

Thunder Bay Yacht Club (TBYC) ... Safety Awareness Document

Safety is everyone's responsibility and safe work practices aid both individual and the overall club. The following identifies some common tasks and activities and related safety considerations as guidance to members and an aspect of due diligence.

All members, employees, contractors, and visitors should commit to working safely, and must be aware that there is a degree of risk inherent in boating activities and within the TBYC boatyard, and that by entering the yard acknowledge they accept those risks.

Please observe the safety aspects below and make your guests aware of issues and hazards. Please report any observed safety issues or concerns.

General yard safety ... Children must be supervised at all times. All dogs must be on leash at all times. Drive cautiously and slowly through the yard. Alcohol and related substances shall be used responsibly. Know the location (clubhouse entrance) of phone and AED (automated external defibrillator). In an emergency send someone to ensure the gate is opened and to direct emergency services.

General work planning ... Ensure safety is part of your job or project. Ask '*what are the risks and what could go wrong?*' ... '*what procedures or equipment can be used to prevent or minimize hazards?*' ... '*what protective equipment should be used?*' Consider the safety aspects of **Identify, Eliminate, Control, Protect**. Discuss work plans, hazards, and procedures with anyone assisting you.

TBYC related work ... Safety glasses and work gloves are a recommended minimum requirement for any TBYC project work or volunteer task (safety boots are advised). Work plans and procedures should be discussed. Life-jackets should be worn by those working off-shore and with tasks needing work over the side of the boat, i.e., mooring placements/removals (an extra change of clothing, blankets, and warm drinks would be advised on board).

Boat tasks and maintenance ... Use appropriate respiratory, eye, face, hand, and foot protection for the nature of the work. Use and store chemicals safely. Dispose of oils and chemical products appropriately. Clean up and report spills. Observe the yard requirements for sanding and painting, etc. Ensure tools are in good condition and used correctly and safely. Eye protection is recommended when pressure washing.

On-water ... Boats should have all required safety equipment and knowledge of how to use it. Members are advised to be aware of their own capabilities, the forecast weather conditions, and to notify someone of their intentions including expected return times. Members are advised to complete recognized boating safety courses and obtain a Pleasure Craft Operators Card.

At waters edge ... Be aware of falling and trip hazards near and on the docks. Familiarize yourself with rescue ladder and safety equipment locations. Children and non-swimmers should wear a life-jacket while near or on the docks. No swimming in the dock area (an electrical shock hazard can exist). Boats should be fastened to docks and equipment secured sufficient for all conditions.

Travel-Lift ... No children or spectators near the machine and lift area. Keep a significant distance away. Working under a suspended load has considerable risk; ensure good and clear communication, the load secure, and the operator knows you are entering underneath. Minimize time and personnel beneath the boat.

No one should be under a boat until the weight is supported on the keel. For power boats this requires advance placement of keel blocking. For sailboats, cradle support pads must maintain an appropriate orientation position without needing to be held by personnel while placing the boat. It is good practice to lower jack screws prior to haul-out. Ensure lifting straps are correctly and securely connected. Watch for pinch points when positioning straps or dealing with supports. Stay within view of the operator and be aware of wheel and equipment path (operator view is limited). Ensure cradles, jack screws, and support materials are maintained in good condition, and any independent boat support stands are chained together.

Mast Hoist ... To be operated only by competent and knowledgeable individuals. Consult operating and safety information available on club website (documents section). Ask for help. Ensure appropriate rigging is used and the load kept in control. Hoist is NOT to be used for lifting personnel or other objects.

Mast rack ... All aerials and other projections *must* be removed prior to storage (no exceptions). Prior to moving masts on or off the rack, discuss the process/plan with your team. Avoid positioning yourself under a load. Do not climb on racks or masts.

Boat Storage areas ... Should be kept tidy and all equipment neatly stored. Chemicals, antifreeze, or paints shall not be kept in boat storage areas. Grass shall be maintained short (including within the cradle). Electrical cords shall be removed if not in active use, otherwise made clearly visible and not a hazard to grass cutting or other activities.

Electrical ... All electrical equipment is to be in good condition. Extension cords should be of a single length, 12-gauge wire, in good condition, and should be positioned and secured as to not be a trip hazard, able to fall in water, or a potential hazard to grass cutting activities.

Grass Cutting ... Ensure knowledge of equipment operation. Wear safety glasses and/or face shield and be aware of others around you. Safety boots are recommended. Fuel carefully outside of equipment storage building and not when equipment is hot. Carefully inspect work area for hidden hazards, debris, and electrical cords. Do not overload equipment and always work within its capabilities.

Working at heights ... Ensure adequate and appropriate fall prevention equipment is knowledgeably utilized, and consider your rescue plan. If going up mast, avoid using external halyards, ensure suitable backup rigging in place, and review entire process with assisting crew (suggest testing descent before gaining significant height). Lifting personnel with the mast hoist is prohibited. Use ladders safely (use both hands for climbing, not carrying materials) and tie ladder off to prevent movement. Ensure access and scaffolding equipment is suitable, stable, and in good condition. Be aware of tripping, slipping, and fall hazards when working on boat deck particularly when on the hard.

Hot work ... Be cautious when welding, grinding or performing other hot work particularly if yard is dry. Have water and fire extinguisher available. After any hot work allow time for a fire watch prior to leaving work area.

Please note the above information, recommendations, and requirements should not be considered comprehensive or complete, and do not imply or convey liability.