

Anchoring Basics
Lake Pleasant Sailing Club
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1. Going to cover the basics, what we will encounter at Lake Pleasant.
 - a. If you are going cruising or are dealing with something larger than 30 ft. you have a lot more to know than we will cover here
2. Types of anchors – the basics
 - a. Fluke (lightweight, Danforth, etc.) – good for sand, mud, bad rocks or weeds
 - b. Plow and Scoop - Rocna, CQR, Delta, Bruce, and Claw – best all-around holding in varying conditions
 - c. Manson Supreme is getting good press
 - d. Carry two of different type
 - i. Back up, bow and stern, different bottoms
3. Ground tackle – what is it?
 - a. Your anchor, shackles, chain, rode, swivels, windless, etc.
4. How much should you carry
 - a. Lake pleasant 25-30 foot boat
 - b. Rode
 - i. 150 -200 feet total
 - ii. ½ boat length in chain, rest three strand nylon
 - iii. Why three strand nylon?
 - iv. 3/8 good rode size
 - v. West Marine has some good sizing charts
 - c. Anchor
 - i. 13 lb. for 25-30 footer
 - d. Anchor to chain
 - i. Shackle or swivel – with stainless wire wrap
 - ii. Chain to rode – braided
 - e. Expensive, ground tackle for a 25 foot boat at Pleasant is about \$200-250.
5. Scope
 - a. 4-7:1
 - b. How measure?
 - i. Bow roller to bottom times scope multiple
 - ii. Allow for tides
 - c. Expecting heavy weather
 - i. Two anchors
 - ii. More scope
6. Setting anchor
 - a. Under motor
 - i. Drop sails start motor, make ready anchor and flake rode on deck
 - ii. Assure bitter end tied off
 - iii. Consider scope as to location
 - iv. Consider other anchored boats (bow, stern, two anchors with no swing, etc.), anticipate wind direction during time at anchor
 - v. Motor slowly up to drop point, 1-2 knots into the wind
 - vi. Engine in neutral bump reverse to stop momentum
 - vii. Anchor away
 - viii. Feel when it hits bottom

- ix. Back slowly playing out rode
 - x. Snug a couple times to keep rode off bottom (trees underwater at Pleasant) and begin set
 - xi. When desired rode out cleat the rode, back $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ throttle to set anchor
 - xii. Sight a spot laterally on shore to determine later if you are drifting
 - xiii. Rode initially should be taunt
 - b. Under sail
 - c. Approach on a close reach, and luff up 2-3 boat lengths downwind of the drop point, back wind the main to stop momentum, then drop
7. Communicate!
- a. Couples worst moments
 - i. Yelling not necessary
 - ii. Old guys can't hear (gals too)
 - iii. Use hand signals for forward, stop, back, anchor away, anchor on bottom, anchor up, etc.
8. Retrieving the anchor
- a. Under power
 - i. Start motor
 - ii. Forward 1-2 knots
 - iii. Retrieve rode flake neatly on deck
 - iv. When vertical signal for neutral
 - v. Clean mud before bringing on deck (works at Pleasant)
 - b. Under sail
 - i. You are into the wind generally
 - ii. Bend on Main, Jib
 - iii. They will luff
 - iv. Pull the boat forward as you retrieve the rode (doesn't work on big boats!)
 - v. Try to stay into the wind while you quickly get anchor on deck
 - vi. Backwind the jib to bear off and get underway.
9. Bow and stern?
- a. North south alignment at Pleasant
 - b. Generally, wind will be from north overnight
 - c. Raft ups are most often set North South
 - d. If alone, one anchor is generally good
 - e. If you want bow stern
 - i. Set the bow, let out twice as much rode as necessary
 - ii. Drop stern, pull forward till equidistance between two anchors
 - iii. Alternatively, set bow
 - iv. Use dink to row or motor out stern anchor.
10. Other hints
- a. Store your rode, chain and anchor in a 5 gallon bucket – works great
 - b. But a cheap anchor or used one for Pleasant odds are about 1 in 10 you will lose your anchor to the tree gods.
 - c. Estimating depth – Honeymoon, Porta Potty probably estimating 30-40 feet is a good guess on depth.
 - d. There are neat anchor alarms on iPhone and Android devices
 - e. Chart plotters have anchor alarms
 - f. Sleep well, it will hold!