

Attachment E

Southwest Florida Yacht Club

RAFTING GUIDELINES

The purpose of rafting is to provide opportunity for socializing and having fun with fellow members of Southwest Florida Yacht Club. The following guidelines will enhance your enjoyment of this social opportunity:

1. Visit other boats participating in the raft. Circulate and socialize.
2. Offer food and drink to those who are visiting your boat. Those not willing to open their boat to visitors should think twice before signing up.
3. Wear boat shoes or sneakers for good footing. Do not wear any footwear with dark soles; these could leave marks on white decks. Bare feet may slip on damp decks. Remove shoes when boarding boats if requested.
4. When moving over several boats, it may be easier to walk forward over the deck to transit the boat than to walk through the cockpit.
5. You are expected to bring your own food, drinks and ice for your own consumption and to share with others. During a scheduled "happy hour," hors d'oeuvres and appetizers may be hot, cold, simple or elaborate. Usually sufficient food will be available so that supper afterward is not necessary. Raft-up participants may bring their food and drinks to congregate on and circulate between one or more of the larger boats during the formal happy hour(s). If there is a communal or pot luck meal, bring your own plates, silverware and napkins.
6. It is good practice to have paper plates, napkins, and disposable utensils appropriate to the dish you are contributing.
7. Please make minimal noise before 8:00 a.m. Use generators courteously.
8. Please lower the noise level after 10:00 p.m. and be quiet after midnight. Use generators courteously.

Rafting involves tying up to another boat upon arrival at the raft, and tying up another boat to yours as additional boats arrive. The following guidelines will facilitate this process:

1. The coordinator of the raft (Cruise Leader or designated "Raft Master") will arrive first, select the raft's location, and anchor with a bow and usually a stern anchor. Depending on the forecasted wind conditions, other boats may be requested to deploy bow and/or stern anchors. The initial boat will ensure that the scope is appropriate for a heavy pull on the anchor (usually a scope between 7 and 10) and set a secure stern anchor.
2. Before you arrive, pump out your black water (holding) tank(s), fill your water tanks, and charge your batteries.
3. Be certain your VHF radio is on and tuned to the specified working channel.
4. Prior to arriving at the raft, have a bow anchor ready with at least 150 feet of rode (200 feet preferred), and a stern anchor available with at least 100 feet of rode

(150 preferred). The stern anchor may be stowed and will be used if requested by the Raft Master. Also have one bow line (25 feet), two spring lines (25 feet each), and one stern line (15 feet) aboard and ready to deploy.

5. As you approach the rafting location, call the "SFYC Raft Master" on the specified working channel (usually VHF channel 78) five minutes prior to your expected arrival to receive instructions. The Raft Master will inform you which side of the raft you will join, which side you should deploy your fenders and prepare your docking lines, and whether you will need to wait for any other boat to complete the rafting process. For everyone's safety, take your time and be prepared to follow the Raft Master's instructions.
6. Secure a bow, stern, and two spring lines to appropriate cleats and have them ready to toss to the rafted boat upon arrival (lines should be led over the outside of the rail or lifeline and coiled). Deploy fenders at the appropriate height, one forward of amidships, one at amidships, and one near the stern on the side you will be tying up to the rafted boat.
7. The captain of the boat to which you will raft may also deploy fenders or have them ready in case they are needed, at his option.
8. People aboard the rafted boats will assist you in tying up to the raft (as you will help others who join after you). If possible, have crew members stationed at the bow, stern and spring lines ready to toss them to the rafted boat as you slowly approach. The Raft Master may provide instructions as you approach.
9. Always secure your boat with at least four lines: bow, stern, forward spring line, and after spring line. These will hold your boat in place and prevent forward or aft movement. Position fenders and add fenders as appropriate.
10. If requested by the Raft Master, deploy bow and/or stern anchors. The Raft Master will coordinate; usually the anchor will be moved to the appropriate location by dinghy.
11. If you intend to stay overnight and join the raft on Saturday, arrive earlier (during the morning); if you do not plan to stay overnight, arrive later (early afternoon). This will facilitate raft planning. Boats staying longer will be near the middle of the raft; those leaving early will be on the outer sides of the raft. If staying over Friday night, arrive prior to 5:00 p.m.
12. When departing, follow the instructions of the Raft Master.
13. If you have to leave the raft-up for any reason, rejoining that weekend will be at the discretion of the Cruise Leader/Raft Master.