

GETAWAY SAILING CLUB

Procedures for Usage of Club Boats (5/22/07)



These notes are meant to facilitate the process of reserving a boat of your choice, checking it out at the marina, returning it and checking in.

Our goal is to provide the best service of any sailing club in the Chesapeake Bay region. If you encounter any problem or inconvenience, or wish to make a suggestion, we will listen carefully and take appropriate action.

It is our plan to have a qualified Getaway employee, a Dock Master (DM), at the Getaway Marina Friday evenings, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays for the "sailing period" (9 am to 7 pm). To the extent possible we hope to staff the marina during the week (M-F) as well. As stated in the club membership contract, boats can be taken out between the hours of 9 am and 7 pm. Therefore in order to sail after 7 pm you must check the boat out before 7 pm.

Making a Reservation

You can make a reservation on-line, by calling Getaway at 410-342-3110 or by coming down to our office. Making a reservation in advance of coming to the marina is highly recommended; however, it's all right to phone us from the marina in case you didn't get around to making a reservation in advance; but don't be surprised if the boat you want is already reserved.

You are not allowed to take out a boat without an approved reservation. We will not make any exceptions to this rule.

We encourage you to use the on-line reservation system. If you have any questions about using it please ask and we will lead you through it. Of course, if you would rather phone us or stop by that's fine but when you use the online system it is easier for us.

To access the on-line reservation system, open the website, www.getawaysailing.com. On the front page click on Club Members Reserve a Boat. You will be asked to fill in your email address and password. Call Getaway if you don't have a password or if you have forgotten it; or follow the instructions below and your password will be emailed to you. When you have successfully logged in a page will come up with a list of the boats in the fleet. Follow the instructions to determine the availability of the boat you want on the day you want it. You will also have the opportunity to learn about any boat in the fleet by clicking on "information".

Placing the reservation is very simple and the record of your reservation will be immediately available to the Getaway staff. Remember you can have up to two reservations pending at any time.

Getting Your Boat on the Day of Your Reservation

When you arrive contact the Dock Master (DM) on duty. He/she will give you a clipboard with the check-out form. Please check the equipment and condition of your boat to see if it is as recorded on the check-out form. When you are satisfied, sign the form and hand it back to the DM.

There will be times when the DM is not at the Getaway Marina when you arrive. In this case please call Getaway, 410-342-3110. We will either send someone to check you out or direct you to pick up the check-out clipboard from the storage box next to the gangway. After signing the check-out form you are ready to get underway.

Please note that the DM is there to help you in any way he/she can. If you have any questions about the boat and/or concerns about sailing/powering out of the marina, please don't hesitate to ask. In order to serve as a DM, he/she has had to pass a stringent set of tests and will be familiar with all of the boats in the fleet and the best techniques to take the boat out of the marina. (You may want to read the tips at the end of this document.)

Returning your boat

Always fill out the Boat Return Report form and give it to the DM along with the keys. If you return before 9 am or after 7 pm, or if the DM is not at the Marina when you return, place the Boat Return Report form and the keys in the box near the gangway to the marina.

We are always doing our best to maintain and improve the service provided to club members so your comments on the Boat Return Report form are carefully reviewed.

Please secure your boat in its slip with bow and stern lines and spring line and place fenders so that they will prevent the boat from rubbing against another boat or the pier. Remove food from the refrigerator and other trash, lock the boat and coil lines. We have been very pleased with the manner in which the club members have treated the boats in the fleet. Thank you.

Boats without running lights (all Sonars and Ideal 18s and some CALs) must be back at the marina by the time the sun goes down. The Coast Guard will ticket you if you are out after sunset without lights. ☹️

Returning a Sonar:

Sail up to the T-head into the wind so that you can come to a stop before you step off to manage the lines. As soon as you are on the dock and have put a turn around a cleat, drop the main so that it doesn't flog unnecessarily. You may or may not want to drop the jib before coming in. Always release the outhaul (if left tensioned it will stretch the foot), the vang and the backstay (if left tensioned it will eventually put a permanent bend in the mast). After the topping lift is in place, pull the mainsheet snug. Do not tension the mainsheet because it will put a permanent bend in the boom.

Fold the jib properly and return it to the cuddy cabin.

While at sea

If you have a problem while at sea, please call Getaway, 410-342-3110. We don't have a chase boat but sometimes we can give you good advice. If it is not between 9 am and 7 pm you may call Dick at 443-668-6686. It is your responsibility to know how to contact the Coast Guard if the problem is life threatening.

If you need a tow please call SEA TOW at 410-574-4188 or (cell) 410-409-4972.

Tips and Techniques for Getting Underway

Remember; ask the DM for assistance if you have any concern about getting your boat out of the marina. The following tips are just a few notes that may be helpful.

All Boats

The first step is to check to see if there is a PFD for everyone who will be aboard. Children should wear PFDs suitable to their weight. We have a collection of children's PFD for you to use.

Go through the check-out sheet to assure yourself that all of the equipment is on board and in working condition.

Check the weather carefully before you leave the marina. You may decide to reef the main. It's a lot easier and safer to reef at the marina than when you are at sea with a wet and pitching deck. It's easy to shake out a reef.

Although we follow a system of maintenance and inspections you should always check the standing and running rigging.

Sonars

Sonars should have ground tackle and a paddle on board.

Always move the Sonar to the T-head before shoving off. Orient the boat as close to "into-the-wind" as possible. Release any tension on the mainsheet so that the sail will flog when it is raised. Raising a main with wind in it is hard on you, hard on

the sail and rigging and will label you as an inexperienced seaman. ☹ Do not tension the mainsheet until the boat is fully clear of the dock, i.e. don't bring in the mainsail until you are moving in the direction you intend to sail.

Some Never Do's:

- Never raise the main while in the slip
- Never sail into or out of a slip
- Never leave the dock until the main is up and ready to sail

Before you get underway make a plan. Try to predict what the boat will do when you shove off. Remember the rudder doesn't work until there is water rushing past it; and, since the boat is pointing into the wind it will first start to drift backwards so keep the stern line tensioned until your sail is filled with wind and you begin to move forward.

Remember, if you have any concern about sailing away from the dock please ask the DM for advice. Have a wonderful sail. ☺

CAL 22s

Two of the CALs are outfitted for overnight sailing, Timeless and Jenny Anne. Daisy and Laurel should be used for daysailing only.

Since you will be powering out, you will probably not raise the main until you are at sea and clear of obstacles.

Cruising boats

You will be powering out of the marina. It is wise to make sure that the ground tackle is ready for use. If the engine quits even momentarily you will need the anchor to prevent the boat from drifting and possibly sustaining damage.

Other Notes

Provisioning

The location of the Getaway Marina makes provisioning a breeze. If you are getting lots of food you are welcome to take the Getaway cart to the Safeway. If you know you will be in a hurry we will provision your boat for you. Just give us a call. It will help if you have a list of what you want. We can supply alcoholic beverages and ice.

Parties/Celebrations

As a member of the club you are welcome to hold a party at the Getaway Marina or at the Events Tent at the barge where our offices are located. If it's the latter you can dock your boat(s) at the main pier. You must avoid getting in the way of the fuel dock and boats being serviced there. For your party we can provide food and beverages, music, and tables and chairs – also balloons, etc.

Regattas

You might want to schedule a regatta for your group of friends, colleagues or employees. A friendly bit of competition can be an excellent way to spend an afternoon on the water. If you wish you can rent some of the Sonars and run the races on your own or you can ask us to plan a TeamSail Regatta. Information on the TeamSail Regatta is available on the website, www.getawaysailing.com.

One of the reasons sailing is so much fun is that there is so much to learn. It is a lifetime adventure. Every time to go sailing you will learn something new.

We believe that sailing is tonic for the sole.