

# Wake up to Holloway's cable park

Wakeboarders get a lift—literally—at new water park with pulley-driven cable that's a boon for beginner and advanced riders alike

Less than half an hour after Jacob and Tyler Nussbaum arrived at the new Wakeboard Cable Park at Holloway's Marina, they were bonafide wakeboarders.

The brothers from La Canada, ages 8 and 6 respectively, were getting up out of the water and carving turns in a fraction of the amount of time it would take to learn on Big Bear Lake. "We got here and 20-30 minutes later they were up, thanks to awesome instruction," mom Wendy said.

The cable-driven wake park has been allowing riders of all abilities to make quite a splash since its grand opening on August 6. Essentially it's wakeboarding without a

boat, and whether you're a first-timer like the Nussbaum brothers, or an advanced level wakeboarder, the cable lets riders age five or older to get in all the rides they can handle, allowing for repetition that's just not possible behind a boat.

"In the beginning it was hard finding which way to turn the board," Jacob said. "But they taught me to bend my

knees, lean back and straighten my arms."

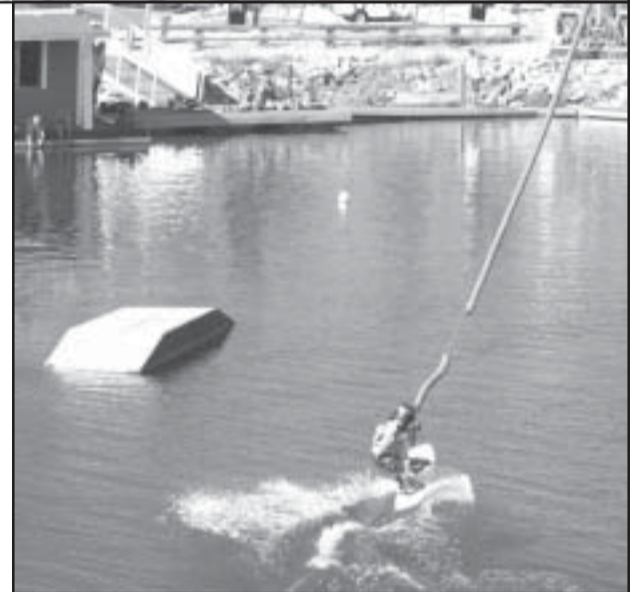
"All the basics are the same in the park as they are behind the boat," said Loren Hafen of Holloway's Marina. "Behind a boat people do the wrong things over and over. Here, they get the feeling of being pulled up. It relaxes them to help them get up. It's so much easier to learn, people who have boats come in to learn here, and then go back to apply what they've learned."

That was the Nussbaums in a nutshell. "They've already learned so much," Wendy said of her boys. "It's built confidence for when they get behind our boat."

In the quiet cove at Holloway's where



(Clockwise from above) Thad Epting shows how it's done; a bird's-eye view of the cable park; Lucas Holland hits a box



the wakeboard park is located, conditions are always ideal with glassy water instead of chop that hampers learning on the lake. There's no boats to worry about so riders who go one at a time can concentrate on getting better.

Some 300 feet of cable runs between two towers, powered by a super quiet electric motor that drives two bullwheels, similar to a ski chairlift. The cable system, manufactured by German company Rixen, the world's top manufacturer for wake parks, lifts riders up and out of the water. If they fall, the operator flips the off switch and can maneuver the tow line back to the rider.

Even advanced wakeboarders hang out at Holloway's wake park, where there's boxes and jibs to hit, just like snowboarders

enjoy during winter on terrain parks. "You can learn tricks quicker in the wake park, because the cable lets you repeat over and over and over," Hafen said.

"In five minutes you can learn a new trick," he said. "That's like a 30 minute session behind a boat. You get more water time in a shorter amount of time. What you

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