

Dalhousie Yacht Club – Visitor Information

Welcome to the Dalhousie Yacht Club. We are delighted to have you dock with us and you are cordially invited to make use of our facilities during your visit at our Club. We hope that you enjoy your stay at Port Dalhousie and that you will come again. Our members and our staff will be happy to answer your questions.

Upon arrival visiting skippers will make their arrival known to the Staff at our Harbour Office. You will be asked for information about yourself and your yacht; and will be asked for your membership ID for the Club where you belong. The privileges of our Club are available to you as a member from a Club with a reciprocal agreement – and to your crew. Please say how long you intend to stay. **Our reciprocal policy** is to provide two nights with no charge and subsequent nights charged at \$1.00 per foot. Non-reciprocal vessels are charged \$1.25 per foot each night.

Remember that safety and security for your crew, your yacht, and yourself is your responsibility.

Debit card, Visa, and MasterCard or cash may be used for all of your purchases during your stay.

The Club provides access **keys and codes** for security reasons. The goal is to ensure that only authorized persons are on the docks and using the facilities. Therefore it is important that the gates and doors are not blocked open, and strangers do not enter with us.

Washrooms and showers are located in the Harbour Office and at the wooden docks (B docks) on the west side. Doors are locked.

The Harbour Office sells **ice for \$2.50** per bag. We supply fuel and pumpout service.

Our docks have **30 amp power** and water is conveniently spaced along the docks.

A club boat is available to take you across the channel during regular business hours. Go to the Harbour Office, or call VHF channel 68, or phone 905 934 8325. An employee will get you to or from your dock. Remember, they have other work to do, and may not be available immediately. The walkway around the harbour is an enjoyable fifteen minutes stroll from the west side docks to the clubhouse.

Dogs are not allowed in the clubhouse and must be kept on a leash on Club property, under the care and control of the owner.

Visitors are welcome to use the Club's **common areas** including: the area nearby the clubhouse, the grass area nearby the Harbour Office, the west wall dock areas by the walkway gate, the wooden docks patio areas, and the grass area nearby the east side docks, at the yard north of the launch ramps.

The docks **on the wall** beside the Club are popular with visitors. Boaters with reciprocal privileges often prefer to use these docks for the convenience of docking in the channel and the easy access to the restaurant and lounge. The small boat crane is also located in that area and boaters launching or pulling their boat have preference for the dock.

Visitors who plan to leave their **boats unattended** for any period more than three hours must provide a contact number where DYC Staff may reach you.

The Restaurant, Lounge, and Patio are open to visitors during the posted business hours. The Restaurant has lunch and dinner menus. Children are welcome. Dress code is smart casual. Reservations are recommended but not essential.

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Our boat **slips are close together** placing members next to members, visiting boaters, and the public using the walkways nearby the docks. Every boater must understand that your actions have an impact on those close to you. Loud music, boisterous and inappropriate language or behavior is not welcome anywhere at the club. Respect normal hours of quiet times and allow everyone to enjoy their time at the club. Every boater is an ambassador for the Dalhousie Yacht Club; be a good neighbor.

Conveniently located **barbecues** are available for everyone's use. You may use an onboard, marine barbecue, with gas fuel only.

We are not allowed to **carry drinks** into or out of any licensed area of the club. The roped off section of the patio with tables and chairs, adjacent to the lounge, is licensed and the grass area on the north side of the building is also a licensed area. The usual laws apply to people on boats that are docked along the east wall. The fenced off docks and the common areas are club private property and boaters are allowed to have their drinks in those areas.

DOCKING IN THE CURRENT - The water from Twelve Mile Creek feeds into Martindale Pond and then spills into the harbour at the Haywood Generating Station and at the raceway beside Lincoln Fabrics. The volume of water flowing from the creek changes daily, causing the effects of the current to be unpredictable. It is not unusual for the water level and current to change in just a few minutes, several times in one day. After a little practice, the present water conditions are easy to recognize. The narrowing of the harbour channel in the vicinity of the clubhouse restricts the flow, causing the water to curl back upstream and the current reverses in an area along the west wall. The change in direction is obvious as you approach the north end of B docks. The wind direction may also affect your docking maneuvers. A strong north wind can create waves in the channel and lift your boat against the current. On these days it is best to dock away from the clubhouse, further up in the harbour.

Docking in a side current, on the west side finger docks, is where the eddy currents affect your boat handling technique. First determine if the current will push you against the dock, or off the dock. Look at the boats

nearby your slip to see how they are resting on their dock lines. How was your boat handling in the channel? On most days wind is not a factor but a strong north wind, or strong east wind, will affect your approach.

Since going into the current allows better control of your speed and steering, many members go into the basin and do a 180° turn, and approach A & B docks from the south. Do not be too far out; start your turn about one boat length out. You will need controlled boat speed to steer through the sideways push from the current.

When you expect that the current will push you away from the dock be sure to have your boat hook at hand, especially when you are without an agile crewmember. Dock lines should be ready, and crew duties discussed.

Remember, **DYC members** are always willing to spend some time with you, so that you will be more confident getting your yacht on and off the dock. We are all aware that one of the key memories of a positive visit is the friendly boaters who step forward to help or just say hello. Visiting boaters (and members) always appreciate help. The current in the channel may be challenging, especially on the finger docks. As members, we try to help minimize every boater's anxiety when docking.