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DATE: June 7, 2022 **ACTION:**

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Sr. Member Services Manager

RE: APPROVAL – Revise Rule LM.9.11 Safe Distance Required for Towing

Background

At the December 2021 Board Meeting during the discussion regarding boat weight, a comment was made that excessive wakes are being caused by boaters who are slowly cruising the lake while the boat is plowing. Plowing is generally described as a boat with a raised bow in which the hull is moving through the water (instead of being on top of the water) creating a large wake.

After discussing this topic with our Marine Patrol Captain, it was determined that a rule revision was appropriate. The Rules Committee met in January 2022 and recommended the proposed language changes. The impact of the changes are as follows:

1. It removes reference to specific types / brands of watersports devices
2. It requires all boats on the Main Lake to be either at idle, or, on plane
3. It changes the fine schedule from \$50 per occurrence to an increasing progressive fine for repeat violations

During the April 2022 Board meeting, a concern was raised regarding children learning to ride and the fact that a boat may not be on plane as they are towed at slower speeds. The Rules Committee met again to discuss this issue and is recommending that consideration for all people learning to ride be written into the rule for Marine Patrol to use. For example, if activity on the Main Lake was minimal, Marine Patrol would allow a beginner to be towed at slow speeds and not require the boat to be on plane.

Fiscal Impact

N/A

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve to revise rule LM.9.11 as attached.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cory Gorham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cory Gorham, Sr. Member Services Manager

Current Rule

LM.9.11 Safe Distance Required for Towing

All tow boats towing air chairs, knee boards, wakeboards or similar devices, other than water skis, shall stay within one-hundred (100) feet of the center buoy lines unless boating safety dictates otherwise. All boats in tow on the Main Lake must be on plane.

Fine: \$50.00

Proposed Revision (Redlined)

LM.9.11 Safe Distance Required for Towing

All ~~tow~~ boats towing riders on any type of watersports device ~~air chairs, knee boards, wakeboards or similar devices, other than water skis,~~ shall stay within one-hundred (100) feet of the center buoy lines unless boating safety dictates otherwise. All boats ~~in tow~~ on the Main Lake, ~~towing or not,~~ must be on plane ~~or at idle.~~ ~~No plowing allowed. Consideration will be given to individuals learning to participate in water sports.~~

Fine: 1st offense = \$50, 2nd offense = \$100, 3rd offense = \$150.00, progressive

Revised Rule

LM.9.11 Safe Distance Required for Towing

All boats towing riders on any type of watersports device shall stay within one-hundred (100) feet of the center buoy lines unless boating safety dictates otherwise. All boats on the Main Lake, towing or not, must be on plane or at idle. No plowing allowed. Consideration will be given to individuals learning to participate in water sports.

Fine: 1st offense = \$50, 2nd offense = \$100, 3rd offense = \$150.00, progressive