



SILWERSTRAND

GOLF & RIVER ESTATE

WELCOME TO

SILWERSTRAND GOLF
AND RIVER ESTATE

RECREATIONAL WATER USE
AND SAFETY

2024

SILWERSTRAND HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION
(ESTABLISHED IN TERMS OF SEC 29 OF THE LUPO 15 OF 1985)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SHOA WATER SAFETY RULES	2
INTRODUCTION.....	2
RECREATIONAL WATER SAFETY RULES.....	2
SWIMMING	2
NON-POWERED CRAFT	2
LAUNCHING OF ALL POWER CRAFT.....	2
ALL POWER CRAFT.....	2
POWERBOAT WHERE POWER RATING IS GREATER THAN 15 HP	3
FEES	4
GENERAL	4
TURNING POINTS & STARTING POINT.....	5
SILWERSTRAND HOMEOWNERS' MEMBERS & SHOA BOATCLUB.....	5
JETTIES AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION ON THE RIVER BANK	5
ACKNOLEGEMENT OF THE RECREATIONAL WATER USE AND SAFETY RULES AT SILWERSTRAND GOLF AND RIVER ESTATE, INCLUSIVE OF VISITORS AND CAMPERS	6

SHOA WATER SAFETY RULES

NB: This is a clockwise water-skiing circuit (Different to the SAMSA regulation, for safety purposes due to the shape of this section of the Breede River.)

INTRODUCTION

In terms of the Provincial Authority approval for the Silwerstrand Golf and River estate (Silwerstrand) the Silwerstrand Homeowners Association (SHOA) has been charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP), as imposed by the Provincial Government, is adhered to. One of the requirements of OEMP is to "ensure safe use of the river at all times"

In addition to these, the small boat safety regulations promulgated in accordance with the provision of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1951, SHOA have also prescribed safety rules and processes that must be followed by boat operators on all inland waters.

In line with this, as well as taking into account the rules and practices that were laid down by the municipal authorities previously, the SHOA has decided that the following rules will apply until further notice.

All watersport activities, such as, but not limited to towing of tubes, wakeboarders and skiers, are restricted from dawn to dusk. The use of boats is still allowed outside of these hours, subject to regulation and addressed below.

RECREATIONAL WATER SAFETY RULES

SWIMMING

- No swimming is permitted in the river beyond 5 meters from the riverbank, in the water-skiing circuit portion of the river. Even swimming within the 5-metre area is dangerous, for the reason that Silwerstrand has always been, and continues to be, a powerboating friendly facility. NO underwater swimming is allowed at all. It is also recommended that a 5-meter swimming area is created at the caravan park with clearly marked buoys for safety reasons, and as a "No wake" zone.

NON-POWERED CRAFT

- Non-powered craft, such as sailing vessels, canoes, paddle skis, etc. is permitted in the river. While not compulsory, it is recommended that appropriate flotation aids are worn by people operating these crafts. For safety reasons, people on non-powered craft are also requested to keep to the side of the river within the waterskiing circuit.

LAUNCHING OF ALL POWER CRAFT

- Parking of any vehicles and/or trailers on the slipways is expressly forbidden
- No other facilities are available in this stretch of water under the control of SHOA and therefore, the slipway at the Silwerstrand Caravan Park is to be used. No other place should be used for launching purposes for any boats sitting on a trailer.
 - Hours of launching: Caravan Park **office hours 07h45 – 17h30**
 - Launching after this to be arranged with management at caravan Park, **till 20h30**, please use the following numbers:
 - 076 199 4085 Silwerstrand nr. (Naomie)
 - 076 166 9265 Caren
 - 082 920 7863 Montagu Caravan park.

ALL POWER CRAFT

- No alcohol may be consumed by any person on the river while in charge of/or operating a powerboat at more than no-wake speed.
- No one may pilot, or be in control of a powerboat while under the influence of alcohol or any drug having a narcotic effect.
- All powered craft **must** give way to non-powered watercraft (including canoes and paddle skis) and people in the water. Although swimming is not permitted beyond 5 meters from the riverbank, it does not absolve the pilot and skipper of the responsibility to continually watch out for the people in the water and give way safely to them, wherever they may be.
- When "following" a boat towing a skier, keep a safe distance between your boat and the skier, to enable you to avoid the skier, should the skier fall in the water. (For this purpose, a skier is also considered tubing, wakeboarding etc)

- Always operate your boat responsibly, with due consideration for jetties, small crafts, and other users of the river.
- All boats will keep left in the river and maintain a clockwise circuit on the river.
- All powerboat pilots travelling at speed must be observant and be aware of slower travelling craft, and immediately reduce the speed to a safe level when in a dangerous situation
- No person under the age of sixteen years may pilot, or be in charge of any boat other than a rowing boat, a canoe, a boat greater than 3 meters in length, or a boat that have a motor fitted greater than a 15HP
- No powerboating without displaying navigation lights is permitted during the hours of darkness.
- From sunset to sunrise power and sailing boats under way shall carry signal lights which shall be prominently shown as follows:
 - forward, one green light visible to the right side (starboard) and one red light visible to the left side (port), both lights to be visible also from the front.
 - (b) From sunset to sunrise, rowing boats or canoes or any other type of water craft without mechanical or sail power, when in use shall carry a white light in such a position as to be clearly visible to every other craft in the vicinity.
- Every person in an inflatable powerboat travelling at more than no-wake speed must wear a life jacket
- Do not use the boat's swim platform when the boat is in motion
- **No jet skis and jet-powered boats are allowed**
- The number of people allowed on all craft, at any given time, shall not exceed the number the boat or craft was licensed for.
- Slalom water skiing shall enjoy preferential times above any other boating activities, including wakeboarding, tubing etc, between the hours of dawn to 9h30 and from 18h00 to dusk. (This is purely due to the nature of the sport and the danger of possible injury associated with skiing whilst other water crafts on the water simultaneously)

POWERBOAT WHERE POWER RATING IS GREATER THAN 15 HP

- No powerboat with a power rating of more than 15 horsepower may be operated on the river unless the craft is registered with the South African Marine Safety Authority (SAMSA) and carry a SAMSA issued registration number, which must be displayed on the boat according to regulation.
- All powerboats with a motor greater than a 15HP, may not be operated on the river unless it is certified with a valid certificate of fitness, issued by a SAMSA authorised agent and carries all the regulated safety equipment (document to be shown at the management of the Caravan Park)
- The SHOA registration sticker must be attached to the boat at an easily visible place to observe.
- No powerboat with a motor greater than a 15HP, may be operated on the river unless it is under the control of a person in possession of a valid certificate of competency, called the "SKIPPER'S LICENCE", issued by SAMSA (document to be shown at the management of the Caravan Park).
- Any power boat with a motor of 15HP and under, operated by a person without a skipper's license, should use it with due care and responsibility. Abuse of this benefit may result in the restriction imposed on the person.
- No waterskiing is permitted between the hours of dawn to dusk.
- All water skiers must wear a suitable flotation aid that has been fastened tightly. A wetsuit is NOT considered a suitable flotation aid.
- A craft towing a water skier, must have a competent observer on board in addition to the pilot of the craft.
- A red flag, measuring approximately 500 x 500mm, is to be carried by all boats towing a water skier and displayed whenever a skier is in the water.
- Tow ropes are not allowed to be trailed behind a boat and must be retrieved immediately after a skier has fallen or released the rope.
- Obey the "red flag" rules.
- Ensure all hand signals are known and understood.
 - Thumbs Up: Speed up the boat
 - Thumbs down: Slow down the boat
 - Slashing motion over neck: Cut motor, or stop (Used by skier, driver or observer)
 - Circle motion over head: Turn the boat (Used by skier, driver or observer)
 - Pat on the head: Return to dock
 - Skier Arms over head: I am ok after a fall
- No modification to craft for wakeboarding that might cause additional displacement or wave amplitude, resulting in damage to jetties, are permitted.
- No water-skier shall drop a ski except at a spot where the discard ski does not constitute a danger to any other skier or vessel.

FEES

- Annual fees for the use of this facilities are payable at the caravan park before launching of any boats
- The fees are determined by the board of trustees of the SHOA, and is subject to annual adjustment.

GENERAL

- The Breede River at Silwerstrand is a very narrow and short section of water in relation to the powerboating activity that takes place. It can be extremely dangerous unless everybody follows the rules and refrains from dangerous and social irresponsible behavior. All water users are asked to respect the situation.
- Music on boats must not create a nuisance or a disturbance. Please consider other users of the facilities.
- No loud noises before 8h00 in the morning.
- No person shall allow pollution of the water through fuel or oil spills
- No person shall Pollute the water or land with bottles, cans or garbage of any kind
- Children under the age of 5 years **must wear a suitable life jacket at all times whilst on board.**
- No powerboat shall pass within 10m of the swimming area as demarcated by the red buoys, other than at idling speed including in front of slipways.
- Blatant or continual disregard for and/or contravention of the above rules by any individual (s) swimming, launching their craft from and/or mooring it anywhere on the Silwerstrand property may lead to the Silwerstrand security officials removing the responsible individual(s) and/or the offending craft from the water.
- Further censure such as refusing entry to the estate for non-homeowners or the levying of a fine for homeowners may also be taken.
- Up to now, there have been no serious accidents at the Silwerstrand. The SHOA urges all users of the river to respect these rules and behave sensibly and courteously so that we can keep it that way. If you see anyone abusing the rules, please help by reporting the situation to the security officials at the entrance to the estate so that they can take the necessary action.

TURNING POINTS & STARTING POINT

- **Slalom Ski Starting points:**
 - At the Silwerstrand Holiday Resort (Caravan Park): South of the Slipway and the beach area (Past the beach area and not in front of the beach area)
 - By the Homeowners area, at the furthers point across the last houses.
- **Turning Points: Any other activity, including Tubing, wakeboarding, wake-skate and just driving:**
 - At the Silwerstrand Holiday Resort (Caravan Park) Across (North of the Slipway and the beach area) (Not past or in front of the beach area)
 - The above is the only restriction for these activities, but be considered for other water users.
- **Turning points: Slalom Ski**
 - At the same points as the Slalom Ski starting points

SILWERSTRAND HOMEOWNERS' MEMBERS & SHOA BOATCLUB

- SHOA members that want to make use of the facilities are regulated directly by the SHOA Boat Club administrated by the Silwerstrand Homeowners subcommittee, duly appointed by the SHOA board.
- All members of the Silwerstrand Homeowners association shall be required to annually apply for a permit to be issued in compliance with all the rules of the SHOA Boat Club. This will include compliance to the requirements of SAMSA in respect of such craft.
- The permit issued by the SHOA Boat Club must be displayed by the SHOA members at all times on the craft, as well as the towing vehicle when entering the Silwerstrand Caravan Park to ensure entrance.

JETTIES AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION ON THE RIVER BANK

- The reeds protect the riverbank, no unnecessary removal of reeds is permitted, without the approval of the SHOA.
- No member may erect a permanent or temporary construction of any kind, including stairs, steps, a jetty, or use a floating device as a mooring place on the riverbank within the estate, unless such construction detail was presented and approved in writing by the board of Trustees of the SHOA, in accordance with the prescribe procedure by the board.
- **River access area** in the Village (Where the Breede and Sand River meet) to be used by members of the SHOA not living on the riverbank, for boating and other water sport activities. This area is restricted to SHOA members only.

THANKING YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

SILWERSTRAND HOME OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

(Rules approved by the Board of Trustees of the Silwerstrand Home owners' association November 2021)

**ACKNOLEGEMENT OF THE RECREATIONAL WATER USE
AND SAFETY RULES AT SILWERSTRAND GOLF AND RIVER ESTATE,
INCLUSIVE OF VISITORS AND CAMPERS**

I, ID Number

Residential address

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acknowledge that I have received the recreational water and safety rules of the SILWERSTRAND GOLF AND RIVER ESTATE as approved by the Board of Trustees of the Silwerstrand Home owners' association.

I declared that I, and or any other person using my boat with my permission, will abide by these rules. I further declare that if any of the rules is not entirely clear to me, that I will first clarify the rules that is not entirely clear to me.

Signed at ROBERTSON, on Day of Month Year

Name:

Telephone: