

**REGIONAL REGULATIONS  
TO DISCIPLINE NAVIGATION ON THE LAKE OF MERGOZZO**

(Promulgated with D.P.G.R. n. 1992 of 4/5/1992 and integrated with the amendments  
promulgated with D.P.G.R. n. 5/R del 14/4/2000)

**ART. 1**

*Purpose*

1. Purpose of the present set of rules is to discipline navigation on the Lake of Mergozzo to guarantee safe navigation and bathing, protect the ecosystem of the lake and promote the socio-economic development of the local communities by encouraging forms of tourism compatible with the protection of the cultural and environmental property.

**ART. 2**

*Navigation Restrictions*

1. Motor boats are not allowed on the entire lake save for exceptional situations as specified by artt.3 and 19 of the present set of rules.
2. Navigation with any type of boats is forbidden in the reed-thicket water expanses as well as in areas of naturalistic relevance.
3. Mooring and taking-off of seaplanes and of other types of aeromobiles is forbidden except in cases of emergency and public order intervention.
4. Residence on board of pleasure and sports crafts is forbidden.

**ART. 3**

*Waterskiing*

1. Up to the final date of December 31st 1993, in derogation of art. 2, § 1 of the present regulations, waterskiing is allowed from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. in good weather conditions and with lake calm at a minimum distance from the coast of 100 meters and only for waterskiing schools, sports clubs and associations legally recognized by the National Federation of competency, which have been exercising their sports activity on the lake for at least two years.
2. Crossing of the water expanse between the coast and the limit of 100 meters from it is allowed for boats involved in waterskiing, using however exclusively the navigation corridors authorized by the Piedmont Region – Division of Transportation and Planning of Infrastructures.
3. Waterskiing is allowed only for boats with a maximum gross tonnage of 3 tons.
4. The specifications provided for by the current set of rules specifically set forth for the sports associations identified by §1 are applicable within the areas clearly delimited by the Piedmont Region, Division of Transportation and Planning of Infrastructures. The specifications required by the current sports regulations are applicable to all Sports

Associations specified by §1 within the areas especially reserved for them and delimited by the Piedmont Region, Division of Transportation and Planning of Infrastructures.

5. The following rules are applicable to waterskiing:
  - a) boat pilots must be accompanied by an expert swimmer;
  - b) as provided for by §1 the start of a water skier must be on a water expanse totally free of bathers and of boats or within the navigation corridors clearly delimited and authorized by the competent authorities;
  - c) the sidelong safety distance between the towing boat and the other units must be greater than the length of the pulling cable;
  - d) during the various phases of the exercise the distance between the boat and the skier must never be less than 12 meters;
  - e) The turnabout and motor idling mechanisms as well as all the ship's equipment required by the current regulations are mandatory for boats used for waterskiing.
  - f) it is forbidden to pull two or more waterskiers at the same time or to transport other passengers in addition to the pilot and the expert swimmer accompanying him;
  - g) the waterskiers must wear a life jacket.
6. Waterskiing is allowed only within the area delimited in the map enclosed with the present set of rules, that is within the area specifically reserved for such sport.
7. The Piedmont Region reserves the right to reduce the number of hours and/or impose seasonal restrictions also on specific request by the Municipality of Mergozzo or by the Province.

#### **ART. 4**

##### *Signalling of the water expanse*

1. The lake areas object of regulation are clearly signalled by floating buoys.
2. The buoys are differentiated as follows:
  - a cylindrical yellow buoy signals all off-limits and regulated areas;
  - a cylindrical red buoy signals the boundaries of the waterskiing areas;
  - a red buoy (spherical, byconical or cylindrical) hoisting a red flag signals the presence of an underwater diver.

#### **ART. 5**

##### *Use of windsurf boards*

1. Windsurfing is allowed only during the day and with good visibility from an hour after dawn to sunset.
2. The windsurfers are to steer the board so as not to create dangerous situations or to get in the way of other units.
3. Windsurfers must wear a life jacket.
4. Use of windsurf boards is forbidden:
  - a) in ports and near their accesses;
  - b) within water expanses reserved for bathing;
  - c) within the protected areas specified by art.2 §2;
  - d) within the navigation corridors specified by art.3, § 2.

## **ART. 6**

### *Bathing*

1. Bathing is forbidden in port areas and within the water expanses reserved for sports, within the navigation corridors and the protected areas specified by art.2, § 2 as well as within the lake belt situated between the Municipality of Mergozzo and the lakeside slide of Piazza Cavour.
2. Use of a red bathing cap is mandatory for all those who intend to bathe beyond the limit of 100 meters from the coast.

## **ART. 7**

### *Underwater Diving*

1. Divers must signal their presence with a buoy as required by art.4 §2, and be assisted by a supporting unit.
2. Underwater Diving is forbidden:
  - a) in port areas and near their accesses;
  - b) within areas reserved for bathing;
  - c) within the protected areas specified by art.2 § 2;
  - d) within navigation corridors specified by art.3, §2
3. The restrictions specified by §2 are not applicable to emergency interventions, exercise of duties specific of Police Forces nor in case of professional and scientific research activities duly authorized by the Piedmont Region, Division of Transportation and Planning of Infrastructures.

## **ART. 8**

### *Renting of crafts and boats*

1. Renting of sailboats is forbidden to individuals under the age of 14.
2. The lessors of sports crafts must inform the renters of the general navigation provisions as well as of the navigation regulations specifically set forth for the lake.
3. As required by the current regulations the renters must take out a third party insurance.

## **ART. 9**

### *Shows and Events*

1. Unless specifically authorized by the Piedmont Region, Division of Transportation and Planning of Infrastructures shows and events of any sort are not permitted on the lake.

## **ART. 10**

### *Regulations applicable to navigation*

1. Right of way priority must be given during navigation to emergency, public order and surveillance crafts.
2. It is forbidden to follow on the wake of or at a distance of less than 80 meters from a craft towing a water skier.

## **ART. 11**

### *Maintenance and Refueling*

1. The motors of all sports crafts and all service stations installations must be kept in perfect working conditions.
2. Appropriate and efficient equipment must be used while carrying out maintenance and refueling operations so as to avoid any leakage or shedding of oil, fuel or other polluting materials (liquid, gaseous or solid) into the lake.

**ART. 12**  
*Dumping*

1. Dumping of solid or liquid waste, draining of sewer waters as well as leaving solid or liquid waste of any kind on the lake and along its shores and/or on piers and wharves is strictly forbidden.
2. It is also forbidden to drain into the lake combustion residues of fuel oils, wash waters and any other dangerous or polluting substance.
3. Solid and/or liquid waste must be disposed of only with appropriate containers to be delivered to the special structures provided for on land by the authorities of competency including the Municipal Administration.

**ART. 13**  
*Excessive Noise*

1. It is forbidden to provoke on the lake excessive noises with a level of over 70 decibel measured from a distance of 25 meters.

**ART. 14**  
*Users' behaviour*

1. It is forbidden to remove, modify, displace, tamper with or damage buoys, warning notices and day- or nighttime signs, placards or any other signals.
2. Within harbour areas it is forbidden:
  - a) to park vehicles or boats except in specifically authorized areas;
  - b) occupy access and exit lanes,
  - c) interfere with the execution of public maintenance and repair works.
3. Except within specific authorized spaces docking as well as abandoning boat wreckages anywhere along the lakeshores is in any case forbidden

**ART. 15**  
*Use of docks, wharves and port structures*

1. It is forbidden:
  - a) to block and enter for private use, including fishing, wharves, piers and docking structures;
  - b) to hamper or impede in any way the transit of pedestrians on public wharves, docks and piers.

**ART. 16**

## *Information*

1. The present set of rules is posted:
  - at the office of the Authority with competency over navigation;
  - on the municipal notice board of the coastal towns;
  - at public harbour areas as well as within public and private beaches and navigation structures.
2. Anybody planning to navigate on the Lake of Mergozzo must keep on board copy of the present set of rules.
3. Anybody planning to navigate on the Lake of Mergozzo must keep on board the special "tax card" distributed annually for free by the structures identified by the Piedmont Region, Division of Transportation and Planning of Infrastructures.

## **ART. 17**

### *Surveillance*

1. Organisations specifically nominated for that purpose are in charge of surveillance as required by the current supervisory regulations.

## **ART. 18**

### *Fines*

1. Failure to comply with the present regulations will result in the imposition of the fines provided for by the present set of rules.

## **ART. 19**

### *General Provisions*

1. The provisions specified by art.2 are not applicable to surveillance or rescue units reporting to the authorities with competency over the matter.
2. The provisions specified by art.2, §1 are not applicable to motor boats and navigation units in charge of control, assistance or jury activities during authorized sports events, keeping firm the obligation for such units to regulate the navigation so as not to represent a danger for the public and for the other units.
3. Up to the final date of December 31st 1993 the provisions specified by art.2 §1 are not applicable to motor boats with special permit issued by the Piedmont Region, Division of Transportation and Planning of Infrastructures and only upon specific indication by the Municipality of Mergozzo.
4. Circulation of the navigation units specified by §3 is forbidden within the water expanse extending between the coast and 100 meters from it as well as within the 100 meter belt opposite the reed thicket area and all areas relevant from an environmental standpoint specified by §2 of art.2.
5. In derogation of the provisions specified by § 4 and on specific request by the Municipality of Mergozzo, motor boats belonging to the residents of Mergozzo, duly authorized by the Regional Division of Transportation and Planning of Infrastructures, are permitted to cross such lake belt, perpendicularly to the coast and at a speed no higher than 4 knots (7 km/h).
6. The Piedmont Region reserves the right to reduce the number of navigation hours and/or set seasonal restrictions also on request by the Municipality of Mergozzo or by the Province.

**ART. 20**  
*Reference clause*

1. The regulations disciplining Inland navigation are applicable to any situation not specified by the present set of rules.