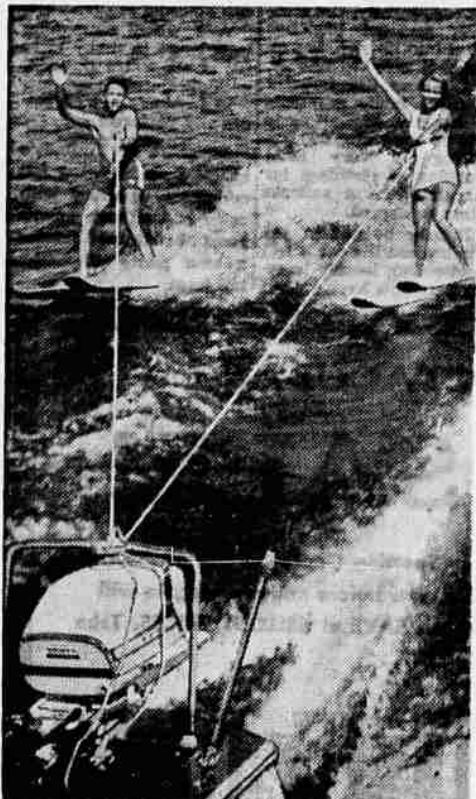


Boating and Water Skiing Are Popular Go-Together Sports

Water skiing, with its exhilarating combination of speed, spray, water and sun, is lots of fun. Thousands of people are taking up skiing making it the country's fastest growing water sport.



SKIING FUN—The bigger outboard motors are largely responsible for the growing popularity of water skiing. It's an exciting new and exhilarating sport easily learned by people of all ages. The special ski hitch shown keeps the tow ropes clear of the motor and the wake.

Almost anyone who can swim can learn to ski well enough to enjoy the sport. People of both sexes and all ages have no difficulty in picking up the few simple techniques that enable them to share in the thrills of water skiing.

Almost any kind of boat can be used, provided it is suitable for the motor that powers it. Motors of 10 hp can tow a skier weighing up to about 110 pounds, and 25 hp or more is usually needed to get a 170-pound man up.

The skis are equipped knees bent, arms straight, with adjustable foot bindings made of rubber that slip off easily. There is no record of anyone being seriously injured in the usual types of water skiing.

The best place to learn the technique of getting up on top of the water on skis is on dry land.

Trick to skiing

The trick is to keep the knees bent, arms straight, and weight balanced over the feet, while allowing the rope to pull you upright. The movement is similar to getting up evenly from a low chair and should be repeated until it becomes easy and natural.

Then try the same thing in about 3 feet of water. The important thing here is not to pull up on the tow bar but to keep the arm straight and let the boat do the pulling.

Skis are steered somewhat like roller skates, by leaning the body in the direction of the turn. When the new skier has

learned to turn from side to side inside the boat's wake, he is ready to try crossing the wake. To do this, he pulls to the opposite side and turns sharply toward the mound of water at nearly a right angle, with his knees relaxed and bent

to absorb the shock, his weight slightly forward. Stopping is the simplest part of water skiing. When near the shore, dock or float, the skier merely lets go of the tow bar.

Most beginners master the technique of starting, turning, crossing the wake and stopping with only an hour or two of practice. Then they are ready to join in the fund of wonderful water skiing!

The Outboard Boating Club of America recommends a check to be certain the outboard motor is placed correctly. To operate efficiently it should be in the exact center of the transom with the drive shaft vertical to the water while running. If the motor is tilted backward, the bow will dig in; if it is tilted forward, the stern will squat.

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