

**PIONEER VALLEY YACHT CLUB, INC.**  
**P.O. Box 60602**  
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## **PIONEER VALLEY YACHT CLUB** **GENERAL RULES**

(Revised June, 2009)

### **I. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is the policy of the Pioneer Valley Yacht Club to conduct all business with members, employees, contractors and the public, and to operate and advance the purposes of the Club, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religious creed, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, handicap, disability, or sexual orientation.

### **II. CLUB PAYMENT POLICY**

1. It is the policy of the club that all members must pay their dues on time and it is strictly enforced. The club has several categories of fees as described below:
  - a. **Member Dues** are set by the Board of Governors annually. Payments are due at such times and on such terms as set forth in the membership application for each year in question.
  - b. **Mooring, Beach and Slip Fees** are set by the Board of Governors annually. Payments are due at such times and on such terms as set forth in the membership application for each year in question. A member may keep the same mooring or slip year after year if his or her fees are paid on time.
  - c. **Boatyard Storage Fees** are set by the Board of Governors annually. Payments are due at such times and on such terms as set forth in the membership application for each year in question.
  - d. **Locker Fees** are set by the Board of Governors annually. Payments are due at such times and on such terms as set forth in the membership application for each year in question.
  - e. **Summer storage fees** will be assessed for members having more than two boats in the boat yard. Each additional boat, i.e., boat #3, 4, etc., will be charged a summer storage fee of 5.00 per foot per boat.
2. One-year leave of absence may be granted to members upon request by January 31st of each year. Such requests are subject to approval by the Board of Governors. While on leave of absence, moorings and slips are forfeited. A returning member must go on the wait list for moorings and slips again.. If you have been a member within the last three years, the initiation fee is not required to renew membership.
3. No launching, slip or mooring rentals, facility usage, or services of any kind will be provided until the member dues, assessments and fees are paid in full.

### **III. WORK POLICY**

1. All members will be assigned to a committee by the Commodore in conjunction with the committee chairs.
2. All memberships (family or individual) are required to work a minimum of fifteen (15) hours per year.
3. Work hours will be documented by the committee chair.
4. Failure to work the minimum hours will result in an assessment of \$ 20.00 per hour.
5. Members can take the option of not working on a committee by paying \$225.00 (\$15.00 per hour) extra at the beginning of the year.
6. Work parties in the spring and fall will be for those members whose committees have work that day. Participation at the work parties will be determined by the Committee Chairs.

### **IV. WATERFRONT RULES**

1. The face of the main dock is to be used for taking on and discharging passengers only. Stops should be limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes.
2. No boats should be left on docks overnight except in an emergency and then only with permission of the Dockmaster.
3. Any boat violating docking regulations will be towed away at the owner's risk and expense.
4. When docking, boats should proceed up current and secure as far as possible on the current end of the dock, leaving room for other boats to come in astern.
5. The speed limit in the mooring and dock area is 5 MPH maximum. This rule will be strictly enforced. The Dockmaster or his/her designee on duty has complete control.
6. Cars and trailers must clear the ramp immediately after unloading. Use parking area designated. Boats may be cleaned next to the wash down area near the pool; however, boats must be removed expeditiously from this area and parked in the boatyard storage area or trailered from the club property.
7. Dinghies must be moored or stored in the dingy area only.
8. Children under 12 years of age must wear life preservers (PFDs) on docks. They must be accompanied by adult club members. No horseplay or running will be permitted on the docks.
9. Visiting yachts and crew shall be extended all privileges of the club for not more than two (2) weeks unless otherwise designated by the Commodore.
10. A suitable mooring is required for any boat left in the waterfront area over 24 hours.

11. Members must consult the Dockmaster for assignments of slips or moorings. Unless advised differently by the Dockmaster, slip or mooring location is “first come, first served” based on when the slip or mooring fee is paid (refer to the Club Payment Policy).

12. Members using the club dingy must return it to its proper area immediately after use. Members cannot leave the club dingy on their mooring. Oars must be returned to the locker room at the end of the day. **DO NOT LEAVE THEM IN THE DINGY.**

13. All boats shall be operated and equipped in compliance with current applicable rules and regulations of the State and Federal Government pertaining to watercraft operating on the Connecticut River.

14. No power lines, hoses or mooring lines shall be used in such a way as to create a hazard.

15. Charcoal fires of any kind are not permitted on docks or moored boats. The club does not permit the dumping or discharge of any material what so ever into the Connecticut River. The club provides adequate disposal facilities.

16. Household pets are permitted on boats but not on club property except when transporting the pets to the boats; dogs must be leashed. Owners are responsible for clean up after their pets. No pets in the clubhouse or pool area at any time.

17. Modifications or additions to docks, water systems, electrical services, equipment, and other dock and boatyard facilities are not permitted unless authorized by the Dock Committee.

18. Gas and other fuel can only be carried on the docks in approved vented containers. Portable gas tanks must be removed from the boat and put on the dock or shore for fueling. Boats with built in tanks can be fueled on the boat only with an approved container.

19. Users of docks, as with all club property, are at the users' risk. The Pioneer Valley Yacht Club, Inc., assumes no responsibility for user's loss or injury.

20. Owner or owners must list their vessels on the membership application and include a description and registration of the yacht.

21. At no time are extension cords to be left unattended when laid out on the docks or through the water. This includes cords in use or unplugged from the power source. Cords are to be run to boats in a manner so that members/guests can not trip over them.

22 Extension cords are to be rated for outdoor usage.

23 Extension cords are to be free of splices in their entire length, other than the receptacle ends.

24 All extension cords are to be of 3 wire construction and have all receptacle pins intact.

## **V. GROUNDS RULES**

1. All vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas. Boats and trailers must be parked in the boatyard, not in the parking lot or next to the ramp or swimming pool.

2. Waste and rubbish shall be deposited in proper receptacles. Members are expected to empty full trash receptacles and pick up other's trash. Remember, the club does not hire people to do this. "We" do it ourselves.
3. Use of picnic tables shall be limited to two hours by any member during high usage periods.
4. Persons using picnic areas must see that the areas are cleaned up before leaving. Club athletic equipment must be returned to the Club House after use.
5. On club grounds, all vehicles and operators must meet all legal minimum requirements of the State of Massachusetts.
6. To prevent misuse of club privileges, the Board of Governors has decided that members may bring in the same guests (parents, children, relatives, friends, etc.) onto the grounds/picnic area twice a month. Other sponsorship usage associated with a member's business, occupation, or similar activities must be approved and prearranged by the Commodore or the Commodore's delegate.
7. Club members are responsible for their guests at all times.

## **VI. HOUSE RULES**

1. Members introducing guests shall be responsible for them.
2. Keys to club facilities shall be restricted to members or employees of the club.
3. Any person leaving the Club House unoccupied shall turn off lights and lock all outside doors.
4. Members are expected to keep the Club House clean. This means the kitchen, restrooms, locker rooms, as well as the main Club House area.
5. The Club House shall be open to all members at all times.
6. Members will be charged with damages which they or their guests may cause, as determined by the House Committee.
7. Members and guests will be required to maintain proper decorum and to observe all club regulations so that the Pioneer Valley Yacht Club can function in the best interests of all.
8. No gasoline or tanks will be stored in the Club House.
9. Members are responsible for taking alcoholic beverages off the property, and no alcoholic beverages are to be left on the club property overnight.
10. No smoking is permitted in the clubhouse or the porch at any time. During club functions there is no smoking in the pavilion.

Smoking is also prohibited within 25 feet of the clubhouse doors at any time during the year and the pavilion from 8 am to 8 pm during the season beginning and ending with the docks going in and out (Approved by BOG 5/09).

11. Except as noted below, members may bring no more than 4 adult guests at a time Friday, Saturday or Sunday all year round.
12. Members may use the clubhouse twice a year for a small social gathering not to exceed 10 guests with advance approval of the Commodore; once in-season between May 1st and October 1st, and once during the off-season (October 1st to May 1st). Such gatherings in-season are limited to Monday thru Thursday only. There is no charge for this use of the clubhouse. The sponsoring member is responsible for all members of his/her party, for cleaning the kitchen and floors, for restoring the furniture to its original position and taking the trash out to the dumpster. Failure to properly clean the clubhouse will result in loss of your guest privileges.
13. Gatherings of more than 10 guests are prohibited. The facilities of the Pioneer Valley Yacht Club, Inc. are not available for rental to non-members or organizations.
14. Use of the clubhouse and pavilion is defined as any gathering, meal or party taking place on clubhouse property. It does not include the transition of guests from the parking lot to a member's boat or the discrete use of the washrooms.

## **VII. POOL RULES**

1. The pool area shall be open only when a qualified person is on lifeguard duty, as approved by the Pool Committee. The opening and closing times for the pool shall be posted at the club property. No one is allowed in the pool area (inside the gate) when the pool is closed.
2. No diapers in the main pool. Children wearing swim diapers (“swimmies”) may go in the kiddie pool.
3. Food is not allowed in the pool area at any time. (Except for lifeguards) This rule will be strictly enforced for health, cleanliness and safety reasons. Beverages in cans and in paper cups are allowed into the pool area. No alcoholic beverage is allowed in the pool area at any time.
4. Children under the age of 18 shall leave the pool for 15 minutes every hour, on the hour, or at any time the person in charge shall designate.
5. All orders of the person in charge shall be obeyed **AT ONCE AND WITHOUT QUESTION**.
6. A sustained blast of the whistle by the person in charge is the signal for all persons to leave the pool **IMMEDIATELY**.
7. No food or wet bathing suits may be kept in lockers. Padlocks shall be removed from the lockers at the end of the season.
8. All members must shower before entering the pool. If suntan oil is used between swims, one must shower before going into the pool.

9. No running or horseplay is permitted.
10. Parents must accompany children while in the small pool. The person in charge does not watch this pool.
11. All persons must be out of the pool area at least fifteen (15) minutes before closing time.
13. All children 12 and under who are in the pool must be accompanied by their parents, or by an adult with the permission of the parents. No child wearing swim aids will be allowed in the pool without a parent or guardian being with him or her at all times.
14. The pool guest fee is \$3.00 a person. The same guest is allowed into the pool area twice a month only. The fee for children under 12 is \$2.00.
15. ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS MUST SIGN IN.
16. The use of the pool and its facilities, as with all club property and equipment, is at the risk of the user. Pioneer Valley Yacht Club, Inc., assumes no responsibility for risks associated with swimming or the use of the club's property and equipment.

#### **VIII. BOATYARD**

1. Boats stored in the boatyard year after year must be presentable and moveable. A letter will be sent to members who do not comply.
2. All trailers must have the owners name on it.
3. All chemicals used by members for boat maintenance shall be properly handled, contained and stored. All chemicals shall be removed from the club property after use.