

Conditions for the launch & recovery of vessels for Seaham Harbour Marina

Seaham Harbour Marina

Conditions for the launch and recovery of vessels

- 1. For these Conditions, vessel will mean any type of motorised vessel, dinghy, canoe, kayak, raft, PWC, yacht or any other craft that intends to be launched or retrieved from the slipway, beaches or any other part of the Harbour.
- 2. Any person wishing to launch any type of vessel anywhere within the Harbour must first report to the marina office or consult Marina staff.
- 3. Appropriate insurance must be produced for certain types of vessels, in the least, all motorised craft.
- 4. Users must have a second person directing vehicle and trailer movements when manoeuvring adjacent to the lifeboat house and throughout reversing manoeuvres and must ensure the slipway is clear of persons and obstacles and that the vehicle, trailer and any couplings are capable and appropriate for the safe launch and recovery of their vessel prior to accessing the slipway. The launch of any vessel may be denied should the Marina staff conclude that the vehicle, trailer and/or couplings are not appropriate for safe launching.
- 5. The launch of any vessel may be denied should the Marina staff conclude that the vessel is of such a condition that may not be seaworthy or the owner or users of the vessel not being capable of using or controlling the vessel in a safe manner.
- 6. It is highly recommended or in some circumstances may be enforced that all users of manually powered craft i.e. kayaks, canoes, dinghies wear appropriate life jackets or buoyancy aids.
- 7. The Company will set and publish periods and charges for the use of the Harbour for the launching of vessels, any charges must be cleared in advance of launching.
- 8. The Company may set charges for the use of the slipway for any vessels that may or may not be berthed within the Marina.
- 9. Vessels shall not exceed 5 knots anywhere within the inner harbour or be manoeuvred in such a manner as to endanger or inconvenience other vessels or any other users.
- 10. Vessels shall not enter any restricted areas, the Marina gateway or use the pontoons unless permission has been received from the Marina staff otherwise for the immediate safety of the vessel and crew. The Company will provide a plan of navigational restricted areas.
- 11. The owner or user shall be aware that navigational priorities within the Harbour are given to SHDC operations of shipping, dredging, pilotage or any other SHDC vessel movements or operations. Vessels shall not obstruct the fairway and shall notify the Marina immediately if a vessel loses power within the fairway or loses an anchor, cable or chain, that in the owner's view, may cause obstruction or damage to shipping or any other vessel.
- 12. Subject always to the availability of parking space, Harbour users may only park vehicles and trailers in accordance with the directions of the Company. Owner's guests, crew or others

- may not park on the premises unless prior consent has been sought by the owner of the vessel under the conditions of the Company.
- 13. Vehicles towing trailers whilst on the premises shall use their hazard indicators at all times when vehicle is in motion and observe the marina road speed limits.
- 14. The Company may provide permits for personal identification and/or for display in user's vehicles. The owner or user must abide by the instructed use of any such permit as directed by the Company or Marina staff.
- 15. The Company has provided a fresh water connection point at the slipway to be used for routine washing down, filling and flushing. It is recommended that users provide their own hoses and when connected should not be immersed in sea water as this may result in backflow contamination.
 - Advisory note: users must be aware that the misuse or overuse of water is not only wasteful to the local supply and detrimental to the environment and conservation of energy but may also have an effect on future slipway charges.
- 16. Vehicles and trailers should not obstruct the slipway or access to the slipway. Washing down should be carried out on the slipway unless a vessel is waiting to be launched or recovered, in this case then the vessel can be washed down on the edge of the hard standing adjacent to the water connection point.
- 17. Any security/safety chains or ropes across the slipway must be re-secured immediately on launching or recovery.
- 18. The Company has the right to amend or append these Conditions at any time. Any amended or appended conditions shall become effective when instruction has been received by the owner or user or when displayed in the Marina office.
- 19. These Conditions will be reviewed annually as beneficial to both the Company and the owner or user.

The Company will accept no liability of injury or damage to any person or property when on any land within the Harbour or during use of the slipway (or any other parts of the Harbour) or any equipment that may be used by any person. It is at the discretion of the user to inspect the slipway, sea and weather conditions and any equipment prior to launch and recovery of vessels and to ensure that their vessel, trailer and vehicle is in such a condition that safe use of the slipway can be achieved at all times.

Company means: the Seaham Harbour Community Interest Company

Harbour means: any area on land or in the sea that is under control of the Company or Seaham Harbour Dock Company

User means: any person accessing the Harbour for the launching of any vessel.