

Canberra Water Police
Alexandrina Drive
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600
Telephone: 62457393
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REMINDER TO LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN USERS – BRIEF SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

1. Licenced Operators

All drivers of a conventional powerboat must hold either a current:

- powerboat drivers licence issued in any Australian State or Territory, or,
- a 'TL3' certificate issued under the Australian Yachting Federation National Powerboat Training Scheme.

This refers to *all powerboat drivers* (irrespective of the speed at which the vessel is operated, or the power output of the engine etc as in other jurisdictions).

Boat licences must be carried and produced on request.

2. Vessel Permits

All powerboats must have a permit. The type of permit, and permissible use, depends on the type of vessel and purpose. The permit sticker must be displayed on the vessel. If you need a permit, contact NCA on 62712888 or Water Police on 62457393.

Operating a vessel without a permit, or unauthorised or inappropriate use of a permit vessel carries a maximum fine of \$1000 for the individual operator *and* for each passenger, and \$5000 for the organisation. (Section 27 Lakes Ordinance 1976)

3. Collision Avoidance & Safe Operation

All persons are at all times responsible for maintaining a good lookout and ensuring collision avoidance. All vessel operators should have a sound working knowledge of rules of right of way, crossing and overtaking etc. All vessel operators must at all times navigate in a safe and courteous manner to other lake users.

Offences under the Lakes Ordinance sections 48 & 49 include Careless Navigation (max fine \$500 individual, \$2,500 organisation) and Navigating a Vessel in a Negligent/Reckless/Speed or Manner Dangerous (max penalty \$1000 and/or 6 months imprisonment individual, \$5000 organisation)

4. Safety equipment

All powerboats must carry the prescribed minimum safety equipment (paddles, bailing bucket, anchor/rope/chain, torch, sufficient PFD's and extinguisher. It is the responsibility of the driver to ensure that the equipment is both present and in a serviceable condition.

Safety boats **must** carry sufficient approved PFD's for the crew on board the safety boat. For rowing coaches, best practice suggests a safety boat **should** carry additional flotation to assist occupants of the coached vessel as well.

5. Navigation whilst intoxicated

A person must not navigate a vessel whilst under the influence of intoxicating liquor. Maximum fine \$500. Section 50 *Lakes Ordinance 1976*.

6. Lights

Requirements relating to vessel lighting are contained within Part 5, Division 1 Section 37-40 *Lakes Ordinance 1976*. In summary, during the hours of sunset and sunrise:

- all power boats (<5m) must show an all round white light (additional requirements for >5m vessels).
- all boats (any type) must carry a light / electric torch / lighted lantern.

Penalties up to \$500 individual, \$2500 organisation)

7. Safety Boats

- must only be used for the specified (permit) purpose ie confine the use to the sporting activity supported
- limit the boat to a reasonable and necessary speed
- appropriately crewed and not overloaded with joyriders
- drivers hold either a current powerboat driver's licence issued in any Australian State or Territory, or an Australian Yachting Federation 'TL3' certificate.

8. No wash zones (Speed)

Convention, common sense, courtesy and safety dictates that vessels should be slowed to max 4 knots and/or not create wash within the confines of a bay. This is particularly important in Yarralumla Bay which receives high use from a wide variety of users of varying ages and skill levels.

9. Inspections

Inspections may be carried out at any time: powerboats should carry safety equipment at all times, lights when required and boat drivers should have their licences available for inspection at all times when on the water. Section 9 *Lakes Ordinance 1976*.

10. Contact

Water Police maintain a listening watch on 27.88 MHz and VHF 16 during hours of duty.
Telephone Contact:

6245 7393 - during office hours,
131444 - Police Communications Centre
000 - Emergency Operator.