

SAN LUIS YACHT CLUB
CHASE/COMMITTEE BOAT PROCEDURES
5-29-2009

Preparing The Boat & Trailer to Tow

- I Boat & Trailer Inspection
 - a. Attach Trailer to Ball and Lock.
 - b. Attach lights and test.
 - c. Attach safety cables.
 - d. Insure drain plug is installed. *******
 - e. Turn battery switch to #2 position.
 - f. Check fuel level.
 - g. Engine fully up and locked.
 - h. Tie downs snug down.
 - i. Tire pressure ~40psi.

- II. Gear in Boat
 - a. 6 Personal Flotation Devices (Life Jackets)
 - b. One “throwable” flotation cushion
 - c. Fire Extinguisher
 - d. Race maps if needed
 - e. Dock Lines and fenders
 - f. Towing Line and Bridle
 - g. Boat Hook and portable boat ladder
 - h. Anchor and rode (anchor line)
 - i. Wash down hose and nozzle
 - j. Bimini Top (if desired)
 - k. VHF radio and depth finder
 - l. Flares and a blanket

Launching Boat at Lakes

- I Preparation to Launch
 - a. Back boat trailer to 20-50' from water.
 - b. Remove boat tie downs front and back.
 - c. Raise engine slightly and disengage engine up latch.
 - d. Pump fuel bulb on engine.
 - e. Attach lines to cleats on boat.
 - f. Attach fenders as needed
 - g. Raise Bimini top if desired.
 - h. Make sure drain plug is installed *******
 - i. Back trailer into water until boat starts to float
 - j. Feather brakes on vehicle to help boat slide off
 - k. Lower engine to lowest position and start motor
 - l. Insure a stream of engine circulation water is flowing from rear of outboard.**

- II. Pulling boat out of water
 - a. Back trailer to launch ramp.
 - b. Release strap to pull boat on trailer ~20'.
 - c. Raise engine.
 - d. Guide on to trailer with dock lines (or drive on trailer).
 - e. Attach strap to boat! Shut down engine.
 - f. Winch boat onto trailer to bow roller.
 - g. Pull trailer out 20-50' and check boat/trailer alignment.
 - h. Re-launch if not correct.
 - i. Remove plug to drain water from bilge.
 - j. Pull trailer to flat ground and secure back tie downs.
 - k. Engage engine up latch (lock).
 - l. Stow gear adrift (Bimini Top/Fenders/PFDs etc)

Launching boat at Portside Marine

- I Preparation for launch
 - a. Prepare boat in parking lot
 - b. Remove boat ties front and back
 - c. Raise Bimini top if installed
 - d. Attach dock lines and fenders
 - e. Make sure drain plug in installed *******
 - f. Tow trailer to hoist area
 - g. Line up trailer with lifting harness
 - h. Lower motor about Y2 way
 - i. When launched, walk boat forward with dock lines until clear of harnesses and cleat boat to dock.
 - j. Park trailer in designated trailer parking area.
 - k. Lower motor to full down position.
 - l. Pump fuel bulb on engine and start
 - m. Insure a stream of engine circulation water is flowing from the rear of the outboard.**

- II. Retrieving boat
 - a. Bring trailer to hoist area
 - b. Turn off boats outboard engine
 - c. Raise motor about Y2 way
 - d. Walk boat backward into harness
 - e. Line up harness with guidelines & raise boat
 - f. Align boat front and back with trailer
 - g. Attach front and rear safety straps
 - h. Raise motor to full up position and engage latch
 - i. Move boat & trailer to parking lot
 - j. Remove plug to drain ocean water from bilge
 - k. Stow gear adrift (Bimini, fenders, PFD's, docklines)

Normal Boating Procedures

I. Water Taxi Operations

- a. The maximum number of people on board is 6.
- b. Turn on VHF radio and depth sounder.
- c. Complete radio check.
- d. Keep wake to a minimum in mooring field.
- e. Approach moored boats into the wind **slowly**.
- f. Deploy fenders prior to contact with moored boats.

II. Conduct During Races

- a. Turn on VHF radio and depth sounder.
- b. Complete radio check and establish radio communication with race committee.
- c. Secure all items in boat for heavy seas.
- d. Set racing marks if needed.
- e. Assist racing boats to the start line if needed.
- f. During races, position boat to be able to respond to both small and large boats as they will be on different courses.
- g. Always slowly approach upwind, any vessel, person or object in the water. This will prevent running into or over the object or person in the water.

III. Rescue Procedures.

- a. Always notify the race committee by radio that you are leaving station to provide assistance to one of our racers. They will help monitor the other racing boats while your attention is being directed to your task.
- b. When approaching a vessel or person in the water, always approach upwind and do it very slowly. This will help prevent running into or over the object in the water.
- c. To rescue a person in the water, throw them the “throwable” cushion. Never throw a PFD to a person in the water as the wind will blow it away. The boat hook can also be employed to assist a person in the water.
- d. Use the portable boarding ladder to bring a person aboard if the individual is capable of climbing it.
- e. If the person is incapable of climbing the ladder use the following procedure: Insure the motor is turned off. Maneuver the person to the rear of the boat (the boat hook can be employed to assist) and prepare to use the boats swim step. Turn the person so that their back is to the swim step. Grab the person by their PFD (if they are wearing one) or under the arms and raise them until they are clear of the water and into the cockpit of the boat.
- f. If you have an injured person on board, **call the Harbor Patrol on channel 16 immediately** and let them know the situation.
- g. If you need assistance with towing or righting a boat, do not hesitate to request assistance from the Harbor Patrol. They are there to help.

Your primary responsibility is to assist the people and boats that are participating in the SLYC races.

DO:

- *Be vigilant and monitor the events of the entire race.
- *Report any potential safety issues that you observe to the race committee immediately.
- * Keep talk to a minimum to avoid distracting other observers on the boat.
- *Provide assistance to any vessel or person at any time during a race **if it is a true emergency.** Be sure to immediately notify the Harbor Patrol and the Race Committee of the emergency.

DON'T:

- *No alcohol is to be consumed by the boat operators while acting in the capacity of a chase boat, committee boat or water taxi operation.
- *No fishing is to be conducted during chase or committee boat operations.
- *No music is to be played during chase boating operations. We need you to be able to monitor communications.
- *Do not leave your station without letting the race committee know of your intentions.
 - *The boats and participants in SLYC races have priority while the races are under way. Should a vessel that is not participating in our races need a tow, assist them by calling the Harbor Patrol. **Do not leave our racers unless it is an emergency.**