

# Lake Swannanoa Homeowners Association

RULES AND REGULATIONS (rev. 7-9-2009)

## Forward

The following rules and regulations are for the privacy, preservation, recreation, and safety of the Lake Swannanoa Homeowners Association (LSHA) and its members. These rules are empowered by the LSHA By-Laws. The following rules will be enforced all year and all members must comply. Members are encouraged to respect the rights and privileges of their neighbors, community and fellow members when using lake property and facilities. Lake Swannanoa Homeowners Association rules and regulations are supplementary to State laws. It is each member's responsibility to be informed of applicable laws in every circumstance. Lake Swannanoa Homeowners Association assumes no responsibility for its members knowing these laws. Any violation of the rules and regulations must be brought to the attention of the Beach and Lake Maintenance Chair. Contact information can be found on the website [www.lakeswannanoa.org](http://www.lakeswannanoa.org), or by mail at LSHA, Box 2385, Oak Ridge, NJ 07438.

## Dues

Yearly membership fees are due on March 1st of each year, and are considered past due if not paid by April 1st of the same year. Accounts must be paid to date, including penalties, collections and legal fees, and interest where applicable, in order for a member to receive beach badges and boat tags for the current year, and for a member to be considered to be in good standing. All fees, dues and assessments must be paid by the property owner and are tied to the land until paid. Any payments made to accounts in arrears will first be applied to the prior year's balances, until they are paid to date. Accounts in arrears are subject to legal remedy.

## I. Forms of Membership

**Covenant Membership** will be available as per the bylaws.

**Special Auxiliary Memberships (SAM)** will be available as be the bylaws

**Community Membership** SAM memberships, as described in the bylaws, will also be made available to people outside the described geographic area. On an annual basis, the number of SAM memberships will be determined by the Board. Interested people must submit an application and pay the determined fees. They understand that acceptance of their application is subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors of LSHA, and that failure to comply with the rules of the Association could result in the loss of privileges and the non-refundable dues.

## II. Badges

Upon payment of all dues, past and current, and any capital assessments where applicable, color-coded, dated beach badges and boat decals will be issued to members in good standing. Each member will be furnished with a copy of the current rules and regulations. Badges will be distributed by the Beach and Lake Maintenance Chair or otherwise authorized members of LSHA. Guest and Member badges are issued to each member in good standing and are not transferable. A badge must be obtained for all users of the lake regardless of age. However, children under 12 are not required to wear their badges. The accompanying adult should be able to produce a badge for each child under their supervision.

**Member Badges:** These badges are to be used only by members of LSHA in good standing and paid members of LSHA. Guests and other Ringling residents who are eligible to become members are not permitted to wear these badges.

**Guest Badges:** These badges are to be used by non-Ringling resident guests of members in good standing. It is important that when possible guests should be accompanied by the members when using lake property and facilities. Members are responsible for explaining the rules to their guests before they use the lake. Members are ultimately responsible for the activities and conduct of their guests. Giving badges to members not in good standing or Ringling residents who are eligible to become members themselves is not permitted. These individuals are prohibited from being guests. Badges are not transferable. Outdated badges are not acceptable.

Group Guests: Members who are having more guests than the number of provided badges are required to obtain badges for them from the Beach and Lake Maintenance Chair or one of the authorized representatives of LSHA before guests can use the lake.

**Use of badges:**

Badges must be conspicuously displayed by all members and guests, 12 years of age and older, while on lake property and using lake facilities. These areas include the 10' wide strip around the perimeter of the lake, the beach, access trails, ponds and lake itself, whether conducting business, maintenance, or recreation (swimming, boating, ice fishing, fishing, skating, hiking, et al...)

**Compliance:** All persons age 12 or older not wearing or openly displaying the current badge will be denied access to the lake property and its facilities, turned away, and presumed trespassing. Said persons will be asked to leave lake property and return with their current badge. Members, guests and other persons unwilling to comply will result in disciplinary action and/or legal action as authorized by the Membership. Delinquent or suspended members are not entitled to use badges of another member.

### **III. Waterfront and Lake Usage**

**Boat Decals:** Boat tags are color coded with the current year displayed. Boat tags must be displayed by all watercraft, whether in the water, docked or dry laid on lake property, including the 10' strip and access trails. The term watercraft includes, but is not limited to, boats, canoes, pedal-craft, large rafts, sailing vessels, inflatable boats, wheel craft etc... Decals should be displayed on **both sides** of the bow (front) of the craft. Otherwise, the decal will be displayed on the starboard (right) side of the bow. All watercraft, regardless of the number owned, must display a decal.

**Compliance:** All watercraft not displaying the current year decal will be rejected entry and/or access to the lake. Any craft without current year decals will be trespassing and the authorities will be notified. The trespassers will be subject to New Jersey law. All watercraft left on lake property without current decal will be considered abandoned property and will be confiscated/removed/discarded at the owner's expense. Owners of watercraft found breaking the rules may incur disciplinary action, as authorized by the Membership.

**Motors and Power Devices:**

Gasoline/fossil fuel engines are prohibited on Lake Swannanoa. This includes, but is not limited to all gas powered augers, boats, canoes, wave runners, snowmobiles, snowblowers, all terrain vehicles and chainsaws. Exception: Use of tools by authorized members of LSHA to perform maintenance duties such as dewatering, tree clearing, construction and lake management consultation, snow clearing for ice skating (authorized only), and medical or other emergencies. The only legal means of propulsion is by electric powered motors, human effort, or wind.

### **IV. Boating and Watercraft Rules**

- 1 All boats must display the current year decal, whether in the water or on lake property, as in use of boat decals, above.
- 2 Boats must adhere to all US Coast Guard regulations and carry the required equipment.
- 3 Use of electric trolling motors is acceptable. Power-driven boats may be used, at the discretion of the board, for lake maintenance and emergency.
- 4 Ice boats are prohibited.
- 5 All boats are to be kept clear of designated swimming areas.
- 6 All boats must be kept at least 50 feet away from the dams and spillway.
- 7 No boating in electrical storms or when lightening is eminent.
- 8 Boats are permitted to dock/moor at the designated area to the right of the beach (facing the water from land.)

### **V. Fishing Rules**

1. Valid LSHA badge must be worn.
2. State of New Jersey requires all fisherman age 14 and over must have and conspicuously display a valid New Jersey fishing license.

3. All New Jersey State rules and regulations as stated by the State Department of Wildlife and Game regarding fish sizes and bag limits apply and are strictly enforced.
4. Lake Swannanoa encourages the practice of catch and release.
5. Discretion and safe practice must be exercised when fishing and choosing an area.
6. Fishing is not permitted at beach, in other designated swimming areas and on dams.

## VI. Ice Fishing Rules

EXTREME CAUTION must be used when going out onto the ice. Changing conditions in the water level and air temperature may make ice unsafe. Buddy system is recommended, and someone should know you are on the ice, for your own safety. **You ice fish at your own risk.**

- 1 Valid LSHA badge must be worn.
- 2 Ice fishing permitted only when lake is frozen 4 inches or more.
- 3 Holes must be no larger than 9 inches diameter. Holes should be contained to a minimum size.
- 4 Ice fishing prohibited within 25 feet of shore line, within 100 feet of dams or open water, at beach area
- 5 Lake Swannanoa encourages the practice of catch and release.
- 6 All New Jersey State fishing laws as well as fish sizes and bag limits apply to ice fishing.
- 7 Gasoline powered augers are prohibited
- 8 Bon fires are prohibited on the lake.
- 9 Each fisherman is allowed 5 tip ups and one jigging pole, and they must be marked with user's name.

## VII. Ice Skating Rules

- 1 Valid LSHA badge must be worn
- 2 Ice skating permitted only when ice is frozen 4 inches thick or more.
- 3 Ice skating is prohibited within 100 feet of open water, dams and spillway, and within 25 feet of ice fishing areas
- 4 Ice skaters should have a pole rope or other safety device within close proximity to where they are skating.
- 5 Respect the rights of fellow skaters.
- 6 Gasoline powered snowblowers are prohibited on the ice, except when approved by an authorized member of the Board of Directors of LSHA.

## VIII. Wildlife

No wildlife on Lake Swannanoa may be harassed, injured or otherwise abused, killed or used, except as provided by law. Our lake hosts a generous population of wildlife in its natural habitat, enhancing our experiences living in this environment. Harassment of nesting fowl and other species, stealing eggs, and other detrimental actions will not be tolerated. The Board of Directors of LSHA reserves the right to control species populations within the law if necessary to maintain the health and welfare of the membership, lake and dams. As per New Jersey State law, no feeding of any wildlife or waterfowl on lake property or private property is permitted.

## IX. Beach Rules

The beach is a recreational facility for the Ringling Manor Estates community and a gathering place for members, their families, and their guests. All members are requested to help maintain the beach area, parking lot and portable toilet. During peak days, parking and beach space becomes limited. Diligence is needed in keeping trash off the beach and parking lot areas. It is not the intent of LSHA to maintain a picnic area. However, tables are provided for those bringing food and beverage to the beach. Leftover food attracts insects and animals, and thus presents a hazard. **Do not leave any refuse in the beach or parking lot areas.** Reusable containers are encouraged - please conserve and recycle! Please clean up after yourself, and leave the beach in better condition than when you arrived.

**Beach opens:** Memorial Day Beach Closes: Labor Day (portable toilet is available during this time)  
 Lifeguard on duty: During school summer break, and/or hours posted at beach  
 Beach may be closed during season due to safety, health, maintenance or other reasons.  
 Water is tested twice weekly during swimming season.

Beach may be closed for a brief period following dewatering. Notice of this closure is posted around lake

**The following actions are prohibited in beach and swimming area:**

- 1 Running, shoving, horseplay, rough games. Pushing, shoving, running on docks or floats. Throwing of mud, sand, balls, or hard objects. Diving or cannon balling in crowded areas.
- 2 No pets permitted on beach or in water.
- 3 No smoking is allowed.
- 4 Alcohol is prohibited except by permission of the LSHA Board of Directors, or for events taking place after general operating hours.
- 5 Boats and fishing are prohibited from beach area, bound off area, and float.
- 6 Parking area is only for persons using beach or boating who have appropriate id badges.
- 7 Boat docking is permitted only in area described in boat rules. Glass is prohibited at beach or in parking area.
- 8 Smoking of illegal substances, or use of illegal drugs is prohibited. Actions of this nature will be reported to proper authorities, and will facilitate termination of club membership.
- 9 Abusive, vulgar and foul language will not be tolerated. This is a family beach.
- 10 No disorderly conduct or persons.
- 11 Bicycles, motorcycles, off road vehicles, ATV's are prohibited

**Swimming Rules -**

- 1 The area for swimming, designated by LSHA, is the beach area, located off of Lakeview Court.
- 2 Members assume full responsibility for swimming at the beach and any other location.
- 3 Members swim at their own risk.
- 4 Swimming within 100 feet of the dam or spillway is prohibited.
- 5 Swimming in designated fishing, boating or docking area is prohibited.
- 6 No swimming during an electrical storm, or when lightening is eminent.
- 7 Swimming after dark is prohibited.
- 8 Persons age 12 or under are not permitted on beach unless accompanied by parent or guardian.
- 9 Any person not qualified to swim must stay within border ropes in shallow water area.
- 10 Inflated tubes, rings and floats are permitted, but may be restricted on discretion of lifeguard, security guard, or LSHA management.
- 11 Anyone age 12 or under is permitted in water only if accompanied by a responsible parent or guardian.
- 12 Non-swimmers are to stay in shallow water. Tubes/lifejackets do not provide adequate support in deep water.

**Lifeguard Rules**

When a Lifeguard is employed the LSHA, the Lifeguard will enforce all rules, and report those who do not comply. Lifeguard has the right to close beach or prohibit anyone from swimming in the interest of safety.

1. Lifeguard will reject anyone not wearing the proper badge.
2. Lifeguard maintains safety equipment and first aid kit. Only authorized persons are to use such items, except in the case of an emergency.
3. Lifeguard is not a baby-sitter, and is not to supervise children. The purpose of the lifeguard is to enforce safety and safe conduct in the water and on the beach.
4. Lifeguard chair is for lifeguard only.

**Security Guard Rules**

When a security guard is employed by the LSHA, the guard will enforce all rules relating to beach, boating, fishing and use of the lake in general.

1. The security guard will reject anyone not wearing the proper badge from the beach, water, on the 10' strip, access trails, or at any lake facility.
2. The LSHA Board will provide the guard with a current list of all members in good standing.
3. If any person refuses to leave the beach, water, 10' strip, or LSHA facility, the Jefferson police will be notified of such trespassing. Legal action will be taken by the police.

**Use of Facilities by Groups**

Permission for use of facilities by a group or nonprofit organization must be made by application to the LSHA Board of Directors in writing. Request must indicate responsible persons, date of event, number in group, purpose of

event, and insurance carrier information. Granting of permission is at the discretion of the Board. A user fee or deposit may be required. A portable toilet charge may also be assessed. An application/liability waiver will be required, and must be signed by the responsible party and a Board member. This form must be available during the event. ALL PERSONS MUST CLEAN UP COMPLETELY AFTER THE EVENT.

## **X. Use of Lake Property, 10 foot strip and Access Trails**

LSHA is the owner of the lake bed itself and the 10' wide strip of land around the perimeter of the lake, several access trails, two ponds, two dams, lots around the lake, the boat house, the pump house, and beach lots. No private individuals own land that actually abuts the lake. The 10' strip intervenes between the lake and all properties that surround it.

- 1 Use of all land owned by LSHA is limited to members in good standing only. The Board reserves the right to access the strip for maintenance.
- 2 General access to dams and spillway is prohibited.
- 3 Privacy of individual residents should be respected at all times.
- 4 Glass is prohibited from all LSHA properties.
- 5 Please keep all LSHA property clear of trash and other debris.
- 6 Cutting and clearing of trees on LSHA property is prohibited except with Board permission.

## **XI. Improvements to 10' strip**

1. Landscape, maintenance of existing improvements and non-permanent care is permitted for members in good standing. Members are urged consider impact their property has on overall appearance and use of the lake.
2. Improvements and any other building or construction such as docks, retaining walls, boardwalks, paver stones drainage, plumbing, electrical improvements are prohibited without permission of the Board and the applicable authorities
3. Application must be made in writing to the Board. Board must be furnished with: Name, address, lot and block, plot plan/survey, drawing to scale and detailed description of plan. All Township ordinances and building codes and other rules must be obeyed. Permission will be granted only to members in good standing.
4. If dues and assessments become delinquent, any improvements to strip may be removed thirty days after member has been given written notice by certified mail.
5. All improvements and modifications are subject to review and approval by the Board.
6. All improvements are subject to yearly review as to membership in good standing.
7. The LSHA reserves the right to review improvements as to structural integrity and safety.
8. Poorly maintained, rotted or unsafe docks and improvements that are deemed hazardous to the lake, low level outlet and spillway will be removed by discretion of the Board after owner has been notified thirty days prior by certified mail. If owner fails to remove property, it will be removed for him at his expense.
9. Dock types permitted: Docks must adhere to State and Town regulations and requirements. No off-shore swimming platforms allowed. Exception: Structures authorized by Board and used by General Membership.
10. Any improvements made by members in good standing to the 10 foot strip made prior to the issuance of these rules on 7-9-09 are not affected by the application portion of the prior rules. However, rules regarding the yearly reviews and maintenance do apply.
11. Maintenance of improvements is responsibility of property owner who constructs same.
12. All Jefferson Township laws regulating refuse, tree protection, debris disposal, and construction refuse will apply.