



# Milnerton Aquatic Club

# Water Rules

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## a) GENERAL WATER RULES (brief summary)

**No swimming** allowed at MAC/Rietvlei

**No kitesurfing** allowed

### **Water Access Times**

(except power boats): Sunrise to Sunset

### **Power Boat Access Times:**

10 am – Sunset on Weekdays,

Sunrise to Sunset on Weekends

### **Emergency Call Centre**

(police, ambulance, fire,  
traffic police, sea rescue)

from any cell phone:

**CALL 112 or 107 (CPT's emergency line)**

**OR from any phone:**

**Police: 10111**

**Ambulance: 10177**

**Wind/Foil Surfers** - wear either a wetsuit and harness OR a life jacket

**Wing/E-Foilers, SUP, Kayak** – wear either board leash or life jacket

**Sailors** – wear a life jacket

#### **Sailing specific rules**

All sailors must wear a  
life jacket while on the  
water

#### **Windsurfing / Paddlers etc specific rules**

All windsurfers etc are to either wear a  
flotation device OR a wetsuit and  
harness at all times in the water

#### **Power Boats:**

**No water jet propelled craft, no boats over 24 feet**

**No boat operator** under the age of 16 years

**No bow riding**

**No towing** of water skier/aquaplaner without observer over the age of 16 on board

**Life jackets** to be worn on Tiller-operated craft and semi-rigid inflatable  
craft, for the latter except when seating is provided

**Water skiers/Aquaplaners** must wear a life jacket.

**If fallen off** a) red flag to be displayed by observer

b) towing boat must stop immediately and retrieve aquaplaner

**Towline** must be a) floating type and b)  $\leq 23$  m in length

**All children under 12** must wear a life jacket while on the water

#### **Boat specific rules**

**Skippers licence, registration & certificate of fitness (COF)**

**Water skiers must wear a flotation device or life jacket**

## b) RIGHT OF WAY RULES (brief summary)

**Always keep distance to other water users.**

**Foilers** to specially ensure distance to other water users as one cannot hear a foiler approaching.

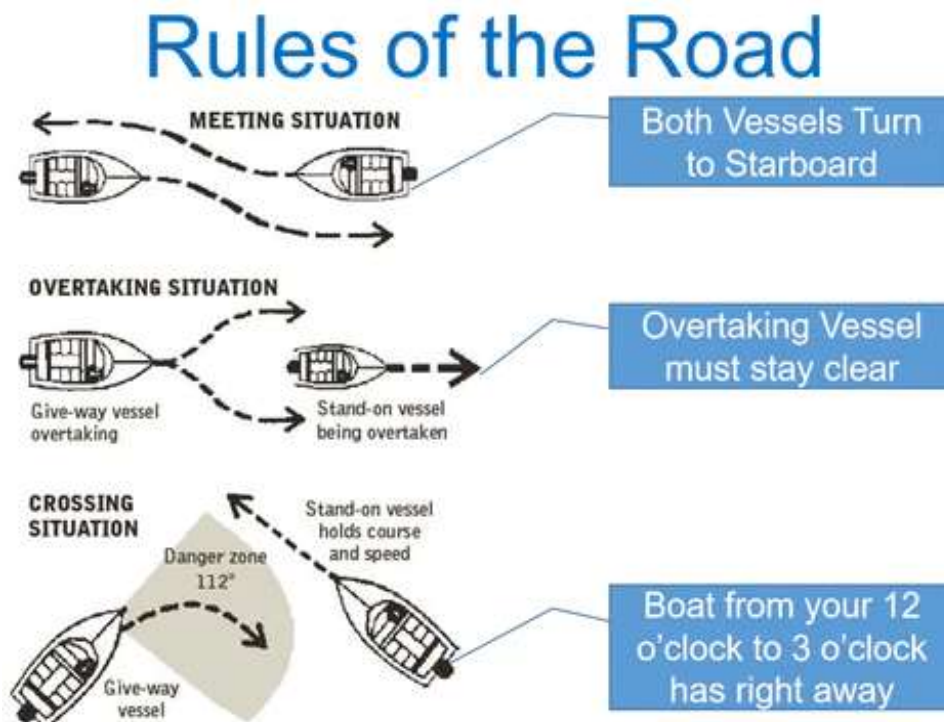
**Vessels under sail (wind-operated craft)** have right of way over powerboats.

### Right of Way (Power):

When crossing, the boat on the right

(approaching from starboard) has the right of way

When meeting head-on, each vessel must alter course to starboard

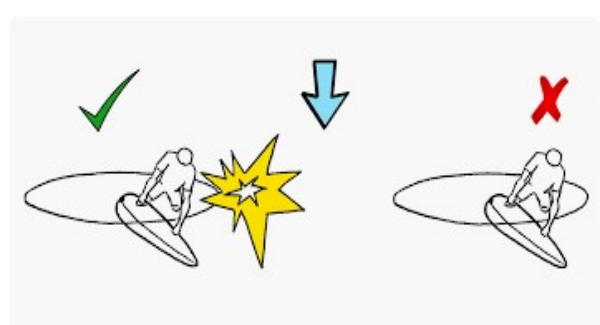
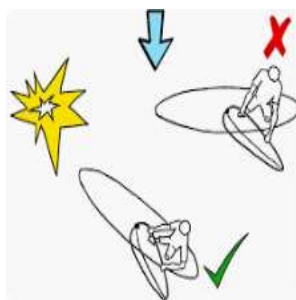
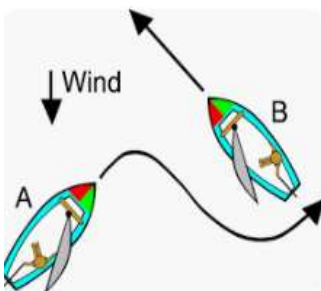


### Sailing / \ Wind Right of Way (ALL wind-operated craft):

Boat on a starboard tack (right hand next to mast or right hand is the front hand) has the right of way

When two vessels are on the same course (the wind is coming from the same side), the leeward boat (downwind) has the right of way over the windward boat.

When on the same course in a passing situation, the vessel being overtaken has the right of way—always. Overtake Etiquette: overtake on leeward side and while keeping distance



## **c) POWER BOAT REGULATIONS**

Pilots and observers shall maintain a good look-out at all times, be aware of safety regulations and abide by them at all times.

### **1 Restrictions**

The operation of powerboats may be to fixed times only and the number of vessels may be reviewed periodically by the Committee. Currently -10 am – sunset on weekdays, Sunrise to Sunset on Weekends

### **2 Skippers**

No person under the age of 16 years to be in control of a powerboat.

### **3 Launching**

To be from approved ramps only. After launching, trailers and cars must be removed quickly from the slipway area and parked in a designated area.

### **4 Size**

(4) No power boat or electric boat operating on any recreational water may exceed **7,315 m (24 feet) in overall length** without written permission from the City..

### **5 Speed**

No power boat may be driven at a speed in excess of 20 km per hour within 20 metres of the shore and launching slipways, otherwise speed can't be in excess of 80 km per hour.

### **6 Right of Way**

Power boats to give way to sail boats at all times and to stay at least 20 metres clear of any stationary craft. - By-law 2019 states: (3) Any person operating a power boat or electric boat on any recreational water must-- (a) except when landing on the shore or a launching slipway, or inside an area demarcated and designated by notice, as far as practicable keep at least 20 m away from any bank, shore, wharf, structure, any person or other vessel;...

### **7 Mooring**

No boats may be moored overnight except by special permission in writing of the Management Committee.

### **8 Safety Measures**

Robust steering, secure seating, secure fuel tanks, secure engine mountings, secure batteries.

### **9 Second means propulsion**

Paddles must kept on board as a second means of propulsion.

### **10 Life jackets**

Boats to have life jackets of an approved type on board. Life jackets to be worn at all times by persons under the age of 12 years.

11

**Flotation**

All craft to have adequate flotation so as to be maintained above the water.

12

**Seating**

The number of persons allowed in each boat shall be restricted to the seating accommodation available on such boat.

13

**Bow Riding**

No riding on bows permitted at any time.

14

**Gunwhale Sitting**

No sitting on gunwhales while boat is in motion.

15

**Silencers**

All power boats to be fitted with adequate approved silencer systems.

16

**Engine Covers**

Engine covers to be affixed at all times.

17

**Pollution**

No petrol or petroleum products to be disposed into the water areas.

18

**Fire**

Fire extinguishers to be charged and carried on all power driven boats

19

**COF on Annual Basis**

Power boats could be inspected by the committee. COF must be obtained annually on expiry date and will not be allowed on the water without one. Sticker on trailer to be displayed at all times.

20

**Racing**

No racing or practicing other than at times or on days approved by the Management Committee.

21

**Hovercraft / Jet Ski**

No hovercraft, water jet propelled craft or airscrew driven craft is permitted except by special permission of the Committee.

22

**Caution**

Powerboats to proceed with caution through sail launching areas and slipway approaches.

23

**Ski areas**

Powerboats not skiing, must enter ski areas with caution, having regard to the flow of traffic. They must not cross ski lanes and should enter areas at the proper end. Boats skiing having right of way.

## **d) INFLATABLE BOAT REGULATIONS (IN ADDITION TO POWERBOAT REQUIREMENTS)**

- 1 Life jackets to be worn at all times.
- 2 Kill switch cord attached to life jacket or person.
- 3 Petrol tanks securely tied down.
- 4 Adequate hand grips.

## **e) WATER SKIING / AQUA PLANING AND WAKE BOARDING REGULATIONS**

- 1 **Look-out**  
Pilots are to concentrate on a good look-out ahead and to ensure that the observer advises of occurrences astern.
- 2 **Area of Operation**  
Skiing is only permitted in the Northern Lake & only in allocated ski areas.
- 3 **Lifejackets**  
All skiers must wear lifejackets of an approved type.
- 4 **Rotation**  
Always to be in an anti-clockwise direction in the allocated ski area around the buoys marking same.
- 5 **Right of way**  
No pilot shall manoeuvre his boat in such a way, that the boat or skier towed by him, shall travel within 20 metres of any other person.
- 6 **Observer**  
A competent person over the age of 16 years is to be an observer in the boat other than the driver. Any observer under the age of 16 must be specifically approved by the Safety/Duty Officer.
- 7 **Fallen skier**  
When a skier falls, the boat must stop immediately, display a red flag (which must be must be displayed by the observer in such a way that it is clearly visible to other vessels) and retrieve the ski rope, before proceeding to collect the skier. Pilots must only turn in their own wake and not turn right whilst recovering a skier.
- 8 **Breaching a skier**  
After reaching a skier, a boat must maintain speed to an outward position in the ski lane to retrieve the ski rope back on board.

- 9** **Ski-Rope**  
Length of rope 23 metres (maximum), which must be of a floating line type.
- 10** **Distance**  
No boat is to follow astern within 50 metres of a skier or other boat. Passing only to starboard and no closer than five metres.
- 11** **Crossing**  
It is not permitted to cross from one ski area to another while skiing.
- 12** **Kite flying**  
No kite flying or para sailing to be allowed except with special permission or during regattas.
- 13** **Knowledge of rules**  
Pilots are to ensure that they and their observers are familiar with these rules and abide by them in a gentlemanly manner.
- 14** **Towline**  
Must be of a floating line type and may not be more than 23 metres in length.
- 15** **Sail Area**  
Powerboats entering sail area may only drift down wind.

## **f) SAILING REGULATIONS**

- 1** **Area of operation**  
All boating shall be confined to the dredged deep water areas forming the North Lake.  
Only craft propelled by sail or power may be used.
- 2** **Restriction**  
Note that all sailing craft must keep clear of designated ski areas at all times. Sailing may be restricted only to certain times (currently sunrise to sunset) and the number of vessels to be reviewed from time to time by the Committee.
- 3** **Right of way**  
Sail boats having the right of way over power boats at all times. However, this rule does not give sail craft the right to hamper the safe passage of a power boat in an area restricted for water skiing.
- 4** **Identification**  
All craft are to display a name or number on the sail or boat. Members must also display their MAC number on the transom and all such craft registered.
- 5** **Launching**  
Sailboats and sailboards are to be launched from the approved sites only.
- 6** **Sailboard skippers**  
Skippers are to wear bright coloured lifejackets or harness at all times.

7 **Lifejackets**

Boats are to have lifejackets for all persons on board. Lifejackets are to be worn at all times by persons under the age of 12 years.

8 **Flotation**

All sailing craft to be in a seaworthy condition and to have adequate flotation.

9 **Second means of propulsion**

Optimist only - Paddles must be kept on board as a second means of propulsion.

10 **Look-out**

All skippers must maintain a good look-out.

## **g) BOARD (WIND-FOILING, WING-FOILING, E-FOILING, WINDSURFING, SUP, KAYAK (& ALL OTHER) REGULATIONS**

### **Flotation**

All windsurfers, foilers etc are to either wear a flotation device OR a wetsuit & harness at all times in the water.

Paddlers etc must wear a leash or flotation device.

### **Restriction**

Note that all wind/paddle/foiling and all other must keep clear of designated ski areas at all times.

## **h) ANGLING REGULATIONS**

1 Fishing is allowed with the relevant permits.

2 Catches are restricted to number species and size limits specified by council and conservation regulations.

3 No Netting of fish.

4 Method of angling allowed is only rod & reel.

5 Fishing is only allowed in designated areas.

6 Trolling (fishing off a boat) is not permitted.