

FROM THE DESK OF

Mary Rohan - LONG BEACH WAKE SPORTS CLUB

Dear Wakeboarders and Skiers,

Just to introduce myself,

I am **Mary Kate**, and I am the mom who volunteered at the public meeting last Thursday evening -- to help gather information and negotiate our interests for the **Marine Stadium**.

Just a quick background -- I have been a resident of Long Beach for 23 years and plan to be for many more. The Marine Stadium is my haven, not just for wakeboarding, but running, biking and viewing. Over the years more and more people have come to enjoy this prime waterway for a variety of uses.

As many of you know, the current *LB Municipal Code* only allows boats LESS THAN 21 FEET.

As an avid wakeboarder, I became involved with the city last June -- when I became passionate about allowing boats up to 23 feet since I am a *Mastercraft X-Star* owner. More wakeboarding boats are now over 21 feet, especially if you include the swim step.

The Length rule was not strictly enforced until last summer. Myself and others spoke to City Official, *Mr Mark Sandoval* -- about the need "to be forward looking" and change the code to include boats up to 23 feet (*not including the swim step*) since wakeboarding boats have changed over the years. They are larger -- but more responsive and *SAFER* than ever before!

Currently, this change to the Code is just waiting to be submitted to the city -- and if submitted and passed, should be ratified by January 2010. In the meantime, a new concern has come up.

The local Rowing Clubs have been working with the city to increase their hours of use within Marine Stadium, **during the school year**. They are proposing to **increase their exclusive hours to M-F sunset-9am and 3pm-sunset from Labor Day until Memorial Day**.

Therefore, during the school year powerboats would be restricted to the hours of 9am-3pm M-F and 8am-sunset on Sat and Sunday. During the summer, the hours would remain the same 8am-sunset. There is a VOTE planned for **Nov 12th** at the **Long Beach Yacht Club**.

I met personally today with *Mr. Sandoval* and representatives from the **Youth and Adult Rowing Clubs**, to voice our respective concerns -- and to be educated as to why such a change is being considered.

The biggest push is coming from the youth group that represents approximately 110 students that row for local high schools and need a *SAFER* area for sprints, since the current location is being impacted by more users, and the proposed build out of the Marina that will start next year.

I would like to ask you the WAKESPORT Enthusiasts & Boaters to evaluate your personal needs for our **Marine Stadium**. All parties to this are willing to negotiate -- ***but we must have a sound, cohesive and reasonable proposal.***

So I am asking for everyone's input and suggestion. I feel it would be very helpful to gather as much data as possible, to get a better idea of how people feel about these issues and what we the Wakesport Enthusiasts would like to see prioritized in the UPCOMING NEGOTIATION.

For example, would you rather ski/ wakeboard in the am or pm ? Are winter hours important to you? Are 2-3 afternoons a week enough evening hours? Would you like the 21 foot rule changed? As much input as possible is appreciated -- since we all have different needs and desires.

Please open the included **SURVEY**, that includes our **QUESTIONNAIRE**. Please fill out and add any comments or suggestions. Please forward to any friends or family that use the stadium.

Thank you,

Mary Kate Rohan

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