



**Rental company name:**

As the owner/operator/manager of the rental company above, I acknowledge that our check-out and training process for all participants will include, but is not limited to the following items:

**General boating safety**

1. The vessel must be operated at speeds that are safe for the location and conditions. No weaving through vessels that are underway, stopped, moored, or at anchor and avoid swimming areas. Scan the area constantly, operate defensively, and avoid aggressive maneuvers.
2. To keep a safe distance away from people, objects, and other vessels. As speed increases, greater distance is needed.
3. Individuals are never to enter the water unless the vessel motor is turned off, the keys are removed, the propeller has stopped spinning, and a lifejacket is worn.
4. Before starting the motor, always do a headcount to make sure all passengers are onboard and visually inspect the area.
5. While the vessel is in motion, passengers must remain seated and away from the front (bow), sides (gunwales), rear (stern/transom), and swim platform.
6. The engine shut off cord (lanyard) must be attached to the operator's wrist or PFD at all times.
7. Proper procedures to start and stop the engine.
8. Inform passengers of carbon monoxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), which is a colorless and odorless gas created by the vessel's motor and generator, and educate on CO<sub>2</sub> awareness zone extending 30 feet around the vessel.
9. If refueling is allowed, instruct on proper refueling procedures.
10. If vessel is inboard or inboard/outboard, provide instruction on using engine compartment blower.
11. To signal danger or need for assistance, sound five short blasts of the horn or whistle.
12. Most vessels do not have brakes; stopping the engine will not stop the vessel. Stopping quickly will likely be difficult (or impossible) if the vessel is traveling too fast.
13. If anchoring the vessel, do so in a location where others may easily see the vessel. Anchoring should always be done from the bow (front).
14. Navigation rules:
  - When crossing the path of another vessel, always yield to the vessel on your right (starboard).
  - It is the responsibility of the participant/operator to slow down, steer away, or stop to avoid any and all possible collisions.
  - If meeting another vessel head on, operator should steer to the right.
  - When overtaking another vessel, it should be done to the left (port side).
  - If renting a powerboat, they must give way/yield to all sailboats.
15. If tubing, skiing, wakeboarding, or knee boarding are allowed, all participants will be instructed of the following rules:
  - People being towed should be kept a safe distance from the vessel.
  - A spotter must be used while towing people behind the vessel.
  - Tow lines should be outside the vessel and clear of the prop so that when towing begins, the tow line cannot catch any participant in the vessel. When tow activities have ceased, tow lines are to be properly stowed aboard the vessel before starting the engine.

## Personal watercraft (PWC) safety

1. It is highly recommended that a wetsuit or wetsuit bottom be worn while operating or riding on a PWC for protection, and always turn off the engine if anyone is near the rear of the PWC. There is a serious risk of water being forced into lower body openings of both males and females as a result of falling into the water, or being near the PWC jet thrust nozzle. The throttle should never be applied when anyone is in the water near the rear of the PWC. Normal swimwear does not protect against this forceful water entry.
2. The jet drive intake has tremendous suction and will pull loose items (i.e. long hair, sand, stones, fishing line, loose clothing, or life jacket straps) through the jet drive. Participants must keep these objects away from the intake grate.
3. A life jacket with a kill switch lanyard attached must be worn at all times.
4. Horseplay is not allowed. In addition to the safety aspects in the **General Boating Safety Section**, no spraying or splashing others or wake/wave jumping is allowed.
5. Stopping the engine will not stop the forward motion of the PWC, and steering control is lost when the throttle is released or when the engine is turned off.
6. Correct procedure to upright a capsized PWC – Make all participants aware that the PWC may have a decal at the bottom or rear of the vessel that indicates the direction to roll the PWC to return it to an upright position.

## Houseboat and pontoon safety

1. Keep all hands and fingers free from gates and hinges when exiting the vessel.
2. Proper use of navigation and anchor lights is required.
3. While underway, all gates must be closed and all participants must be seated inside the gated area.
4. Towing of other vessels is not permitted.
5. If equipped with an upper deck:
  - No one is allowed on the upper deck while the vessel is underway. Jumping is not permitted from the upper deck.
  - A spotter must be present if the vessel has an upper deck or slide.

## Operation procedures

The rental facility will:

1. require the renter and all participants to sign all rental forms, including: rental agreement, rental release, and participant check out form. There are to be no additional participants, passengers, or riders on the vessel after check-out.
2. not rent or allow operation of the vessel by anyone who is under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
3. not allow vessel operation from dusk to dawn.
4. provide participants with information regarding local waters, navigational markers, and warnings about any areas that should be avoided or could be hazardous.
5. provide contact information for on-the-water assistance.

## Notice

This document does not in any way amend or modify any legal requirements you have as the rental facility or livery, and it is your burden to comply with all legal requirements. By providing this information, no legal liability or extra contractual coverage is created or accepted beyond the limits of coverage afforded by your policy.

On behalf of the rental company, the signatory below acknowledges the rental company will use a company accepted checkout form for all rentals.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of rental company owner/operator/manger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date