

# Aurora Lake Water Ski Club (ALWSC)

## Welcome!

The Aurora Lake Water Ski Club (ALWSC) has been established for the Aurora Shores and Hawthorn of Aurora communities to increase their enjoyment and safety of the lake via organized water skiing.

Learn to ski clinics, advanced ski clinics, parties, and activities are just some of the reasons to join the club.

ALWSC has joined USA Water Ski as an official Water Ski Club to obtain \$1 million of liability insurance coverage to the ALWSC's Slalom Course. USA Water Ski is the sport's national governing body and the authority on organized water skiing within the United States. USA Water Ski is a member of the International Water Ski Federation (World Governing Body), the Pan American Sports Organization and the United States Olympic Committee.

Beginning 2005, all Slalom course skiing will be either "Approved Practice" or "Sanctioned Practices." Therefore, **All skiers must join ALWSC and USA Water Ski as an "Active" member in order to ski in the ALWSC's Slalom Course.** This membership includes \$10,000 of secondary personal injury insurance when participating in the ALWSC Practice Events. The membership also allows the skier to ski in tournaments and other water ski events.

Therefore, each skier that desires to use the slalom course must:

- Be an "Active" member of the ALWSC. This includes the annual \$25 Family membership dues.
- Be an "active" member of USA Water Ski.
- Submit the Membership number to ALWSC so the ALWSC can submit the skiers name and membership number to USA Water Ski to establish insurance coverage.
- Record each practice in the practice log prior to skiing. Forms can be found at [www.alwsc.com](http://www.alwsc.com) .

All members will be listed on the ALWSC Website with their current status, contact information (based on parental consent), and skiing disciplines.

## Communication:

All communication will be posted to the ALWSC website ([www.alwsc.com](http://www.alwsc.com)) and emails send to members that have submitted their email address.

# **Aurora Lake Water Ski Club (ALWSC) Rules**

1. Annual membership dues are \$25 per family, and the dues are subject to change by a majority vote of the club officers.
2. To maintain “Good Status” in the ALWSC, members must follow the “Aurora Lake Rules” as set forth by the Aurora Lake Association (ALA), will be respectful and courteous to all boaters, fishermen and people of the Aurora Shores and Hawthorn communities for equal sharing and enjoyment of Aurora Lake. Status may only change by a majority vote of the ALWSC officers.
3. ALWSC will communicate Club information and rules to both communities. Members have the responsibility to attempt to explain the rules to anyone that may not know the rules, for safe use of Aurora Lake.
4. Issues and disputes should be discussed between the affected parties in order to obtain an amicable resolution, before presenting them to the ALWSC. The ALWSC will bring both parties together for discussion for issue resolution.

## **Slalom Course**

5. The Slalom Course is the private property of the ALWSC. In 2005, the ALA approved the Apparatus Permit application, and issued a Slalom Course Permit to the ALWSC to maintain a Slalom Course on Aurora Lake.
6. Club members that desire to add additional ski/barefoot/etc. apparatus' into the lake, must contact the ALWSC to obtain the proper form and instructions.
7. ALWSC must annually maintain Active Water Ski Club membership through USA Water Ski. The membership provides \$1 million of liability insurance for the protection of the ALWSC and it's members while using the slalom course.

## **ALWSC's Slalom Course Use & Safety Policy as approved by the ALA:**

### **I. Use & Safety Policy**

- A. The Slalom Course is owned by the Aurora Lake Water Ski Club (ALWSC) and is intended for slalom skiing. Tubing, Wakboarding, and Air-chair devices are not allowed for safety and course preservation reasons.
- B. Accidental damage to the slalom course is expected and should be reported to the ALWSC so the damage can be repaired. ALWSC will incur these expenses. Non-accidental damage to the course will be reported to the WAC and to governing body, presently the Aurora Police Department for appropriate action.
- C. Eligible slalom course skiers must be:

- 1) An “active” member of the ALWSC “in good standing”, or invited by an ALWSC member “in good standing.”
- 2) An “active” member of USA Water Ski. USA Water Ski Membership cards must be submitted to the ALWSC prior to skiing the slalom course, with one copy on file with the club, and another copy sent to the WAC if required.
- 3) Temporary / visitor eligibility is possible via USA Water Ski and supported with insurance coverage. This requires a USA Water Ski “Safety Officer” to be present to oversee the visiting skier. Some ALWSC members are expecting to take the safety class and pass the test to become Safety Officers. ALWSC will notify the WAC of all Safety Officers. All Temporary / visiting skiers must register with the ALWSC, and pay the required USA Water Ski daily fee \$5 fee prior to skiing, plus any additional ALWSC fees that may be required to cover expenses. All skiers will be entered into the ski log.
- 4) All insurance claims will be reported by the injured skier to the ALWSC president, and the president will submit the appropriate claim forms to the insurance company, as required by USA Water Ski. Additionally, each incident will be sent to the WAC so they can effectively oversee the use and safety of the Slalom Course.

D. Days of Operation:

- 1) The Slalom Course buoys will be installed once at the beginning of the year and removed at the end of the year by the ALWSC.
- 2) The slalom course will be operational between sunrise and sunset. Although operational, the course will be closed when there are no “practice events” in session. The ALWSC will place a “closed” buoy at the entrance of the Slalom Course to visually indicate that the course is closed. The closed buoy is the responsibility of the ALWSC. The ALA will provide the buoy but the ALWSC is responsible for putting it in and out and notifying the ALA if the buoy gets destroyed. It will be a large Orange ball with a reinforced eyelet, chain and anchor (approx 25 lbs.).

E. Device Training – Upon joining ALWSC, training instructions will be provided to skiers and drivers, and the class will be posted on the web site for reference. A sign-off sheet will be required stating training has been completed, and kept on file.

F. Apparatus Risk – Three risks are relevant to the Slalom Course Apparatus:

- 1) Risk to skiers – Low risk to skiers hitting course buoys and knocking the skier over. The USA Water Ski “WAIVER, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, RELEASE, MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION UNIFORM PARTICIPATION AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT” will be signed by each skier annually at the beginning of each season to ensure insurance compliance.
- 2) Risk to boats – Low risk as buoys and markers will break free from the anchored rope in the event of significant impact or propeller impact.
- 3) Risk to lake – No risk as the official USA Water Ski Complete Waterways Manual provides research that shows 1) Shoreline erosion is caused by daily waves caused by daily wind activity with no measurable increase during boating season, 2) “No adverse affects from water skiing activity on turbidity, fish, or the production of invertebrates,” and 3) a 5 foot recommended minimum depth to avoid scouring and mixing.

G. Best Practice Guidelines (not rules) for SMOOTH WATER will be to alternate disciplines on business days (see below) before working hours. Since sunrise to 1.5 hours past sunrise is the practical time to ski on business days, these guidelines are intended to encourage communication for the consideration of all skiers. Communication is expected the evening prior to the event. Events will be posted on the ALWSC web site with contact information to facilitate communication. If no communication occurs, and no ski event occurs, the reason for no skiing will be reported to the ALWSC. Continuous failure to communicate and failure to ski without notification to ALWSC will be reviewed by the ALWSC and the WAC for modification of the schedule. Again, this best practice guideline is intended to share the lake amongst all skiers, and facilitate skiing for those individual actively participating and communicating for the consideration of others.

- 1) Barefooting Mondays & Wednesdays
- 2) Slalom skiing Tuesdays Thursdays
- 3) Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (First come first server)

H. Best Practice Guidelines for SINGLE BOAT slalom ski course usage will be:

- 1) Slalom skiers will notify ALWSC (via phone or email) of all practices, prior to the practice, so it can be logged into the official Practice Log. This is a USA Water Ski requirement for the insurance to cover the practice event. Date, times, Practice Participants, and Towboat drivers must be provided to an ALWSC official prior to the practice.
- 2) Voice communication from the skier to the driver will be used to start the run. "Gear" will be said so the driver will put the engine in the forward gear, and "Pull" will be said to initiate skiing.
- 3) Skiers will use hand signals for communicating to the boat, details can be found on the ALWSC web site. Including:
  - a. Thumb up to increase the boat speed, and thumb down indicates to decrease the boat speed.
  - b. Hand on top of head indicates that the skier is done skiing and wishes to terminate the run.
  - c. The skier clasps hands together over your head to indicate, "skier OK" after a fall.
  - d. Hold your ski up and pointing out of the water to indicate that you wish to be picked up.
- 4) PASSES and RUNS:
  - a. Skiing through the course once is considered a "pass", and 6 passes constitute a "run".
  - b. Skier should ask the other skiers if more than 6 passes is acceptable, to be considerate of limited time of the practice event.
  - c. The fourth fall ends the skier's turn, unless the other skiers agree, again this is to ensure equal sharing of the practice event.
  - d. After a fall ending the run, boat and skier will exit west of the course.
  - e. It is the skiers choice when to rest, such as after every pass, or at one end of the course, etc.
- 5) Traffic flow:
  - a. Traffic flow will be bi-directional until 3 or more boats are not working as a team. A team is a group of

boats in communication and working together to share the lake.

- b. When 3 or more boats are not working as a team, traffic flow through the slalom course will be unidirectional and follow the normal direction set by the ALA, presently counterclockwise.
- I. Best Practice Guidelines for MULTIPLE BOAT ski course usage will be the above SINGLE BOAT guidelines plus:
- 1) Second and subsequent boats are obligated to communicate to the “active” boat verbally as the location of the queue, North, South, or West side. First boat with a ready skier has final decision. This communication results in the boats achieving a “team” status.
  - 2) Active boat terminates their run and transfers “active” status to the next boat by exiting the course with their skier and then beeping the horn 3 times. Responding boat acknowledges with a single horn beep.
  - 3) Towboats entering the course will wait until the previous skier and boat are safely out of the course before entering the course.
  - 4) When numerous skiers are using the course, they will take turns, in the best interest of common courtesy.
- J. Mis-Use of the Slalom Course
- 1) The ALWSC members will follow the “Best Practice” rules above, and any other activity will be considered mis-use.
  - 2) The ALWSC rules will be delivered to each ALWSC member when they register for the club. A signed form will be kept on file stating that the club member has agreed to follow the rules.
  - 3) Failure to follow the rules will require notification to the ALWSC president. The president will initiate a meeting or conference call of the ALWSC officers to review the offense. The officers will determine a course of action including daily/weekly/ or annual suspension from using the course and possible club suspension and/or dismissal.
  - 4) If the offender fails to comply with the required course of action the ALWSC officers may initiate a notification to the WAC for additional action up to and including revoking of the boat sticker.

K. Method of Communication to other sports groups:

- 1) Phone numbers and web addresses of the ALWSC will be posted on the ALWSC web site for communication of practice events.
- 2) Practices will be posted on the website. It's best to schedule the season in the Spring, and adjust as necessary.
- 3) Changes made less than 24 hours prior to a practice event should be made by phone.
- 4) ALWSC Club Meetings will be posted on the website and invitations will be emailed to registered members.

I \_\_\_\_\_ understand the ALWSC Rules and  
will comply.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date