



CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
Marlborough, Massachusetts 01752

## Fort Meadow Commission



TOWN OF HUDSON  
Hudson, Massachusetts 01749

The following words shall have the following meanings when used in these rules and regulations.

"MOTORBOAT" shall include any type of boat which has any source of power for propulsion other than manual oars, paddles, or sail.

"BOAT" include any type of craft, of whatever description, except a motorboat.

"CRAFT" shall include all boats and motorboats.

"COMMISSION" shall mean the Fort Meadow Commission.

Rule 1. Any power boat operated on Fort Meadow must meet the statutory requirements of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All operations of water-craft on the waters of Fort Meadow shall be in strict compliance with the U.S. Coast Guard Rules and Regulations, the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Rules and Regulations of the Fort Meadow Commission, as ordered.

Rule 2. No craft may be closer than 200 feet to the shore at Memorial and Hudson Beach except for the purpose of docking at a designated dock. Craft proceeding to dock or leaving said dock must do so in a line perpendicular to the shore and must be operated so as not to endanger any swimmers. At no time, unless proceeding to shore, shall any motorcraft operate closer than fifty feet to the remaining shoreline.

Rule 3. No person shall operate any boat at a speed greater than 40 mph, or a safe and reasonable speed depending on existing conditions, except during an official supervised race for which the Fort Meadow Commission has issued a permit in writing. The operator of any boat shall reduce boat to headway speed where operator's vision is obscured by bridges, curves or bends. Speed at all times must be reasonable and proper for existing conditions. No person shall operate a motorboat from sunset until sunrise at a speed in excess of 5 mph otherwise known as headway speed. No boat shall be upon the waters of the pond between the above hours unless there be a white light attached to the stern which must be visible in all directions. In addition, a green light must be displayed to the starboard and a red light to the port.

Rule 4. No person shall navigate any craft or other means of flotation unless able to control or handle the same with safety to himself and others; or in such a manner as to annoy or endanger the occupants of other boats or canoes. No person shall be allowed to sit on gunwalls or decks unless there are guardrails. In order to ensure an orderly and safe flow of traffic, all power boats will travel in a counter-clockwise movement on Fort Meadow.

Rule 5. All owners of craft must acquaint any person they allow to operate their craft with the rules of the Commission. Owners will be responsible, as well as the operator, for any violations of the rules by their motorboat or craft, whether the owner is present or not, providing the operator is using the craft with the express or implied consent of the owner.

Rule 6. No person shall moor or anchor any craft or object more than fifty feet from shore without written permission of the Commission. Swimming is prohibited at any point in the lake more than 50 feet from shore, except in designated areas, and swimming across the lake is only permitted when accompanied by a boat and in accordance with safety rules recommended by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Rule 7. An operator of a motorboat towing waterskis, aquaplanes or similar devices will be held responsible for compliance of these rules and regulations for both the motorboat and person or appurtenance being towed. Except in connection with water carnivals or events authorized or held by the Commission, no such activity may be conducted during the period between sunset and sunrise. No tow rope longer than 75 feet shall be used in waterskiing, aquaplaning or towing a person or any other appurtenance. Skiers shall stay within boat wake when passing through narrows. Skiers or aquaplane riders shall wear an approved flotation device and have an attendant other than the driver who is aged twelve or older.

Rule 8. All powered boats shall be equipped with proper muffler or underwater exhaust and at no time will a motor be allowed to operate on the lake that has in any way been altered to cause unnecessary noise. No person shall annoy another person, or utter any profane, threatening or abusive language. In accordance with local ordinances governing recreational areas, no one shall have possession of or drink any intoxicating beverages.

Rule 9. No person shall at any time make an opening in the ice of Fort Meadow exceeding twelve inches in diameter. Snowmobiles, motorcycles, iceboats or any other winter recreational vehicles shall exercise reasonable caution and keep a reasonable distance from all persons, structures and cleared skating areas. Automobiles and trucks are not permitted on the ice. All Scuba Divers must display diver's flag(float). Boats must stay a minimum of 100 feet away from diver's flag.

Rule 10. The members of the Commission shall patrol the pond in order to enforce these rules and regulations and to bring violations to the notice of offending persons. The Commission may appoint agents to aid it in the above duties. The operator of any craft shall bring his craft to a stop when hailed or signaled by the operator or a passenger of another craft at which time the hailing or signaling person shall show identification which identifies them a police officer, a member of the Commission or as one of its agents.

PENALTIES: Any person who violates any rule or regulation of the Commission shall be punished as specified by state law and/or suspension of boating rights for a period of time designated by the Commission.

By order of the Fort Meadow Commission  
(Approved by State Division of Law Enforcement on May 15, 1989)