



Fayson Lakes Association **General Boating Rules**

(last amended September 17, 2022)

1. Scope / Definition of Terms

- a. Unless otherwise specified, the rules below shall encompass kayaks, canoes, sailboats, paddleboards, pedal boats, pontoon ("platform") boats, or any other water "vessel," heretofore referred to more generally as "boats," with their occupants referred to more generally as "boaters," and the activity of operating a water vessel referred to more generally as "boating."
- b. The acronym "FLA" stands for the "Fayson Lakes Association."
- c. An "adult" shall be defined as a person who is 18 years of age or older.
- d. The "swimming areas" are the portions of lake enclosed by ropes along the beaches, in which FLA members and guests are permitted to swim.
- e. A "pontoon" ("platform") boat is a vessel consisting of a flat platform that sits atop the water aided by flotation devices, often consisting of enclosed barrels, other types of boats, or manufactured pontoons. It is normally powered by a small electric motor. A floating platform that cannot move is a dock, and in violation of the General Rules of the Fayson Lakes Association.
- f. Unless otherwise specified, the rules below shall encompass both "FLA-Owned" and "Member-Owned" (or non-FLA-Owned) boats.

2. Permissible Boats

- a. Motorized boats must have no more than one (1) motor with a maximum thrust of 55 lbs. The motor must run on no more than one (1) power source of 12V or less.
- b. All other motor boats are prohibited on the lakes, with the exception of those used by FLA beach staff, official emergency and rescue vessels, and FLA-approved vendors, such as those for water treatment.
- c. Inflatable boats must have a screw air valve to be permitted for use.
- d. **Pontoon Boats**
 - i. Size Restrictions
 1. The maximum **length** shall be no more than 12 feet for homemade boats or 15 feet for commercially-produced boats.
 2. The maximum **width** shall be no more than 7 feet.
 3. The maximum **height** shall be no more than 8 feet from the waterline. No structures (roof, pergola, or side walls) are permitted.

- ii. Existing pontoon boats that were registered with the FLA prior to 9/19/20 will be "grandfathered" (permitted), until such time as the boat becomes unsafe or unusable or the owner is no longer a Fayson Lakes Association member. The grandfathering does not apply to new boats purchased or built by the owners of current grandfathered boats, and grandfathered boats cannot be transferred to other members.

3. General Usage

- a. Boat owners, operators, and occupants must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.
- b. Boaters may not operate a boat while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, a narcotic, hallucinogenic or habit-producing drug, or with a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08% or more.
- c. No vessel shall be operated in a reckless or careless manner. Reckless or careless operation shall include operating any vessel in a manner which unnecessarily interferes with the free and proper use of any waters, or unnecessarily endangers other craft therein or the life or limb of any person upon any craft or in the water. This includes, but is not limited to, exceeding manufacturer capacity specifications, and unnecessarily/recklessly creating "wakes" that affect other boats.
- d. Swimming from boats is not permitted, other than to provide first aid, rescue, or due to a similar emergency.
- e. Open fires are not permitted on boats.
- f. Boats may not enter the designated swimming areas, so as to prevent potential interference with lifeguarding procedures and hazards to swimmers/bathers.

4. Storage

- a. Boats may be stored on FLA-provided boat racks on FLA property, moored or tied to the guardian strip with the permission of the adjacent property owner, or moored or tied to specific docks on West Lake that have been designated for this purpose. At this time, these docks include the T-dock to the east of the swimming lanes and the T-dock below Toboggan Trail.
- b. Boats may not be stored in such a way that they impede access to boat launches, trails, or roads.
- c. Boats may not be docked or stored on beaches or swimming lanes, at any time, so as to avoid interfering with lifeguarding procedures and general beach access, and/or causing obscured visibility into lake and swimming lane areas.
- d. Boats must be stored in such a way that prevents standing water accumulation and mosquito breeding. Where applicable, this involves turning boats upside down and/or securely fastening a tarp.
- e. All food and drink, disposable items, and any other objects posing a sufficiently high risk, at the discretion of the Board of Trustees, of being blown into the lake, are to be removed when not in use.

- f. Boat owners will be held accountable for the removal of any objects not properly secured or stored, including boats themselves, that become partially or fully submerged in the lake.
- g. All boats must be removed from the water no later than December 1 each year, and stored in such a way that guardian strip access is not completely obstructed. They may be returned to the water as early as March 1 of the following year.

5. FLA Registration

- a. Every boat stored on, moored, tied to, or used on FLA property must be registered with the FLA.
- b. The registration process requires you to supply a brief description of each boat being registered with the FLA.
- c. Active members interested in registering a new pontoon boat must apply in person to the Board **PRIOR** to building or buying one. The member must inform the Board in which lake this boat will be used.
- d. The maximum number of pontoon boats registered and permitted to operate on each lake (at any given time) shall be limited to:
 - i. **South Lake: 8**
 - ii. **West Lake: 6**
 - iii. **East Lake: 2**
- e. The FLA is **not responsible** for any costs incurred by members who build or purchase boats of any kind that have not yet been approved for use.
- f. Upon completion of the registration process, a set of two current-year decals will be provided at the following cost:
 - i. Pontoon Boats: \$25.00/set.
 - ii. Other Boats: \$6.00/set.
- g. Decals will arrive marked with your assigned FLA registration number.
- h. The current year's FLA decals must be prominently applied, above the waterline, on two distinct sides (where applicable).
- i. For inflatable boats which are not stored on FLA property and to which decals cannot reasonably be affixed, operators/occupants should visibly wear current-year FLA badges.
- j. If any decals are lost or stolen, it is the owner's responsibility to purchase replacement decals from the FLA Business Manager.
- k. If the FLA registration number on any decal becomes illegible, it is the owner's responsibility to purchase a new decal or to otherwise rewrite the FLA registration number on the decal in a clear and legible manner.
- l. In addition to displaying decals, it is also recommended that every boat stored on FLA property and/or with a bow be clearly marked on both sides of its forward portion (where applicable) with its FLA registration number, so that its owner can be clearly identified. **DO NOT RELY ON FLA BOAT DECALS TO IDENTIFY YOUR BOAT AS THEY MAY FALL OFF OR OTHERWISE BE STOLEN OR TAMPERED WITH.**
- m. This can be done by stenciling, using adhesive letters and numbers, or by any other means, as long as the FLA registration number is clearly visible above the waterline.

- n. Unregistered or unmarked boats on FLA property may be removed, discarded, auctioned, or otherwise sold at the Board's discretion.

6. Life Jackets

- a. **FLA-Owned Boats**
 - i. All boaters regardless of age are **required** to wear life jackets ([Type I, II, III, or V](#)) while on a boat at all times.
- b. **Member-Owned Boats**
 - i. All boaters under 13 years of age are **required** by New Jersey State and Federal laws to wear a life jacket ([Type I, II, III, or V](#)) while on a boat at all times.
 - ii. For each boater 13 years of age and older, it is **required** by New Jersey State and Federal laws for there to be one life jacket ([Type I, II, III, or V](#)) onboard a boat at all times. For a Type V jacket to meet requirements, it must be worn while the vessel is underway.

7. Age Requirements

- a. **FLA-Owned Boats**
 - i. Kayaks - 12 years of age or older, unless accompanied by an adult within the same boat (see "Maximum Occupancy" below)
 - ii. Paddleboards - 14 years of age or older
- b. **Member-Owned Boats**
 - i. Motorized Boats - 13 years of age or older, as per New Jersey State law

8. Maximum Occupancy

- a. **FLA-Owned Boats**
 - i. Kayaks - 1 or 2 people, for single or tandem kayaks, respectively, and adults may respectively accompany 1 or 2 children under 12 years of age, within manufacturer capacity guidelines
 - ii. Paddleboards - 1 person, within manufacturer capacity guidelines
- b. **Member-Owned Boats**
 - i. Boaters must adhere to manufacturer capacity guidelines, where applicable, for their respective boat models

9. Additional Safety Guidelines

- a. When boating on West Lake, please be mindful that lifeguards, while on-duty, are constantly monitoring the lake for signs of distress from swimmers and boaters.
- b. Therefore, while within view of on-duty lifeguards, unaccompanied boaters on West Lake are kindly requested to avoid lying motionless on boats, unless required as a safety measure, as this may trigger false alarms for lifeguard rescue.
- c. When boating on West Lake, please be aware of - and prepared to respond to - announcements made on the Public Address ("PA") system that may be directed towards you, for both the safety of yourself and others on the lake.