

Mile High Wakeboarding™ Boat Rules and Safety Tips

At Mile High Wakeboarding, these are the rules we try to follow while out on the water.

Rules and safety tips on the boat

- Always wear a **C**oast **G**uard **A**pproved (CGA) life jacket while skiing or riding
- Children under the age of 10 must wear a CGA life preserver at all times
- Put boards back into board-racks after each use, be sure to lock them down so they don't fall on you, (don't let them drip on the stereo!!)
- When a skier or rider is down, raise the flag if other boats are nearby
- Use skier hand signals; wave that you are "OK" after every fall
- No baby oil, suntan oil, or spray sunscreens or lotions in the boat; they are semi-permanent on the vinyl and seats
- Don't let the boat hit anything and don't hit the boat with anything (watch your boards and equipment getting in and out of the water)
- Pay attention to your wakeboard fins and other sharp objects on the vinyl (seats, rear deck, etc. – most newer fins will slice like a knife)
- Do not step on the trailer or in the boat with shoes (rocks tear and scratch)
- Try to keep the inside of the boat dry (towel off on the back platform or deck) – this is mostly to protect the stereo equipment from getting wet from a splash
- Do not sit on boat rails or sundeck while boat is in motion
- No climbing or sitting on tower
- Keep an eye out for obstacles or shallow water and alert the driver
- Do not sit in a spot that impairs the driver's ability to see (sit low in the front)
- Always stop to assist those on the water in need of help
- Use common sense

Basic Skier Hand Signals

- I'm OK (a fallen skier should wave to their boat after every fall - no exceptions)
- Delta Wave (driver holds hand high until other boat driver waves back)
- Faster (thumb up) / Slower (thumb down)
- I'm done (tap top of head or make a slicing motion at neck)
- Drive straight, (open hand motion - slicing forward)
- Turn left or right (open hand motion - slicing in that direction)
- Turn around (1 finger in a circle motion – or an "L" for a double-up/wakeboarders)

Boat Driver (If applicable)

- Never drink and drive
- Stay 200 feet (or as much as possible) from all objects, land, and docks
- Continually watch for obstacles in the water as well as the shore, and other watercraft
- Pay attention, eliminate distractions
- Pass oncoming boats as you would on a street; keeping other boats to your left, at least two full rope lengths away
- Memorize RRR (Red right returning) heading up a stream or river

Towing a Rider

- Always protect your skier from other watercraft and obstacles
- Always make sure the rope and riders are clear of boat before starting engine
- Always place throttle in gear before accelerating, to prevent damage to the transmission
- Always make sure boat is in gear and the line is tight before accelerating
- Do not stare at skier in mirrors, keep your eyes looking ahead and to the sides as well
- Drive straight, and predictably; when a turn is needed, signal to skier and make sharper turns
- Hold a consistent speed (cruise control is best)

When a Rider Falls

- Look for rider "OK" hand wave
- Tell someone to raise skier-down flag
- Look for other boats and obstacles
- No power turning (stop, idle, turn, pickup)
- Circle the rider on the driver's side and in driver's view the whole time
- Place throttle in and out of neutral gently to control speed
- Get "OK " from rider before placing boat in gear and accelerating

Skier and rider safety checklist

- Tighten and check wake board bindings / bolts before each use
- Visually inspect equipment before each use (rope, jacket, handle, etc.)
- Always, always, always, stretch and warm up
- When passing through a heavily congested area, either drop before the area or stay in your tow-boat's path until clear of the congestion; do not attempt any tricks or stunts in a heavily congested areas