



## RITZ LAKE BOATING RULES

All watercraft operating on the Lake must comply with all the Lake Rules and Regulations as well as Regulations established by the State of Nebraska for boating.

All watercraft (power boats, fishing boats, canoes, paddle boats, sail boats, etc.) on the Lake must be owned by Lake Lot Owners and registered with the Declarant and Declarant's appointee and/or Association. All watercraft must display the owner's Lot No. and the current year Ritz Lake Association sticker. This Lake Association /Lot No. stickers must be displayed on the upper starboard aft (right rear) side of the watercraft. Lot No. stickers must also be contrasting to boat color and at least three inches tall. Stickers can be obtained from the Declarant and Declarant's appointee and/or Association with proof of current registration, proof of liability insurance and current dues. Any non-member boat found on the lake may be removed by the Declarant and Declarant's appointee and/or Association.

### Rules

1. Boats speeding on the Lake are prohibited. Maximum boat speed limit is 35 MPH on the Lake and speed within fifty (50) feet of the launching, shore and dock areas is always NO WAKE. .
2. Boating/Ski Pattern will be in a COUNTERCLOCKWISE direction.
3. When exiting coves, boats must yield to oncoming traffic.
4. Sailboats, canoes, rowboats, any vessel not operating under mechanical power, any anchored vessel and swimmers ALWAYS have the right of way.
5. Paddle boats shall not exceed a distance of seventy-five (75) feet from the shoreline
6. It is unlawful to allow any child less than 13 years of age aboard any vessel when not wearing a U.S. Coast Guard approved life preserver. It is highly recommended that children wear life jackets when aboard any watercraft whether motorized or not.
7. No one under the age of 14 years shall operate a motor boat of any class at any time.
8. As of January 1, 2004, any motorboat operator between the ages of 14 and 18 must complete a Boating Safety Course and be in possession of a course certificate when operating a boat. The only acceptable course for those under 18 is Nebraska's 6-hour classroom course with a proctored exam. The passing score is 75%.
9. No wake (5 MPH) rule will be enforced from the period of one half hour after sunset until 9:00 AM. Nothing can be towed during this period (towable, skiers, etc.).
10. It is prohibited to stand or sit on the side edge of a moving power boat.
11. All persons being towed MUST wear life jackets. Ski belts are not acceptable.
12. No one under the age of 16 can tow tubers or skiers.
13. All boat traffic must maintain at least fifty (50) feet from the water's edge. Boats including their tow must be 50 feet from water's edge and/or docks.
14. All boats towing any device must have an orange warning flag on board and display it only when the person being towed is down.
15. Boats with a downed passenger being towed (skier, wakeboarder, or towable) should turn around ONLY while turning into or toward shore (right-hand turn) in order to pick up their skier
16. Boats of any kind must not operate between a downed skier and the towing boat. Tow lines must not exceed 75 feet.
17. Boats are limited to one tow line during busy times on the lake. Never more than two tow lines and that is only in low traffic times.
18. All boats with a tow must have a mandatory spotter, 13 years or older or a wide angled mirror.
19. Boats must not follow a boat with a tow closer than 200 feet. Do not tailgate behind boats.
20. Swimming at boat launch or marina is prohibited.
21. Swimming across the lake is prohibited.
22. All boats must use appropriate lights on the lake at night. All boats operating later than sunset or earlier than sunrise must have the proper fore (bow) and aft (stern) running lights in use.
23. Holidays: Lake Residents only operating motorized watercraft.
24. Insurance: Must provide proof of insurance to the Declarant and Declarant's appointee and/or Association.



25. All boats must have an efficient whistle, horn or other mechanical sound producing device.
26. Chasing waterfowl with powered water vehicles is prohibited and is reason to lose lake privileges.
27. Boat Sizes and Horsepower:
  - a. Inboard/Outboard (Stern Drive) boats shall not exceed twenty (20) feet hull length with 260/hp four (4) stroke engine.
  - b. Direct Drive/V-Drive wake board and ski boats shall not exceed twenty-one and one-half (21.5) feet in length with four (4) stroke engine.
  - c. Outboard boats shall not exceed eighteen (18) feet in hull length with 150/hp four (4) stroke engine.
  - d. Pontoon boats shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet in hull length with 115/hp four (4) stroke outboard engine.
  - e. Triple pontoon (tri-toon) boats shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet in hull length with 150/hp four (4) stroke outboard engine.

It is the boat owner's responsibility to verify that lengths do not exceed the above mentioned classifications and all boat lengths will be verified by the Declarant and Declarant's appointee and/or Ritz Lake Association. Air Boats, Jet Powered Boats or any other Jet Powered Personal Watercraft of any brand, make or model and Boats with above water exhaust systems are prohibited. Boats shall not carry more passengers, nor weight than they are rated for. No motors may be altered or modified from their original factory production standards to increase their performance or HP. Any discrepancies will be reviewed by the Declarant and Declarant's appointee and/or Ritz Lake Association's Board of Directors using the following: Advertised manufacturer's length and hull identification/model number. The bases of these clarifications are to insure boater's safety and minimize beach erosion. No boat will be allowed to create undue or damaging wake; the operator of the boat will be held responsible for any damage caused by his/her vessel.

28. All boats must have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life saving device of Type I, II, or III for each person on board. In addition, every vessel shall carry at least one U.S. Coast Guard-approved throwable flotation device (Type IV).
29. Docks
  - a. The Declarant and Declarant's appointee shall approve the location and design of all docks.
  - b. Floating docks are recommended.
30. Lifts
  - a. The Declarant and Declarant's appointee shall approve the placement of all lifts
  - b. Lifts on all lots shall use beige colored canopy.
  - c. Floating lifts are recommended.
31. To Preserve Lake Health and for the Prevention of Zebra/Quagga Mussels:
  - a. The boat ramp access shall be kept locked at all times to prevent unauthorized use of the lake.
  - b. NO visitor boats.
  - c. Once a resident's boat is launched in the spring; it MUST stay within the lake Property until fall, unless service is needed.
  - d. Launch/Retrieval trailers must provide proof of decontamination.
  - e. Once a boat is removed from within the lake Property during the season the boat/trailer cannot be brought back without proof of decontamination. Such watercraft shall complete mandatory five-day quarantine, follow the Protocol (32) for decontamination and/or present certification of professional decontamination from a local marina before splashing in the lake.
  - f. Previously owned docks or lifts must be cleaned according to the protocol (32) listed below before installation.
  - g. All vendor or vendor demo boats/trailers must provide proof of decontamination.
  - h. All vendors and contractors need prior authorization to access the ramp or Lake. Vendors or contractors who utilize water craft or other equipment on the Lake shall be required to clean their equipment according to the following protocol (32) before entering the Lake.
  - i. Homeowners must be vigilant and responsible for all forms of equipment, craft or "toys" that they put into the Lake such as: wake boards, paddle boats, kayaks, canoes, floaties, etc. If they are used on other bodies of water, please be sure to follow the protocol listed in the next section.



- 32. Protocol for cleaning watercraft, trailers, used docks/lifts, toys & equipment:
  - a. Remove all plants and mud and dispose of in trash.
  - b. Wash hull, trailer, equipment, bilge and other exposed surfaces with high-pressure hot water (140-155 degrees). DRY as much as possible.
  - c. Drain all water from the boat (pull all plugs) and dry all areas, including the motor, motor cooling system live wells, ballast tanks, bladder, bilges, and lower outboard units.
  - d. Dry watercraft for at least five (5) days in warm, dry weather and up to thirty (30) days in cool, moist weather before launching into fresh water.
  - e. For more info please visit: <http://neinvasives.com/>
  - f. Optional: HIRE A LOCAL MARINA QUALIFIED TO CLEAN & CERTIFY WATERCRAFT.
- 33. Fishing
  - a. For the continued enjoyment of all lot owners and their guests: Fishing is Catch and Release.
  - b. The Lake has been stocked by the declarant with Large and Small Mouth Bass, Catfish, Blue Gill, Donaldson Steelhead Trout, sterile Triploid Grass Carp and Fathead Minnows.
  - c. Unauthorized restocking of fish is prohibited.
- 34. No live minnow or other live fish type of bait allowed for fishing.
- 35. There is a punitive system for violations of the boating rules. This is set by the Board of the Association.
  - a. First offense: warning
  - b. Second offense: \$250.00 fine
  - c. Third offense in one boating season: suspension of boating privileges for the rest of the season. Reinstatement will only be after written application is made to the Association Board.

Any property owner, or property owner's guest, who is convicted of a crime of operating motorized watercraft under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substance, shall not be permitted to operate motorized watercraft on Ritz Lake for one year from the date of the conviction.

Property Owner/Owners Signature of Acknowledgment:

Ritz Lake Lot #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_