

BRITANNIA YACHT CLUB

HARBOUR STERN BUOY MOORING SAFETY CHECKLIST

Please familiarize yourself with Club mooring procedures before Spring launch. For anyone who moors stern to dock, simply reverse everything said below.

Before Launch

- You will need five lines-two dock lines, two stern lines and messenger.
- Use metal shackles to secure bow and stern lines to the dock (chain) and to the stern buoy.
- Secure bow and stern lines prior to launch and tie them together; coil stern lines on the buoy so they will not drift free and become entangled in a prop.
- If you have made stern buoy to hold your lines out of the water, deploy it.

After Launch

- Pick up the four lines and secure boat fore and aft.
- Secure loosely a yellow polyprop messenger line to stern buoy and dock chain with a loop to go over a port cockpit block; have enough slack to allow messenger adjustment as water level decrease over the season.

Leaving the Mooring

- Start your engine and allow to idle in neutral.
- One person go forward to untie the bow lines and hold them to help to manoeuvre the boat out of the mooring.
- Untie the stern lines and tie the looped bundle securely to the messenger before casting off; if you have a special stern buoy for this, loop the stern lines securely over it; maintain a "hold" on the stern lines until you are ready to back out.
- DO NOT ALLOW ANY LINES TO TRAIL IN THE WATER TO WRAP AROUND THE PROP.
- Before dropping any of the lines check the wind direction and strength, and look behind you from side to side to see if any boats are passing by.
- Decide how you will be manoeuvring bow and stern lines to guide you straight out of the mooring and avoid running over the stern buoy.
- Remember to pull bow lines in the opposite direction you want to "steer" the boat out of the mooring.
- Apply power gradually, dropping bow, then stern lines.