

PROPOSAL

To: Lakes Committee, Safety Committee

From: Dave Patterson

Cc: Bruce Keller

Date: September 2, 2010

Based on input from the members of the committee and discussions between Larry Rohling, Bruce Keller and myself, the following are the suggested additional general boating rules.

The intent and objective of these rules is to try and make anyone who is driving a boat on any HVL lake aware of our rules, not just the person registering the boat. The more people who know or at least have seen the rules, the better off and the safer we all are.

- 1) Only the boat owner or members of the owner's immediate family are permitted to drive a properly registered boat on any HVL lake, or, if another person is given permission by the owner to drive the boat, then the boat owner or a member of the boat owner's immediate family must be on board when the boat is out on the water unless the other person has taken and passed the boat drivers test and has a copy with him/her, in which case the owner or an immediate family member is not required to be on the boat. .
- 2) A second ticket to the boat owner, immediate family or person in a season will cause loss of lake boating privileges for the individual for 14 days.
- 3) If the owner or member of the immediate family member or person receives a third ticket in a season, the individual will lose boating privileges for the rest of the year.

When the boat registration paperwork is sent out early in the year, multiple copies of the test will be included, one for each person in the household. Any person in the household that might want to drive the boat during the upcoming summer must complete, sign and pass the boat driver test. Additional copies can be included or made available at the POA office for guests to use during the season.

I would anticipate that the list of approved HVL resident drivers would be kept by the POA office and the lake patrol would have access via a printed listing, perhaps a loose-leaf three-ring binder. As we get more technologically advanced, perhaps they could have some sort of on line hand held device that would be able to look up drivers by boat registration numbers. A blackberry would be able to do that.

The guest tests would be kept by the guest and they would have to have the passed test in their possession while driving the boat, just like a temporary license.

If a boat is stopped, and there is not a qualified person on the boat as specified above, then the boat will be asked to leave the lake immediately, just as we treat a boat without a valid sticker.

Rationale: Right now, only one person in a family has to read the rules and take and pass the test. That individual is supposed to tell the other members of the immediate family about the rules and what to do or not do on the lake. Sometimes this doesn't happen. With the revised rules, all members of the family who might be drivers of the family boat

will have to pass the test. A master sheet can be maintained by boat registration number listing all of the approved drivers, that is, those that have passed the test. Additional copies of the test will be included with the packet so that if a boat owner has company in for a period of time, they can take the test and be aware of the rules and therefore drive the boat. They must keep a signed copy of their passed test with them on the boat, sort of like a temporary boat driver's permit. The homeowner will be responsible to be sure that the guest has passed the test, that is, answered all of the questions correctly. Tickets/citations will be against an individual, not the boat. Everyone will be responsible for their own actions, but the ultimate responsibility, including the payment of any and all fines will still remain with the boat owner. We will still recommend the practice of educating, warning then citing anyone not following the rules of the lake. The lake patrol will still have discretion relating to the severity of the offense and the overall situation.

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