7-2. Lakes and Watercraft General Statements
7-2-1. Boat at Your Own Risk
All boating and other uses of HVL POA lakes are conducted at your own risk.
7-2-2. Violators of Lake and Watercraft Rules May Be Banned
Violations of the POA Lakes and Watercraft rules may result in the loss of watercraft and/or fishing privileges and an individual may be banned from the use of the HVL POA lakes after the third violation within a calendar year.

7-2-3. Statement Concerning Watercraft Rules
a. The rules concerning watercraft apply to all watercraft operated in any POA Lake.
b. POA Employees or Agents may be exempted from portions of these Rules.

7-3. Lakes and Watercrafts Definitions of Terms
7-3-1. Definitions
For the following HVL POA Lakes and Watercraft Rules, unless the context otherwise indicates when used in conjunction with the term, the definitions of the following terms apply:
a. Airboat - A buoyant self-propelled, multi-terrain vehicle that depends primarily on air thrust for propulsion.
b. All-terrain vehicle (ATV) – Any self-propelled vehicle with two or more wheels that is primarily used for off-highway or in off-road competition and that is no wider than 70 inches and weighs no more than 1,000 pounds.
c. Emergency spillway area - The parking area and spillway located immediately adjacent to the HVL POA boat-launching ramp.
d. High-speed zone - The area of the main lake inside the marked buoys and not closer than one hundred fifty (150) feet from any shoreline or two hundred (200) feet from the dam.
e. Main lake - The large lake (known as Hidden Valley Lake) that is contained by the dam located along Alpine Drive.
f. Mooring buoy – A float secured to ground tackle and used to identify the location of the mooring and to float the line used to moor the boat.
g. Motorized water craft – Any motor-driven water craft equipped with any type of motor including powerboats, pontoon boats and other water craft.
h. Non-motorized water craft – Any water craft not equipped or propelled by a motor.
i. No-wake idle speed – Operating a powerboat with the throttle at the lowest speed possible for safe boat operation.
j. No-wake idle-speed zone - The area of the main lake between the shoreline and the buoys marking the high-speed zone.
k. Other water craft – Water craft such as sailboats, canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, rafts, etc. and those boats with 10.0 horsepower or less.
l. Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) – A vest or jacket approved by the U.S. Coast Guard for life preserving functions.
m. Personal water craft (PWC) – An inboard water craft, which uses an internal combustion engine powering a water jet pump as its primary source of propulsion, and is designed to be operated by a person or persons positioned on, rather than within the confines of the hull. The water craft are designed to carry from one or more persons and can be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the water craft.
n. Pontoon boat – A boat made up of a discrete, flat deck mounted on two or three tubes manufactured separately from each other and from the deck.
o. Powerboat – All boats other than pontoon boats with engines greater than 10.0 horsepower including: ski boats, bass boats, runabouts, inboards, outboards, deck boats (powerboat with a single level deck and a boat hull rather than pontoons and often rails or gunnels all around), duck boats (powered vehicle designed to transport multiple occupants over both land and water), etc.
p. Rules card – A laminated card of Lakes and Water Craft Rules issued by the HVL POA office at the time of boat registration.
q. Ski zone – Same as High-speed zone.
r. Small lakes - All other lakes within HVL including Kathy, Alpine, Holiday, Paradise, Crystal, Melody, and the lake on the 77 acres.
s. Throwable, PFD – A U.S. Coast Guard-approved flotation device such as a seat cushion or ring used for life preserving functions.

7-4. General Lakes Rules
7-4-1. People Allowed to Use Lakes
All POA members, their immediate family members and renters who have paid the Renter Amenity Fee may utilize the POA lakes but must be prepared to show a valid POA identification when requested by an POA Deputy or other POA staff member.

7-4-2. Injuries on Lakes Should be Reported
All injuries that occur on the POA lakes should be reported to the POA Deputies.

7-4-3. No Fires at Certain Locations Except with Approval
Bonfires or campfires are not permitted at the beach, marina areas, the area of the main lake between the shoreline or two hundred (200) feet from the dam.

7-4-4. Litter
All litter must be placed in the containers provided. If containers are not present, take your trash with you when leaving the area.

7-4-5. Ice Skating and Fishing
Ice skating and ice fishing are permitted on HVL POA lakes at your own risk.

7-4-6. Swimming is Prohibited in Certain Areas
Swimming in restricted areas (marinas, Willis’ dock area, beach after posted hours, high-speed zone during open status) is prohibited.

7-4-7. Use of Mooring Buoys is Prohibited
The use of mooring buoys on HVL POA lakes is prohibited.

7-4-8. Lakes Treated Twice a Year
a. The POA lakes are treated with chemicals at least twice a year.
b. The Lakes are usually treated on the second Monday in June and August.

7-5. Main Lake, Public Docks and Spillway Rules
7-5-1. Sluice Gate
a. The sluice gate on the main lake is opened on the first Monday in November and remains opened until the Saturday prior to the first Monday in March.
b. Water craft may be damaged if left in the water during this period.
c. The HVL POA Board of Directors from time to time may authorize changing of these dates for purposes of required maintenance with notification published in the Echoes newspaper.
d. During this “no-wake” status on the lake from one week after the opening of the sluice gate until the lake is full at winter pool.

7-5-2. POA Deputy May Limit Otherwise Legal Activities on the Lakes
An HVL POA Deputy may, at his/her discretion, limit activities that could endanger anyone on the lakes. Boaters are urged to help limit the number of watercraft using the high-speed zone at any given time.

7-5-3. Limitation on Use of Public Docks
No one is permitted on the HVL POA rental docks from dusk to dawn other than dock renters, their immediate family, and their guests.

7-5-4. Boat Trailers Parked in Spillway
a. Boat trailers may not be stored in the emergency spillway area overnight.
b. When a watercraft is in use on lake, boat trailers attached to the towing vehicle may be parked in the emergency spillway area.

7-5-5. Water Level of Lakes Not Guaranteed
The HVL POA does not guarantee a specific water level for the HVL lakes.

7-5-6. Renting a Public Dock
HVL POA docks are available for use by HVL POA members in good standing but must be reserved and rented on an annual basis through the HVL POA office. Dock assignments are reserved for non-lake front property owners only, one dock per property owner. Dock
space is not transferable. No liability of any kind is to be assumed by Hidden Valley Lake Property Owners Association.

7-5-7. Subleasing and Non-Lessee Use of Public Docks is Prohibited
a. Only boats registered to the HVL POA dock lease holder will be allowed in the leased dock space unless prior arrangements have been agreed to by the Community Manager.
b. If it is found that a subleasing arrangement does exist, then the dock lessee will forfeit his/her right to lease the dock immediately and forfeit lease payments already made.

7-6. Small Lakes Rules
7-6-1. Area Around Small Lakes
Only the designated access areas may be used around the small lakes and only foot traffic is permitted.

7-6-2. Construction of Docks Prohibited on Small Lakes
Construction of new docks on the small lakes is prohibited.

7-6-3. Use of Motorboats on Small Lakes is Prohibited with Few Exceptions
a. Use of gas motors of any kind on the small lakes is prohibited.
b. Electric motors will be allowed on Lake Alpine and Kathy Lake with the following stipulations:
   1. All batteries used must be sealed
   2. There will not be any trailer launching allowed or launching from the back of a truck.
   3. All boats being used on the lakes must be carried to the lake or wheeled, if the boat is equipped with wheels.
   4. Only those living on a lake can leave a boat on the lake or shore overnight.
   5. No special weight or size limits other than those set for the main lake will apply.
   6. Both Alpine and Kathy are no wake lakes.

7-7. Watercraft Registration Rules
7-7-1. Watercraft must meet U.S. Coast Guard Requirements
a. All watercraft must meet U.S. Coast Guard requirements for safety equipment and safe operation.
b. U.S. Coast Guard requirements are published in the most recent addition of the “Federal Requirements and Safety Tips for Recreational Boats”, available from the U.S. Coast Guard.

7-7-2. Watercraft Must be Registered Annually With the POA
All POA members who desire to operate a watercraft in the Main Lake or any small lake must register his/her watercraft with the POA annually, by filling out a watercraft registration form.

7-7-3. Only a POA Member May Register a Watercraft
Only an HVL POA member may register his/her water craft.

7-7-4. Proof of Insurance for Watercraft
Before a registration sticker is issued, the registrant must exhibit to the HVL POA office, or its representatives, a certificate evidencing a minimum watercraft liability insurance of $100,000 coverage.

7-7-5. POA Member Must Pass a Written Test
In order to obtain a registration sticker or stickers a POA member must answer all questions correctly on an HVL POA Boat Driver Examination, which is distributed with the watercraft registration form.

7-7-6. Displaying Registration Stickers
a. Current annual registration stickers issued must be permanently displayed in the POA-designated areas on the port and starboard sides of the watercraft by May 1st.
b. All watercraft must display current annual registration stickers prior to putting the watercraft on HVL lakes.
c. Approved watercraft stickers include: 1. Powerboats (square) AND 2. Other watercrafts (triangle).

7-7-7. Stickers Validity Date
Water craft annual stickers are valid through April 30th of the following year.

7-7-8. Cost of Registration Stickers
The annual watercraft registration fee shall be a fixed cost set by the HVL POA Board of Directors.

7-7-9. Dues and Assessments Must be Current as a Prerequisite for Registration Sticker
All POA dues and assessments must be current to complete the registration procedures.

7-7-10. Requirements When Registering a New Watercraft
When registering new watercraft, the owner must provide proper documentation of ownership and length of the watercraft, i.e. Title to prove ownership and technical documentation indicating the length of the watercraft

7-7-11. Only One Watercraft Over Ten Horsepower per Member
Only one (1) powered watercraft in excess of ten (10.0) horsepower may be registered per POA member.

7-7-12. Prohibited Watercraft
Air boats, jet skis, personal watercraft, and powered personal watercraft (PWCs) are prohibited. Pontoon boats and non-powered watercraft may not exceed twenty-six (26) feet zero (0) inches in length.

7-8. Watercraft Length Rules
7-8-1. Maximum Length of Powerboats
The maximum allowable length for a powerboat is twenty (20) feet zero (0) inches in length.

7-8-2. Maximum Length of Pontoon Boats and Non-Powered Watercraft
Pontoon boats and non-powered watercraft may not exceed twenty-six (26) feet zero (0) inches in length.

7-8-3. Maximum Width of All Watercraft
Boats can be no wider than what is allowed to be towed on Indiana public roads without special permits or signage. Currently that width is 8 feet, 6 inches.

7-8-4. Length of Watercraft Defined
a. The length of a water craft is defined as the distance between the furthest most point of the bow to the furthest most point of the stern parallel to the waterline or the length of the watercraft when it comes out of the manufacturing mold.
b. The length of the water craft shall include any permanently affixed features such as swimming platforms, sunning decks, live-wells, transom extenders, etc. c. The length of the watercraft shall not include a stern-drive lower unit, an outboard motor or removable items such as platforms, pulpits, lights, ladders, poles, etc.

7-8-5. Methods of Determining Length
There are two methods of determining the length of a watercraft:
1. Proper documentation about the water craft showing it meets the POA watercraft length rules.
2. An actual measurement of the watercraft by at least two (2) POA employees.

7-8-6. Proper Documentation Defined
Proper documentation of a watercraft is defined as:
1. An owner’s manual and/or technical manual from the water craft manufacturer for that specific model being registered, which indicates the overall length of the water craft per the HVL POA definition of length.
2. The owner’s watercraft title showing the hull number and verifying ownership.

7-8-7. Proper Documentation Used as Proof of Length
If proper documentation is used as the method to determine the length of the watercraft, the HVL POA will verify that the HVL POA member owns the watercraft being registered and that the title documentation is for the same watercraft being registered. In addition, the HVL POA will verify that the title document and the boat described in the owner’s manual and/or technical manual match and that they indicate that the water craft meets the length requirements. If these criteria are met, a new watercraft registration sticker will be issued to the owner.

7-8-8. Physical Measurement of Watercraft
a. At any time, an HVL POA member may request that an actual length measurement be made and if the watercraft length meets the HVL POA requirements, a new watercraft registration sticker will be issued to the owner.
b. Barring unforeseen circumstances, all requests for an actual watercraft length measurement will be completed within one week of the date of the request.
c. If a watercraft is to be actually measured, the owner or their designated representative must deliver the watercraft to a water craft measuring area designated by the HVL POA.
d. Two certified HVL POA employees will perform the watercraft measurement.

1. Certification requires that the individual has been trained and can demonstrate to the HVL POA Community Manager that they have a thorough understanding of the watercraft measurement process.
2. The list of certified HVL POA employees will be maintained by the HVL POA office and will include at least two people at all times.

7-8-9. Process by which Physical Measurement of Watercraft is Conducted
To determine its length, the watercraft will be measured while the watercraft is approximately parallel to the ground in the following fashion:
1. The watercraft measuring area will be a flat, paved surface large enough to accommodate the complete length of the water craft.
2. A plumb bob will be dropped from the furthest point of the bow of the watercraft to the pavement and the pavement will be marked at that point.
b. In the event the HVL POA traffic lights are not functioning, the

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c. Watercraft HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE BYLAWS

9. Watercraft Operation Rules

7-9. Watercraft Operation Rules

7-9-1. Watercraft that are Permitted on POA Lakes

a. No watercraft shall be permitted on HVL POA lakes:
   1. Unless it is owned by an HVL POA member,
   2. Is registered with the HVL POA office, and
   3. Has all HVL POA registration stickers properly affixed to the
      water craft and trailer.

b. The HVL POA may, from time to time, exempt certain watercraft
   from some of these rules for the purpose of special events.

7-9-2. Watercraft Traffic Lights

a. The HVL POA traffic lights located around the lake are the
   primary notification of the main lake status.

b. A green light indicates that the main lake is open to all normal
   activities.

c. A yellow light indicates that the entire main lake is in no-woke,
   idle-speed status.

d. A solid or flashing red light indicates that the entire main lake
   is closed to all activities including but not limited to boating, fishing
   and swimming.

7-9-3. Usual Hours Lake is Open to All Normal Activities

a. The normal period of time for the main lake to be in open status is
   between 9:00 a.m. and sunset unless posted or otherwise noted.

b. In the event the HVL POA traffic lights are not functioning, the
   Cincinnati Enquirer newspaper will be the determination of daily
   sunset time.

7-9-4. Times High-Speed Operation is Prohibited

a. No high-speed operation of any watercraft is permitted on the
   main lake when the lake is at no-wake idle speed (yellow light) or
   closed (red light) status.

b. High speed boating is permitted only when the main lake is in
   open (green light) status.

7-9-5. Restrictions on Operating in a No-Wake Zone

Operating any watercraft at a speed in excess of no-wake idle speed
in any portion of the no-wake zone is strictly prohibited.

7-9-6. Locations Where High-Speed Boating is Permitted

a. High-speed boating is permitted only on the main body of the
   main lake inside the marked buoys and not closer than one-
   hundred fifty (150) feet from any shoreline or two-hundred (200)
   feet from the dam.

b. HVL POA buoys mark this area.

c. If a buoy has broken loose or is missing, watercraft operating at
   high speed must stay 150 feet from the shore.

7-9-7. Maximum Speed Permitted for Watercraft

The maximum speed for operating a watercraft on the main lake is
thirty-five (35) miles per hour.

7-9-8. Safe Distance from a Watercraft Towing a Person

Any watercraft following another water craft pulling or towing a
water skier, tuber, wake boarder or other approved flotation device
must maintain a minimum distance of three-hundred (300) feet to
the rear.

7-9-9. Non-motorized Watercraft Have the Right of Way

a. Non-motorized water craft shall have the right-of-way over all
   motorized water craft.

b. When motorized watercraft are using the high-speed zone at high
   speed, non-motorized watercraft should avoid the high-speed
   zone.

7-9-10. Watercraft in the High-Speed Zone, Open Status

a. No watercraft or device shall anchor or drift in the high-speed
   zone when the lake is in open status (green light).

b. When drifting on the main lake, US Coast Guard-approved
   navigation lights must be turned on, when the lake is at no-wake
   status.

7-9-11. Tying up to Buoys is Prohibited

Tying watercraft, floats, or other devices to any buoy is prohibited.

7-9-12. Registrant is Solely Liable for the Operation of the
   Watercraft

The HVL POA member to whom the watercraft is registered is
responsible for the safe and proper operation of the watercraft.

7-9-13. Direction of Watercraft Traffic

All powered watercraft must travel in a counter-clockwise direction
within the high-speed zone on the main lake except when picking up
a downed skier, tuber, wake boarder or a person from a flotation
device.

7-9-14. “S” Turns and “Figure-8” Turns are Prohibited

Watercraft shall not perform “S” turns or “Figure-8” turns while
operating at high-speed.

7-9-15. Mufflers Required on Watercrafts

All powered watercraft must be equipped with and use at all times
an effective muffler system. Muffler bypass systems must not be
engaged.

7-9-16. Instructions to Guest Operating a POA Member’s
   Watercraft

The POA member owning the watercraft must provide permission
for any guest or relative to use it, instruct the guest on how to
operate the watercraft, and instruct the guest on the POA watercraft
rules according to the current year’s laminated rule card.

7-9-17. Laminated Rule Card must be on Watercraft

A current laminated rule card must be present on all motorized
water craft at all times.

7-9-18. Running Lights

All powerboats and pontoon boats must be equipped with and use
mounted US Coast Guard-approved navigation lights between sunset
(i.e. when the HVL POA traffic lights turn yellow) and sunrise. All
other water craft operating on the lake between sunset and sunrise
must, at a minimum, be equipped with and use a light sufficient
efficient to identify its presence to other water craft.

7-9-19. Personal Flotation Device Requirements for All
   Watercraft

When on the lake, all watercraft must be equipped with US Coast
Guard-approved Type I, II, III, V PFDs (life jackets) equal to
or greater than the number of people on board. All watercraft (except
canoes and kayaks) which are sixteen (16) feet or longer, must carry
at least one Type IV, throwable, PFD.

7-10. Water Skiing, Tubing and Wake Boarding Rules

7-10-1. General Statement Regarding Watercraft Towing People

a. These rules apply to all watercraft pulling a person on water skis,
tubes, wake boards or any other device.

b. From time to time, the HVL POA Board of Directors may exempt
certain watercraft from some of these rules for the purpose of
special events.

7-10-2. Circumstances When Towing a Person Behind a
   Watercraft is Permitted

Water skiing, tubing and wake boarding in excess of no-wake idle
speed are permitted only within the high-speed zone on the main
lake and when it is in open status (green light).

7-10-3. Watercraft Must Travel Counter-clockwise, While Towing a
   Person

Watercraft pulling or towing a person in excess of no-wake idle
speed must travel in a counter-clockwise direction within the
high-speed zone.

7-10-4. Towed Person Moving at High Speed Must Remain in
   High-Speed Zone

Any person being pulled or towed by a watercraft operating at high
speed must remain within the high speed zone.

7-10-5. Two People Required in Watercraft While Person is
   Towed

Any water craft pulling or towing a person must have at least two
(2) occupants on board, one to guide and control the boat and one or
more to observe the person being towed.

7-10-6. Only One Person May be Towed

A watercraft may pull or tow only one (1) person at a time in the
high-speed zone regardless of the type of device being pulled or
towed
7-10-7. Retrieving a Person after being Towed by a Watercraft
Watercraft picking up a downed skier, tuber, wake boarder or a person from any other device must immediately slow down to a no-wake idle speed and then turn back to the right for pick up.

7-10-8. Towed Person Must Wear a Life Jacket
All persons being pulled or towed on skis, tube, wake board or any other device must wear a US Coast Guard-approved Type I, II, III, or V PFD, which is worn in accordance with the PFDs label instructions.

7-10-9. Jumping Objects While Being Towed is Prohibited
Water ski or wake board jumping over any object is strictly prohibited.

7-10-10. Towed Person Must Start while Floating in Water
Starting or dropping a person on water skis, tube, wake board or any other device from or on a shoreline, beach, marina, boat dock or another water craft is strictly prohibited. This includes barefoot water skiers.

7-10-11. Towed Person May Begin in Idle Speed Zone
Starting or dropping a person on water skis, tube, wake board or any other device from or in the no-wake idle speed zone is permitted as long as the water craft itself is operating at no-wake idle speed while in that zone. This includes barefoot water-skiers.

7-10-12. Damaging or Dangerous Wake is Prohibited
Use of installed boat devices and/or boat operations that cause the creation of damaging or dangerous wake are prohibited on the HVL Main Lake.

7-11. Water Trampolines and Large Flotation Devices
7-11-1. Maximum Diameter of a Flotation Device
The maximum diameter of any flotation device will be twenty (20) feet in diameter and no more than twenty-six (26) feet in any direction including any attachments, temporary or permanent. The entire flotation device must fit into a square footprint that is no more than twenty (20) feet long and twenty (20) feet wide.

7-11-2. Removal of Flotation Devices at Dusk
Flotation devices may not be left out on the lake between dusk and dawn which is indicated by the lake status light being yellow. They must be moved to the edge of the water and attached to a dock or the shore.

7-12. Lakes and Water Craft Assessment Schedule
7-12-1. Operating a Watercraft in Excess of 35 MPH Assessment
If a person operates a watercraft in excess of 35 mph, then the following assessment will be levied: $50 – $100

7-12-2. Lake Status Violation Assessment
If a person operates a watercraft in violation of the defined lake status the following assessment will be levied: $50 - $100.

7-12-3. No Wake Assessment
If a person operates a watercraft in a no wake zone above idle speed then the following assessment will be levied: $50 - $100

7-12-4. Failure to Follow a Towed Person at a Safe Distance
If a person while operating a watercraft fails to maintain a following distance of at least 300 feet behind another watercraft towing a person on skis or any other type of device meant to be towed behind a watercraft the following assessment will be levied: $50 - $100

7-12-5. Only One Person in a Watercraft with a Person in Tow Assessment
If a person operates a watercraft without another person accompanying him in the watercraft, while towing a person on skis or any other type of device meant to be towed, then the following assessment will be levied: $50 - $100

7-12-6. Missing Required Equipment Assessment
If a watercraft does not have the required equipment as set forth herein, then the following assessment will be levied: $25 - $200

7-12-7. Skiing, Tubing, or Flotation Violation Assessment
If a person violates the rules pertaining to Skiing, Tubing, or use a Flotation device as set forth herein, then the following assessment will be levied: $50 - $100

7-12-8. Operating a Watercraft in the Wrong Direction Assessment
If a person operates a watercraft in the wrong direction, while in the high-speed zone as described herein, then the following assessment will be levied: $50 – $100.

7-12-9. Creating Wake in a No Wake Zone Assessment
If a person operates a watercraft so that it creates wake in zone designated as a no wake zone, then the following assessment will be levied: $25 – $100.

7-12-10. Failure to Yield the Right of Way or Reckless Operation Assessment
If a person operating a watercraft fails to yield the right to another watercraft or operates his or her watercraft recklessly as defined in these by-laws, then the following assessment will be levied: $100 - $500.

7-12-11. Non-Property Owner Boating on the Lake Assessment
If a person operates a watercraft in violation of these By-laws who is not a resident of HVL then the following assessment will be levied jointly and severally against both the person who is not a resident and, if applicable, the resident who allowed the nonresident access: $100 - $300

7-12-12. Boat Sticker Not Displayed Correctly Assessment
If a person does not display the HVL POA sticker properly as defined within these by-laws then the following assessment will be levied: $25 – $100.

7-12-13. Boat or Trailer Parking Violation Assessment
If a person parks a boat or a trailer for a boat in defiance to these rules then the following Assessment will be levied: $25 - $100.

7-12-14. Discarding Materials into the Lake Assessment
If a person negligently deposits Waste, Litter, or other proscribed materials into the Lake, then the following assessment will be levied: $100 - $500 plus damages.

7-12-15. Unlawful Swimming Assessment
If a person swims in violation of these by-laws then the following assessment will be levied: $20 – $100.

See www.hiddenvalleylakeindiana.com for fishing rules and limits.