**Boater Safety Rules** *Updated 6.16.21*

Maximum boat speed shall be less than 100 MPH on the course. Racing Boats will be between the lengths of 10 and 40 feet (over 115 HP must be 15’ and over) and be equipped with the following or will not race. Safety boats will have the same equipment except helmets, and wear any type flotation.

* Any loose objects removed or secured (seats also secured). No loose objects in the boat.
* Fire Extinguisher
* If equipped with bow rope, length must not reach the prop/jet
* Tether secured to driver (not around wrist)
* Battery box
* Hull intact
* A fitting lifejacket of all persons in the boat.  It is suggested that life jackets have leg straps or thigh skins, extraction loops on shoulders, and skid collar, but these features are not mandatory.  Every driver shall demonstrate that his life jacket will function properly when requested by the referee
* Helmet of every person in the boat: It is suggested that the upper fifty percent (50%) of the helmet be a single bright color.  Half and ¾  helmets should not be worn.  If helmets are not equipped with a full or half face shield, goggles or ANSI/OSHA approved safety glasses with restraint straps should be worn but are not mandatory.
* Means to bail boat (working bilge pump, hand pump, bucket, or other)
* Steering in good working condition
* Functional reverse if equipped
* Boats should be Coast Guard compliant – this is driver responsibility. Safety crews are not responsible for checking compliance, but drivers will be on notice they may not be able to race if law enforcement instructs them to park their boat until compliant. The USCG will be on site.
* Racers and pit crew will wear closed footwear
* No participant may enter with a splint, neck brace, or similar medical devices unless cleared by a doctor to race.
* After crossing the finish line, a boat shall not interfere with any boat still in the race so as to affect the time of such boat at the finish.

**Driver Responsibility**

It is the responsibility of the driver to make sure his/her boat is in good working condition and has all required safety equipment. Racers will read, understand, and sign safety rules and liability waiver. A breathalyzer will be administered before racing, and racers may not enter the races with any level of alcohol in their system (level must be 0.0). Drivers and co-pilots certify they have not been under the influence of alcohol or drugs from midnight before the day of the race until cleared through inspection by signing below. Drivers will do their best to race in a safe manner and are aware there are other racers on the course and safety boats nearby. It is suggested that each racer log several hours of practice time in an open area with no other boats around before entering races. Drivers must follow Race Directors instructions at all times. Drivers understand that even if they pass all requirements, safety crew may be able to disqualify them if they feel there are any other unsafe issues with the boat, driver, or co-pilot. Drivers will alert and make race personnel aware of any dangerous conditions or behavior of others. Drivers will be made aware of safety signals, and if there is a stoppage of races, they must safely exit the course, as described in the racer’s packet. Safety Crew may or may not perform a full boat check, but if one is, the boat, driver, and co-pilot must meet all requirements or be disqualified. It is compulsory that the contestant(s) of each boat attend a Drivers’ Safety Meeting. The Referee must verify the presence of each contestant. In case the contestant(s) cannot attend the Drivers’Meeting as scheduled because of very extenuating circumstances, it shall be the privilege of the Referee to permit the contestant(s) to be excused and have a private meeting. Contestant(s) may possibly be subject to other penalties as per category rules for failing to attend the Drivers’ Safety Meeting.

**Hazards**

Boaters are reminded that although the safety crew will have cleared the course of any debris, be aware there may be hidden objects floating below the surface of the water. Also be aware of weather conditions such as wind or rain, water turbulence, and wildlife. It is up to the discretion of the safety crew to cancel, postpone, or reschedule any or all races due to unsafe conditions. Safety crew has the right to add or amend any rule as they see fit. Racers will be notified of any changes before races.

I have read and understand the Safety Rules and have received a copy:

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 Full Printed Name Signature Date