

# **VALLEY SHORES LAKE ASSOCIATION**

## **BOATING & SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS**

All Valley Shores Lake Association members and/or residents of lots 1 thru 140 and lot 142 (or any new replats thereof) are responsible for ensuring that they and their guests understand and abide by the following rules and regulations. Disregard for and the abuse of regulations is grounds for suspension of Valley Shores Lake Association (VSLA) privileges.

Valley Shores Lake Association or individuals acting under the authority of the Association are not liable for any damages and/or injuries sustained while guests are using (VSLA) facilities.

When a resident member observes a violation, the Valley Shores Lake Association (VSLA) asks that the violation be reported to the (VSLA) Board in writing. This written complaint will be confidential and on file in the event that further action is necessary. The complaint should state:

- A. The nature of the violation.
- B. The date and time of the violation.
- C. The lot number and name of the violator, if known
- D. Signed by the Association member.

Serious safety violations of Douglas County or Nebraska State law should be immediately called to the Douglas County Sheriff's department or 911. Any personal injury or property damage involving a boat must be reported to the (VSLA) Board immediately.

## **I. Guest**

The member or a resident member of the family when using any of the common areas, lake included, must accompany a guest. Members are accountable and liable for the actions and conduct of their guests

## **II. Swimming/Scuba Diving**

- A. Swimming across the main part of the lake is **prohibited**.
- B. The twenty-five foot (25') area adjoining the residential lots is reserved for swimming.
- C. Scuba Diving is allowed only by special permit from the (VSLA) Board and never on weekends or holidays.
- D. All scuba divers must use a flag while diving. All boats of any kind must stay seventy-five (75') from this flag.
- E. Golf Course Lots (102-140) will have access to swimming privileges on Lot 2 but will not have boating privileges on the Lake.

## **III. Lake Rules/Covenants**

All owners and members must comply with both the provisions set forth in the Covenants and with the new updated rules regarding usage of the Lake listed below;

Boats which are not in the water, boat trailers, RV's, campers and other trailers must be removed from the Owner's Lot within 48 hours unless stored in the garage of the residence. Boat on trailers may be parked in a driveway during the 15-day period between April 15, and April 30, and October 15, and October 30 when Owners are readying their boats for usage

and/or storage. Maintaining boats, boat trailers, RV's, campers and other trailers on the Owner's Lot, other than as set forth herein, is **prohibited**.

Boathouses are **prohibited**.

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

All boats on the Lake must be owned by the Lot Owners, registered with the Association and contain the appropriate and current Association sticker. No other boats shall be permitted on the Lake. All boats (powerboats, canoes, paddleboats, fishing boats, sail boats, etc.,) must display the Owner's Lot Number and the Association sticker in the size established by the Association in a visible position on the starboard AFT (rear side).

Outboard, inboard/outboard and inboard motorboats are allowed. Air boats, "V" drive boats, jet powered boats, jet powered watercraft classified as jet skis, wave runners, or any other jet powered personal watercraft of any brand, make or model, weight enhancement devices and boats with above water exhaust systems are **prohibited**.

Boat speeding on the Lake is prohibited. The (VSLA) has established a boat speed limit of 35mph. Speed in the launching, shore and dock areas is always "NO WAKE", and on the Lake proper between sundown and sunrise, is "NO WAKE". Boats traveling inside the designated restricted areas must travel at all times at a "NO WAKE" speed, (defined as approximately 5MPH or less). Designated restricted areas requiring no wake is at least 50' feet from the docks.

All boats and skiers, and others (being pulled by a boat, must remain a minimum of fifty (50') from the shore and/or boatlifts and docks. It is also a violation for a motorized boat or tuber, skier or wake boarder to intentionally chase ducks/geese.

In addition to the above restrictions, the use of the Lake shall also be subject to the Lake Rules and Regulations, as amended from time to time.

## **IV. Boats-General Information & Regulations**

All member boats operation on the lake must comply with all Valley Shores' safety rules and regulations as well as regulations established by the State of Nebraska.

Boats belonging to guest of (VSLA) members are **prohibited** on the lake. Any non-member boat found on the lake or its shores may be removed by the (VSLA) or its duly authorized agent at the expense of the non-member owner. Guests of a VSLA member may operate a members boat if and only if the member is either on or being pulled by the boat. Immediate family members of a lake homeowner may operate a member boat on the lake with the permission of the homeowner.

Any member who shall have permitted, authorized or allowed illegal use of our launching of a boat in violation of the rules, regulations or restrictions in connection with (VSLA), and/or documents recorded at the Douglas County courthouse, shall have their rights and privileges as a Valley Shores member revoked and the set charge or fine has been paid and until a formal application for reinstatement has been made to and approved by the (VSLA) Board. This revocation period shall

run for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of the application to the Board, unless said the (VSLA) Board waives thirty (30) day waiting period.

Member boats removed and used in another body of water outside of Three Points Lake (our lake) must be held out for seven (7) days before being readmitted to the Lake.

There is a punitive system for violation of boating rules, which is set by the (VSLA) Board. The first offense is a warning. The second offense is a \$100 fine. The third offense in one boating season will result in the suspension of boating privileges for the rest of the season. Reinstatement will only be after written application is made to the (VSLA) Board. **Failure to pay HOA ANNUAL DUES WILL IMMEDIATELY RESULT IN SUSPENSION OF YOUR BOATING PRIVILEGES UNTIL THEY ARE PAID IN FULL.**

All boats on the Lake must display the member's Lot number visible on the starboard aft (right rear) side of the boat. Stickers must be obtained from the (VSLA) Board with proof of current registration, proof of liability insurance and current dues.

To maintain safety for participants, boats may be restricted during special events deemed necessary by the (VSLA) Board. An example of a special event is, July 4 (fireworks display). Powered watercraft must be at "NO WAKE" speed during these designated times.

Only one motorized watercraft from each lot shall be operated on the water at any given time.

No boat shall be equipped with sanitary facilities of any kind that is capable of directly discharging into the water.

**Boat Approval:** Approval of any boat used on the Lake shall be given by the (VSLA) Board. Restrictions on boat size or horsepower rating may be adjusted by the (VSLA) Board based upon market availability of boats & technological improvements made to future boat designs.

**Pontoon Boats:** Maximum length is twenty-two feet six inches (22' 6") determined by the length of the pontoons with the deck not to extend beyond either end of the pontoons and with a maximum of 115hp.

**Outboard Boats:** Maximum length is nineteen feet six inches (19'6") for fishing boats with a maximum of 150hp (prop shaft rating) motor. All outboard motors must be a 4-stroke or a Mercury Opti-Max design that meets or exceeds EPA's emission standards for the year 2006.

**Inboard/Outboard Boats:** Maximum length is nineteen feet six inches (19'6") with a maximum of 200hp (prop shaft rating) motor.

**Boat Motors:** No boat motors may be altered or modified from their original factory production standards to increase their performance or horsepower. All motors must meet or exceed the EPA's emission standards for the year 2006.

**Non-Pontoon Boat Lengths:** Boat lengths are measured from the bow of the boat to the drain plug. Swim platforms are not considered part of the boat's length.

**Hurricane/Deck Boats:** Current Hurricane boat owners have been grandfathered in on the Lake, but new Hurricane or deck boats will not be approved for use on the Lake. Wave mitigation is an objective of the (VSLA) Board.

**Boat Launch Gate:** If a homeowner needs to put in or remove their boat, please give 24 hours notice to the VSLA board member for permission to unlock the gate.

## **V. Boating Rules-Valley Shores**

All boats will be in a COUNTERCLOCKWISE direction.

All boats towing water skiers, tubers, ZUP Boards, knee boards, etc., must have a wide-angle rearview mirror, or an onboard observer, 13 years or older.

Boats must not follow a person being towed (skier, etc.,) closer than 200 feet (2/3 of a city block or 2 lot lengths).

All boats and skiers, etc., must remain a minimum of 50 ft. from the boatlifts and docks and 75 feet from the shoreline.

Boats and water vehicles of any kind must not operate between a downed skier and the towing boat.

Towlines may not be towed in the water for more than 300 feet (one city block). Towlines may not exceed 75 feet in length for skiers and 50 feet in length for tubers.

Boats shall be limited to a maximum of one towline at any time.

Boats with a downed skier should turn around only while turning into or toward shore in order to pick up their skier. An orange flag should be used to alert other boaters of a downed skier/tuber, etc.

Pontoon boats shall not be allowed to pull water skiers or tubers.

Boaters must adhere to their boat's occupancy capacity while operating.

Sailboats, sailboards, kayaks, paddleboards or any other non-motorized craft maybe used, and boat fishing is allowed as long as they operate within 75 feet of the shore at all times.

## **VI. Boating-State Law Enforced @ Valley Shores**

Children under 12 years of age and younger must wear approved life preservers when in a moving boat.

All residents born after 12/31/1985 must successfully complete the Nebraska boating safety course and be in possession of a valid certificate.

No one under the age of 18 years of age shall operate a motorboat of any class at any time.

All boats must use appropriate navigation lights if on the lake at night.



Sailboats, canoes, rowboats, paddleboats, any vessel not operating under mechanical power, any anchored vessel, and swimmers always have the right of way over any vessel operating under mechanical power.

Chasing waterfowl with powered water vehicles is prohibited and is a reason to lose lake privileges.

All water skiers or persons being towed must wear a life jacket or approved gear while being towed.

All boats pulling people must have an orange flag on board and show it when the person was being towed is down.

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).

All boats must have an efficient whistle or other mechanical sound-producing device.

It is prohibited to stand or sit on the side edge of a moving powerboat.

It is a violation to occupy rear (jump seats) while underway.

360-degree turns of any kind are not permitted on the lake.

Starting a skier/tuber in a cove is permitted. However, at no time is it permitted to go deep into a cove with a skier/tuber. Other than starting a skier, wake speed is to be observed when deep into a cove. These rules apply to all 4 coves in our lake.

Slalom skiing on the lake is permitted. However, dropping a ski is prohibited if a skier starts with two (2) skis.

Paddleboard, kayaks, etc., must remain within twenty-five feet (25') of the shoreline or docks/lifts.

The Lot Owner must accompany Guests/relatives in order to operate a power watercraft on the Lake. Immediate family members approved by the lake homeowner are exempt from this rule.

The Lot Owner must be present when guests are fishing. Golf course residents may fish if they pay the full HOA dues regardless of the time of the year.

## **VII. Docks/Boat Lifts/Boat Houses**

(VSLA) grants each waterfront lot owner the privilege to put a dock and/or boat lift in the lake in front of his or her respective lot. Therefore, for the safety of the member's family and that of all members of (VSLA), the plans for all boat docks and lifts showing their size, materials, colors and configuration, must be approved by the Association prior to their installation.

**Boat Docks:** allowed are those made of wood, polyethylene, vinyl, fiberglass, or aluminum or a non-rusting material and shall not extend more than twenty (20) feet into the Lake from the Owner's Lake Lot line.

**Boat Lifts:** allowed will be made of aluminum, such as "Shore Station, Hewitt, etc., or a non -rusting type of material

as approved by the Association, with tasteful colored canopy covers.

**Boat Houses:** Are not allowed.

## **IX. Amendment**

These rules and regulations shall be **binding** on all members. **Changes to, or amendments to** the Boating Rules will be made by a simple majority of the (VSLA) Board.

