



## UNDERSTANDING PONTOON/DECK BOAT

- I understand that under Federal and/or State Law it is a crime to operate a boat while persons are sitting on the front (bow), sides (gunwales), rear (stern), or swimming platform. This behavior is considered grossly negligent operation of a boat.
  - I understand that there is an awareness zone that includes the front (bow), sides (gunwales), rear (stern) and swimming platform, and extends 30 feet behind and around the boat.
  - I will educate all of my passengers on the awareness zone, and I will not allow anyone to enter the awareness zone unless the boat motor is turned off, the keys are removed, and I have counted to ten to allow the propeller time to stop spinning.
  - I will take a head-count to make sure all passengers are present and accounted for before starting the motor.
  - I understand that it is particularly dangerous to sit on the front of the platform of this boat, because a slip between the pontoons will "funnel" a passenger into the boat propeller.
  - I understand that the motor of this boat produces carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless, and lethal gas that can quickly affect people in the awareness zone.
  - I will not use any generator that is not supplied as part of the rental package on this boat.
  - I understand that this boat has no brakes, so that stopping quickly may be difficult or impossible if i am going too fast.
  - I will not operate this boat at speeds that are unsafe for the conditions.
  - I will obey No Wake zone/signs.
  - I have been instructed on how to use the navigation lights and anchor lights on this boat and I will display them properly if operating at night or when visibility is poor.
  - I will make sure that there is a lookout other than the boat operator whenever passengers or parts of this boat obstruct the operator's view.
  - I have been informed of the total capacity of \_\_\_ people and \_\_\_ lbs of gear for this boat. I will not exceed that limit.
  - I understand that overloading this boat is unsafe and against the law.
  - I will anchor where it is easiest for other boats to see this boat (so long as the area is anchorable).
  - I will anchor this boat only from the front (bow).
  - I will check to make sure that the water is deep enough before allowing head-first diving from the boat.
  - I will instruct my passengers never to dive or jump off of a moving boat.
  - I will make sure that I, or someone who knows how to operate the boat, remains on board whenever the boat is unanchored.
  - I have been instructed on what to do in the case of a person overboard, collision, or other dangerous situation.
  - If this boat is equipped with an engine cut-off device, I will use it.
- I have received an operational orientation for this boat and understand that a written manual is on board.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_