Safety Rules for Motorboats, Personal Watercraft, and Other Small Watercraft

For everyone's safety, operators (captains) of motorboats, personal watercraft and other small watercraft are required by law to observe the following rules.

Act on Ships' Officers and Boats' Operators, Article 23, Paragraph 36

No Reckless Operation

- Do not create wake near swimmers.
- Do not go fast, make sharp turns, or zigzag near swimmers.
- Stay away from fishermen and manually powered watercraft.

No Operating While Intoxicated

Do not operate small watercraft when your alertness and judgment are significantly impaired; normal operation is not possible in this state.

- Drinking alcohol
- Illness
- Fatigue, etc.

Licensed Operators Only

No operating without a license

- Personal watercraft (all water areas)
- Boats (follow the Act on Port Regulations within the harbor, and the Maritime Traffic Safety Act while en route)

Wear a Life Jacket

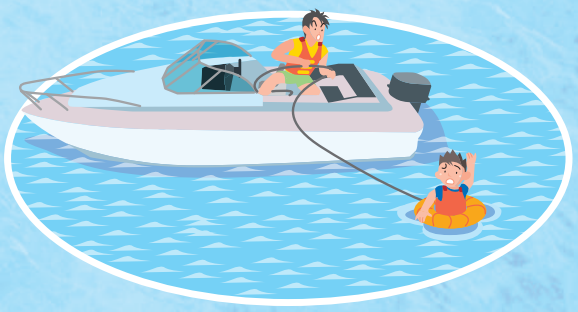
In general, all passengers outside the cabin must wear life jackets.

Pre-Departure Inspections

Before departure, inspect fuel and oil levels, weather, waterway information, the condition of the hull, etc.

Lifesaving

When an accident occurs, exercise necessary measures with the utmost priority on saving lives.



Lookouts

Always have a qualified lookout to watch the movements of other boats, the conditions of water areas, etc.

Administrative discipline (license suspension for up to 6 months) is imposed when rules are violated and the nature and frequency of the violation reaches certain criteria.

***For details, please visit the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism website** (http://www.mlit.go.jp/maritime/maritime_mn10_000002.html)

Failure to observe the Act on Ships' Officers and Boats' Operators, the Ship Safety Act, and the Prefectural Public Nuisance Ordinance and other laws may result in imprisonment, fines and other penalties.

Examples:

- Operating a small watercraft without the requisite license ····· **Fine of up to 300,000 yen**
- A boat owner allowing a non-licensed person to board and operate the boat ··· **Penalty of up to 6 months in prison, or a fine of up to 1 million yen**
- Failure to carry boat inspection certificates, proof of special modifications, and boat inspection logs onboard ····· **Fine of up to 200,000 yen**
- Operating a small watercraft without carrying the requisite license ····· **Fine of up to 100,000 yen**
- Reckless operation ····· **Penalty of up to six months in prison, or a fine of up to 500,000 yen**

Rules of the River have been formulated to prevent accidents and promote safety in the lower reaches of the Kiso Three Rivers.
Follow the rules, and take note of the following.

Do Not Disturb Local Residents

People live along the river.

- Do not operate boats at night or early in the morning
- Do not use personal watercraft that are loud due to illegal modifications, etc.

Do Not Disturb Fishermen

Fisherman operate throughout the year in all areas of the lower reaches of the Kiso Three Rivers.

- Give fishing boats, fishing grounds and fishing equipment a wide berth, and navigate carefully around them

Do Not Disturb Other People on the Water

There are many ways to enjoy rivers and riverbeds.

- Pay extra attention to your wake when passing near canoes, regattas and other manually powered watercraft.
- Do not park inconsiderately on riverbanks or do other things that disturb other people on the water (from May to October, parts of the bed of the Nagara River are used for triathlons)

Safety is Everyone's Responsibility

There are distinct dangers in the lower reaches of the Kiso Three Rivers.

- Stay away from the Nagaragawa Dam and its intakes
- Be careful in shallow areas, around spur dikes, and near training jetties at the river mouth

***Details on Rules of the River for the lower reaches of the Kiso Three Rivers can be found on the website of the Office of the Lower Reaches of the Kiso River in the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.**

Failure to follow rules and etiquette may result in the closure of the river in the future.

Council for the Use of the Kiso Three Rivers and their Mouths

Prefectures and municipalities along the river, public safety officials, fishermen, leisure organizations, recreational fishing organizations, river managers, park managers, etc.

Contact Occupancy Coordination Division of the Office for the Use of the Kiso Three Rivers and their Mouths in the Ministry of Land, Infraestructure, Transport and Tourism TEL: 0594-24-5718

URL. http://www.cbr.mlit.go.jp/kisokaryu/