



# AUTORITA' DI BACINO DEL LARIO E DEI LAGHI MINORI

Cod. Fisc. 92045550131

Sede legale:  
Piazzale V. Emanuele, 4  
22017 MENAGGIO CO  
Tel: 0344-34161 – Fax 0344-32816

[www.autoritabacinolario.it](http://www.autoritabacinolario.it)  
[protocollo@autoritabacinolario.it](mailto:protocollo@autoritabacinolario.it)  
[autoritabacinolario@pec.regione.lombardia.it](mailto:autoritabacinolario@pec.regione.lombardia.it)

## ORDINANCE N. 1/2026

### THE DIRECTOR

HAVING REGARD TO the Italian Navigation Code (*Codice della Navigazione*), approved by Royal Decree No. 327 of 30 March 1942 (*R.D. 30 marzo 1942, n. 327*);

HAVING REGARD TO the Italian Boating Code (*Codice della nautica da diporto*), Legislative Decree No. 171/2005 (*D.Lgs. 171/2005*);

HAVING REGARD TO the Regional Law No. 6 of 4 April 2012 (*Legge Regionale n. 6 del 4 aprile 2012*);

HAVING REGARD TO the Order of the President of the Regional Government No. 58600 of 3 July 1997: "Regulation of Navigation on the Inland Waters of Lombardy" (*O.P.G.R. 58600 del 03.07.1997: "Disciplina della navigazione nelle acque interne lombarde"*);

HAVING ASCERTAINED that the significant increase in tourist activity within the Lake Como area (Lario) and the Minor Lakes in recent years has substantially raised the potential risk to public safety, in light of the simultaneous presence in the water of recreational boating and swimming activities carried out by numerous users;

HAVING NOTED that the aforementioned regulations do not contain specific prohibitions on bathing and swimming in port areas and in the vicinity of mooring, embarkation/disembarkation structures, and regulated docking stations for vessels; and that it is therefore necessary to regulate, by means of a specific ordinance, aspects relating to the protection of swimmers and boaters, for the purpose of safeguarding public safety and security;

HAVING NOTED likewise the significant and parallel increase in the use of so-called small recreational craft (including, by way of example, paddle boats, small rowing boats, dinghies, pedal boats, canoes, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards (SUP), self-propelled or non-self-propelled boards, windsurfers, kitesurfers, eFoils, and sailing craft with a sail area not exceeding 4 square metres), the widespread and generalised use of which may similarly give rise to potentially hazardous situations;

HAVING REGARD TO the current regulations governing tourist and recreational activities on beaches and in the adjacent lake areas, as well as the safety rules for recreational navigation, which are hereby fully incorporated by reference and which grant specific powers to the Basin Authority (*Autorità di Bacino*), particularly regarding the power to issue Ordinances and to exercise supervisory functions;

ACKNOWLEDGING that, for matters not expressly provided for in this provision, the relevant international, national, and regional regulations shall remain unaffected;

HAVING REGARD in particular to Article 57, paragraph 1, of Regional Law No. 6 of April 4, 2012 (*Legge Regionale n. 6 del 4 aprile 2012*);

### ORDERS

#### Art. 1 - Use of Piers

With the exception of personnel in charge of supervisory functions, emergency operations, management, and maintenance of the facility, access to public mooring and loading/unloading piers shall be permitted exclusively to persons involved in boarding/disembarking and/or mooring operations of vessels, and strictly for the time necessary to transit between the vessel and the shore and vice versa. Minors shall at all times be accompanied by an adult. Access to the piers for purposes other than those described above is expressly prohibited, including, by way of example, fishing by any means or method, bathing, swimming, diving, sunbathing, unjustified loitering or access, as well as the storage and/or handling of materials or substances that may obstruct passage or pose a risk to the safety of persons or to the environment.

## **Art. 2 – General Conduct for Bathing/Swimming**

When engaging in bathing and swimming activities, regardless of the presence of a lifeguard, all users shall observe the principle of ordinary prudence and shall accordingly adopt responsible conduct in order to prevent harm to themselves and to third parties. Particular attention shall be paid to one's physical condition and swimming skills and abilities in relation to the natural characteristics of the lake environment (including a lakebed that slopes sharply even a short distance from the shore, the instability of bottom sediment deposits, morphological irregularities of the lakebed, the presence of currents and winds generating wave motion, low water temperature, etc.), as well as to the constant supervision of minors while in the water.

Without prejudice to the principles set out in the preceding paragraph, bathing and swimming activities shall be permitted, without specific formal requirements, within the lake area extending up to 50 metres from the shoreline. Beyond that limit, swimmers shall be required to equip themselves with a marker equivalent to that prescribed for diving activities (a red floating buoy displaying a red flag with a white diagonal stripe, attached by a line not exceeding 3 metres in length) or, alternatively, with an appropriate floating device in a colour clearly contrasting with the surrounding lake environment. The use of a signalling float may be omitted only if the swimmer(s) is constantly accompanied by a support vessel located no further than 5 metres away. Such vessel must have at least one proficient swimmer on board and be equipped with specific lifesaving gear (floats and/or lifebuoys with lines) ready for immediate use.

Within beach resorts or bathing establishments where the water area designated for bathing and swimming activities is clearly demarcated, the specific safety rules established by the operator shall be observed.

## **Art. 3 – Bathing/Swimming Prohibitions**

Bathing and swimming activities shall at all times be prohibited in lake areas where there is objective interference with public and recreational navigation. In particular, bathing and swimming is forbidden:

- in ports, their immediate vicinities, and navigable access and exit routes;
- in areas adjacent to piers, buoy fields, and facilities/areas designated for the mooring of vessels;
- in areas adjacent to piers used for scheduled public navigation services, with particular reference to zones affected by vessel approach and departure routes;
- in all areas where a bathing/swimming prohibition results from conditions or restrictions imposed by other public authorities for different reasons (e.g. water pollution, temporary construction sites, nautical events, etc.).

## **Art. 4 – Small Recreational Crafts**

The provisions set out in Title IV, paragraphs 1, 2 and 4, of the Order of the President of the Regional Government No. 58600 of 3 July 1997 " (O.P.G.R. 58600 del 03.07.1997), concerning operational limitations and related obligations, shall be deemed applicable to all categories of small recreational craft (including, by way of example, paddle boats, small rowing boats, dinghies, pedal boats, canoes, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards (SUP), self-propelled or non-self-propelled boards, windsurfers, kitesurfers, eFoils, and sailing craft with a sail area not exceeding 4 square metres).

The use of the small recreational craft referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be permitted only during daylight hours and in conditions of good visibility, from one hour after sunrise until sunset. Operators shall navigate in such a manner as not to create hazardous situations or obstruction to navigation or bathing and swimming activities and, for that purpose, shall at all times maintain a minimum distance of 10 metres from one another.

Operators shall at all times wear an approved life jacket and may carry additional persons on board, likewise equipped with approved life jackets, only where expressly permitted by the manufacturer of the small recreational craft.

It shall be prohibited to operate small recreational craft along the routes of scheduled service vessels, within ports and in their vicinity, as well as within areas demarcated and reserved for specific uses.

The use of small recreational craft shall at all times be prohibited in the presence of, or upon the imminent arrival of, potentially hazardous weather conditions, where such conditions are objectively and clearly recognisable by any person at the time navigation is commenced.

### **Art. 5 – Nautical Races and Events**

This Ordinance shall not apply to nautical races and events relating to bathing, swimming, or the use of small recreational craft, which shall instead be governed by the specific requirements laid down at the time of issuance of the mandatory authorisation required under Article 91 of Presidential Decree No. 631 of 28 June 1949 (*ex Art. 91 del Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica 28 giugno 1949, n. 631*).

### **Art. 6 – Sanctions**

Non-compliance with this Ordinance, unless the act constitutes a criminal offense or violates other regulations, shall be punished by the administrative sanction provided for by Article 57, paragraph 3, of Regional Law No. 6 of 4 April 2012 (*Legge Regionale n. 6 del 4 aprile 2012*) (administrative fine ranging from €60.00 to €600.00).

### **Art. 7 – Final Provisions**

This Ordinance shall take effect in all lake areas under the jurisdiction of the Basin Authority (*Autorità di Bacino del Lario e dei Laghi Minori*) (Lake Como, Lake Novate Mezzola, Lake Montorfano, Lake Alserio, Lake Pusiano, Lake Segrino, Lake Annone, Lake Garlate, Lake Olginate) and shall enter into force as of the date of its publication on the Authority's official website. It shall also be transmitted, for due information and dissemination, to the member entities of the Authority, to non-member coastal Municipalities, to the Police Forces, and to the relevant Prefectures, Police Headquarters, and Fire Department Commands.

Within the framework of its organisational activities, the Basin Authority shall, including in coordination with the relevant Local Authorities, arrange for the installation of appropriate warning signage in the most significant lake areas.

It is the duty of anyone concerned to observe and ensure the observance of this Ordinance.

Menaggio, 20 February 2026

f.to **IL DIRETTORE**  
(Dott. Franco Binaghi)