

Launch/WorkBoat SOP

Adopted January 2023

I. SOP Club Launch.

The Club Launch is a 19-foot Mako with a newer 90-hp Honda outboard. It is used to support a variety of club functions, including racing events and club cruises. Due to its relatively powerful motor, potential high speeds, and low transom freeboard, its use is subject to the following restrictions.

A. Authorization.

1. For insurance and safety reasons, the club launch may be operated only by certified club members, for authorized purposes.
2. To obtain certification, club members must demonstrate to the Workboat Manager the ability to use the launch safely. Members must possess a state-issued Boater's Education Card.
3. Race Events. Certified members may operate the launch in support of any RCYC race event, subject to the approval of the RCYC race lead. Certified members may operate the launch in support of any non-RCYC race event within 100 miles of RCYC, subject to the approval of the RCYC race lead and the Commodore or designated officer.
4. Other Events. Certified members may operate the launch in support of any RCYC-event or use. Certified members may operate the launch in support of any non-RCYC event or use within 100 miles of RCYC, subject to the approval of the Workboat Manager and the Commodore or designated officer.
5. For use of the launch for a non-RCYC event or use, the Commodore shall inform the Board of the use at or prior to the next Board meeting.

B. Launch Operation.

1. Launch keys are kept in a lockbox in the Tool Shed; the lock codes are given only to certified members. Do not share the code.

2. Follow the laminated boat operation instructions located on the launch console and the safety training provided to certified members (including wearing a PFD). Some (but not all) safety recommendations are repeated below.
3. Reverse slowly to avoid waves over the low transom. In high wave conditions, keep the bow into the waves when conducting operations at low speed (e.g., setting/retrieving marks). To reduce weight in the stern (lowering the transom), try to conduct operations (e.g., setting marks) over the bow or forward gunwales rather than over the stern.
4. Avoid hard high speed turns and sudden accelerations/decelerations.
5. The throttle is highly responsive. Warn and receive “ready” from all passengers before applying throttle.

II. SOP Club Workboats

RCYC owns two Workboats, one with a steel hull and one with a fiberglass hull, used to support a variety of club functions, primarily dredging. The Workboats are restricted to current members who have completed orientation, training and possess a valid State issued Boaters Education Card. Because the Workboats are low-speed and fairly simple to operate, no formal training or certification is required. Untrained members interested in operating a Workboat should either attend a club orientation/training session, if offered, or simply request that an experienced member provide informal orientation and training. Being part of the dredge crew is a great way to gain Workboat experience!

Basic Workboat Operation.

Start Up Process.

1. Obtain the appropriate Workboat key in the Tool Shed.
2. Follow any instructions laminated on the Workboat consoles, and the safety training provided (including wearing a PFD).
3. Check water accumulation in the bilge and bilge pump operation.
4. Check gas supply, that vent is open.

5. Unlock chain from Workboat securing to dock
6. Unplug shore power from Workboat and coil on dock
7. Engage engine Safety Kill Switch Key
8. Lower engine into water and start engine
9. Check for water stream discharge from engine. Warm engine for 3-5 minutes.

Shut Down Process. Reverse all Start Up steps. In addition, clean the Workboat to at least the condition you found it in. Return the keys to the tool shed. Notify the Workboat Manager of any issues, breakdowns, low fuel status.