LAKE OF THE WOODS ASSOCIATION, INC.
RESOLUTION 2020-3
A POLICY RESOLUTION
AMENDING LOWA REGULATION X, USE OF LAKES REGARDING
WAKE SURFING

WHEREAS, Article VIII of the Bylaws gives the Board of Directors the authority to amend and adopt association Rules and Regulations; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for clear, concise and consistent regulations on the matter of wake surfing; and

WHEREAS, the Rules Committee and the LOWA Attorney gave advice on the amendments; and

WHEREAS, the Association published the proposed amendment in Lake Currents soliciting member comments.

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby amends Regulation X, Use of Lakes to read as follows:

X. USE OF THE LAKES

A. WATERCRAFT OPERATIONS AND USAGE.

1. For the purpose of this Regulation the following terms and definitions apply:

a. “Watercraft” includes “motorized”, “personal”, “sail” and “non-motorized” means of water transportation capable of carrying one or more passengers.

b. “Motorized Watercraft” includes all gasoline or electric, inboard, outboard, inboard-outboard motor boats, pontoon boats, sailboats (when motorized), fibertoon or deck boats capable of carrying one or more persons.

c. Personal Watercraft” (PWC) includes watercraft that are powered by jet pumps, the persons kneel, or sit on, rather than inside the watercraft. PWCs are operated by one person, and often have seating space for others. Some models have seating for up to four riders (including the operator).

d. “Sail Watercraft” includes all watercraft powered by wind such as sailboats, sunfish and windsurfers capable of carrying one or more passengers.

e. “Non-Motorized Watercraft” includes all watercraft powered by paddle including canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, row boats, and shells/sculls, and are capable of carrying one or more persons.
f. “Other Recreational Water Equipment” includes all items that are powered by users
standing, sitting, kneeling or lying on the equipment such as, but not limited to, water slides,
platforms, trampolines, inflatable rafts, hydro/aqua-bikes and stand up paddleboards (SUPs).

g. “Main Lake” means the body of water bounded by Veterans’ Dam to Flat Run and
includes all coves.

h. “No Wake Zone” means the areas of water from the shoreline to designated “No
Wake” buoys and includes all coves. The remainder of the Main Lake is considered a
“Wake Zone”.

i. “No Wake Speed” means the slowest possible speed required for maintaining or
achieving steerage and headway.

j. “Small Lake” (aka, Keatons Lake or Fishing Lake) means the body of water bounded
by Keatons Dam and Keatons Run located in Section 13. This entire lake is considered a
No Wake Zone.

k. “Cove” means a body of water extending from the Main Lake more than 100 feet
from the No Wake buoy towards the shoreline.

l. “Beach” means the space so designated by LOWA and includes the bulkheads, sand
and grass areas.

m. “Starboard” means the right side of the watercraft when standing inside looking
toward the bow.

n. “Port” means the left side of the watercraft when standing inside looking toward the
bow.

o. “Certified Operator” shall mean a person who has passed the Lake of the Woods Boat
Operator’s Safety Course.

p. “Skiers” or “Tubers” are persons being towed behind a watercraft on a device or
apparatus which has no capability for self-propulsion, such as water skis, tubes or other
similar devices. This includes wake surfers.

q. “High Traffic Time” is defined as weekends (Saturday and Sundays) and holidays
from Memorial Day Saturday through Labor Day Monday between 9:00 a.m. and sunset.

r. “Wakesurfing” is a water sport in which a rider trails behind a motorized watercraft,
riding the watercraft’s wake without being directly pulled by the watercraft.
Sections A2 – A12, and B, remain the same.

C. WATER SPORTS ACTIVITIES.

1. WATER SKIING/TUBING.

a. Skiers or other towed persons shall NOT be permitted to take off from or land on any beach or pier.

b. During High Traffic times (see A. 5.c.) no person shall operate a towing watercraft to pull any person(s) on water skis, tube(s) or similar devices unless there is in/on the watercraft (in addition to the operator) a person actually observing the progress of the person(s) being towed. This observer must be at least 12 years of age. In the case of PWCs, the observer must be seated backward. At other times towing is permitted without an observer if the watercraft is equipped with a rear view mirror.

c. Ski flag. All watercraft towing skiers or riders on a towable device shall have a Ski Flag readily available. This flag shall be a red or orange flag measuring no less than 12 inches on each side in the shape of a square or rectangle secured to a pole or shaft at least two feet long.

   (1) During High Traffic times the ski flag shall be mounted or displayed in such a manner as to be visible from every direction when:

      (a) A skier is down or a rider has fallen off his/her towable device; or

      (b) A skier is in the water and preparing to ski.

   (2) The ski flag shall not be displayed at any other time.

   (3) The use of this flag will not be construed as conferring any rights or privileges on its users. Operators of watercraft in the vicinity will, however, exercise precaution commensurate with conditions indicated.

d. All watercraft operators who tow skiers and floatable devices shall know and ensure their spotters and skiers/riders understand and use a set of hand signals to communicate between the watercraft and the skiers. Passengers shall remain seated when a watercraft is towing a skier or people on other devices.
e. Skiing and towed activities at greater than No Wake Speed shall be prohibited within one hundred (100) feet of shorelines or in areas marked with “No Wake” buoys and will be confined to the area of the wake zone.

f. At High Traffic Times when two or more skiers/tubers are being towed by one watercraft and one of the skiers fall, the other skier(s) shall drop his or her towline immediately.

g. All persons being towed by watercraft shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved (Type I, II or III) flotation device or a Type V flotation device designed for the activity such as a ski vest. Inflatable vests shall not be used for skiing or tubing. The use of flotation belts alone shall only be permitted when using “trick skis” while an observer is in the watercraft and it is traveling less than nineteen (19) mph. “Trick and Jump skis” are considered as skis less than forty-four (44) inches in length with no fin.

h. When any towed person falls, the driver shall slow speed to navigate to return to the skier while not entering the path of other watercraft in the immediate area. At High Traffic Times the towing watercraft shall display the skier-down flag. The use of this flag will not be construed as conferring any rights or privileges on its users. Operators of watercraft in the vicinity will, however, exercise precaution commensurate with conditions indicated. Fallen skiers shall, as soon as possible, raise and hold the tip of one of their skis out of the water to an elevated position above their head.

i. No person(s) shall use the Water Ski Jump at LOW unless that person is a member of the LOW Ski Club or under that organization’s instruction and is wearing a helmet approved by USA Water Ski. Only one watercraft shall use the Slalom Course at any one time. Only jump skis and trick skis shall be used over the jump.

j. No person shall operate or manipulate any watercraft, tow rope, or other device by which the direction or locations of water skis, tube, or similar device may be affected or controlled in such a way as to cause the participants to come into contact with any object or person(s). The provisions of this rule shall not apply to contact between two or more persons behind the same watercraft or to contact with the top of the Ski Jump, buoys, or similar objects as normally used in competitive or recreational boating or water skiing.

k. When towing more than one skier or tube, it shall be the responsibility of the driver of the watercraft to ensure the towlines for each skier/tuber is of equal length to all skiers/tubers being towed.

l. Kite tubing and kite boarding are prohibited.
m. Subparts a,c,e,f,g,h, and k above do not apply to boat operators and skiers participating in USA Water Ski sanctioned ski club practices, competitions, or exhibitions.

n. Wake Surfing

(1) Wake surfing is allowable behind boats propelled by inboard motors only. Wake surfing behind boats with inboard/outboard motors or outboard motors is prohibited.

(2) Wake Surfing is prohibited within 300 feet of shore.

(3) Wake surfing is prohibited south of a line between 17 and 28.

o. No jetpack vessel activity shall be allowed at LOW, except for flyboarding which is restricted to the Main Lake within a 200-foot safety zone near the ski jump or the Clubhouse dock and only with the prior express written permission of the General Manager and only for demonstration and exhibition purposes. (4/1/2017)

Sections C2 – C7 remain the same.

Effective: Immediately

LAKE OF THE WOODS ASSOCIATION, INC.

By: Clifton Wilks, President

ATTEST:

I, as Secretary for Lake of the Woods Association, Inc., hereby attest that the foregoing Policy Resolution 2020-3 was adopted by the Board of Directors at a duly-held and noticed Board of Directors meeting held on the 1st day of February 2020.

Phillip Davis Brown, Secretary