset and sunrise. NO WARNING GIVEN! AUTOMATIC CITATION!

**L 5.2** No more than two (2) skiers may be towed simultaneously. No more than one (1) inflatable may be towed.

**S 5.3** ONLY A TYPE III Coast Guard approved flotation device can be worn by a person being towed on water skis or other device and any person operating or riding on a personal watercraft.

**S 5.4** When a skier is being towed, a person other than the watercraft operator, at least ten (10) years of age, must be on board and must observe the progress of the skier at all times. NO WARNING GIVEN! AUTOMATIC CITATION!

**L 5.4.a** A red or orange flag must be displayed by the observer when someone being towed is down. The flag must be at least 12 inches square and attached to at least a 24 inch pole, mast or stick. The flag should be displayed as long as the skier/tuber is down in the water as a warning to other boaters.

**L 5.5** Dropping a ski off is prohibited.

**L 5.6** Any watercraft towing a person(s) must be able to legally carry the operator, observer, and other passengers AND the person(s) being towed. (1 and 2 passenger personal watercraft may NOT tow anyone!)

**L 5.7** Inflatables that are capable and designed to become airborne while being towed are prohibited.

**L 5.8** Planer-boards, devices towed behind a boat and used for fishing are prohibited.

**L 5.9** Boats operating in wake-surfing mode are required to navigate toward the center of the lake and to maintain a distance of 250 feet or more from shore.

*Adopted 4/6/24*

## **6. JET SKIS**

**6.1** Jet Skis must follow the same State and Lake rules of operation as powered vessels.

## **7. KAYAKS & STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDS**

**7.1** No person under 12 years of age shall operate any vessel unless under the direct visual and audible supervision of a person who is 18 years of age.

**7.2** A vessel under oars may exhibit lights for sailing vessels, but if not, shall have an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light in sufficient time to prevent collision. Note: this means an electric white light that is visible 360 degrees, after dusk.

**S 7.3** Per State law ORC 1547.25 one wearable PFD per person must be onboard.

**S 7.4** Per State laws OAC 1501:47-1-07 and ORC 1547.47 kayaks and canoes need registration and tags/numbers but paddleboards do not.

**L 7.5** Kayaks and Stand-Up Paddleboards must display a LOT NUMBER in three (3) inch numbers of a contrasting color at the top rear of the watercraft.

**L 7.6** Kayaks and Stand-Up Paddleboards shall stay within 75ft from shore unless crossing the lake or in an inlet.

## **8. RENTAL OR DEMO WATERCRAFT**

- L 8.1** All rental watercraft must follow "Boating Rules" of the RomeRock Association including "Registration, Identification, and Specification".
- L 8.2** The RomeRock Association Sticker shall be of a color and size that it can be easily identified as a rental.
- L 8.3** Boats may be rented "ONLY" to RRA members.
- L 8.4** A log of all rentals must be kept and include the following:
  - L a.** Full name and address of RomeRock Association member renting and RRA membership card number.
  - L b.** Type of boat and size.
  - L c.** "OH" number and "RRA" sticker number of rental.
  - L d.** Date and time of rental and return.
  - L e.** Names of all persons driving boat.
- L 8.5** All renters must have been given a copy of the current watercraft rules and sign that they have read and will obey them.
- L 8.6** Member signing rental agreement is responsible for all rule violations.
- L 8.7** A representative of the marina must be on any other (non-rental) watercraft the marina has on Lake Roaming Rock.
- L 8.8** The marina will be given two (2) "temporary" special stickers for use with demos.

## **9. BOAT RAMP GATE**

- L 9.1** Access to the lake is restricted to Active RRA Members and their permanent and immediate family guests.
  - a** – Active Members who register one or more watercraft with the RRA may purchase a single key fob per membership unit from the RRA for the purpose of accessing the lake through the boat ramp gate.
  - b** – Replacement fobs may be purchased in the event a fob is lost. The lost fob will be deactivated.
  - c** – Key fobs may be deactivated by the RRA in the event that the member becomes inactive or does not register a watercraft in the current Membership year.
- L 9.2** Members may not allow unauthorized watercraft to access the lake.

## **SWIMMING:**

1. Swimmers from shore must remain within 50 feet of the shoreline, except in areas designated and clearly marked.
2. Swimmers from an anchored boat must remain within 20 feet of the boat and must comply with any request from the Lake Security to move out of an area due to traffic or safety considerations.