

THUNDER BAY YACHT CLUB

Box 29136, Thunder Bay, ON, Canada, P7B 6P9



May 22, 2020

TBYC Launch Protocol During COVID 19

The Covid-19 virus has impacted pretty much every part of our lives and launching our boats this season is no exception. However, with a few extra steps and a bit of care, we can move ahead safely and get our boats in the water. Please keep in mind that some things may take a bit more time, and that some things will need to be done differently, but it's all in an effort to protect each other and ensure we can enjoy being out on the water together instead of stuck in our homes!

In order to comply with current Government requirements the following protocol for Launch activities are in effect. The key factors guiding this protocol are: maintaining a social distance of 2m, limiting groups to no more than absolutely necessary to perform the job safely, ideally no more than 5 people, and wearing appropriate PPE in situations where distance can not be maintained, or the activity presents some other elevated risk such as common touch points.

COVID Launch Policies

- No one who has respiratory symptoms or other symptoms of COVID-19 is permitted to be on site.
- All participants, including the Lift Operator, Assistant, Boat Owner and Crew shall have masks available to wear should the 2 m distance not be maintained and work gloves must be worn during all Launch, Mast Stepping, and Pump-Out operations. The Lift Operator may remove their mask when at the controls as it is important they be able to communicate clearly.
- All individuals to supply their own masks and gloves.
- Maximum crew of 3 for launch activities, the Boat Owner and up to 2 of their crew, plus the Lift Operator and Assistant makes 5.
- All common touch points / tools require environmental cleaning. For example the poles used to steady the boat during launch. A spray bottle of household sanitizer/disinfectant with a DIN number will be provided. Please use the spray bottle after using the tools and touch points.
- Maximum of 5 for mast stepping. So, 4 on the mast, one at the winch control.

There are a few masts in the yard that are big enough, or on a high enough rack, to need more than 5 people to shift them from the rack to the dolly safely. Please do

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everything you can to find a way to make this work and don't involve more than 5 people unless it is absolutely essential to the safety of this activity.

- Maximum of 3 for pump out operations. One at the switch, one on the hose/valve, and one to be inside the boat to monitor the tank and do whatever else is needed.

- Brief teamwork items such as connecting slings, or passing a line, are OK as long as all parties are wearing masks and gloves. It is strongly encouraged to try and perform all tasks solo but sometimes it is safer to have more than one pair of hands involved than to fumble with something alone. We rely on Members to be responsible in this area.

- The Lift Operator, Assistant, and any other participants, are empowered to stop working with anyone who is not distancing, not wearing a mask and gloves when appropriate, or if they feel there is not a way to safely do a task. We should not expect people to compromise their own safety for convenience, or because someone else doesn't feel these precautions are necessary. If we all take this seriously, and make it a part of our conscious effort when working together, we can get through this quickly and safely.

Thank you in advance to all TBYC Members for what I know will be an extra effort at a time when we already have more than enough to think about.

TBYC Board
Launch and Haul Director