

## Attachment C

### SOUTHWEST FLORIDA YACHT CLUB

## CRUISING CUSTOMS AND GUIDELINES

We, as members in good standing of the Southwest Florida Yacht Club, pledge to set an example as safe, knowledgeable, competent, and courteous boaters whenever and wherever we cruise. Keeping this in mind, adherence to the following Customs and Guidelines is requested:

### **Planning**

- 1) Only those vessels owned or controlled by regular members in good standing of the SFYC, can participate in club sanctioned cruises. Guests are allowed on such vessels, but the Cruise Leader(s) must be notified.
- 2) Guest Code of Conduct: Boat captains will be held responsible for the conduct of their guests and their expenses. Guests are expected to attend all scheduled prepaid activities. Should guests be unable to attend activities, they must inform their captain who will notify the Cruise Leaders. Refunds will be made consistent with the Cruise and Boating Financial Policies document.
- 3) Attend all skippers' meetings. Review trip plans, charts, way points, tides, etc. prior to leaving the dock. You may be asked to lead or may have to reach a location on your own.
- 4) Prior to cruise embarkation date, you must notify Cruise Leaders if you will be late or plan to leave the cruise early.
- 5) If one or more vessels intend to leave port earlier than the planned time, they must notify the Cruise Leaders.
- 6) Vessels should be serviced and in good, safe working condition, with the appropriate spare parts for the length and destination of the cruise. Have all navigation equipment and VHF radios working properly.

### **Cruising**

- 7) Cruisers must give proper respect to the Cruise Leaders' decisions while on the cruise.
- 8) Utilize all possible courtesy when passing another vessel. A large wake can cause injuries and have a negative effect on the reputation of you, your vessel and the Southwest Florida Yacht Club. **REMEMBER you are legally responsible for any injury or damage caused by your wake.**

9) Always monitor VHF Channel 16 and the assigned “working” channel while engines are running. After docking, keep your radio on in order to assist other incoming vessels – until all vessels have arrived.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** FCC bans excessive “chit-chat” on all channels. None is permitted on Channel 16. While on SFYC cruises, keep your radio on LOW power, since high power can tie up the channel for a 30 mile radius.

10) Never follow another vessel too closely, especially into a marina channel or harbor. Leave sufficient room for vessels to maneuver and sufficient time for dock personnel to secure boats. The Cruise Leader or marina personnel may ask you to wait outside the entrance channel until called in to dock. Please follow their instructions.

11) When entering a marina or harbor, have all docking lines properly secured to your vessel and ready to deploy. Have fenders and boat hook ready.

12) If you will require fuel to continue the cruise, fuel upon arrival, or make certain that fuel will be available the next morning substantially in advance of the scheduled departure time.

### **Docked**

13) After docking and securing your vessel, be prepared to assist other SFYC vessels prior to connecting power, water lines, cable or wash down.

14) If invited to another vessel for drinks, it is SFYC custom to bring your first drink.

15) When there is a scheduled cocktail party during a cruise, any private party must cease in time to attend the cruise party.

16) Wear your SFYC name tags at the direction of the Cruise Leader.

17) Cruise Leaders are responsible for tipping the dockmaster and his assistants. They have already budgeted and collected funds prior to the cruise. Do not tip individually.

18) While pets are always welcome on SFYC sanctioned cruises, owners must abide by the existing regulations governing pets at host clubs/marinas. This includes, compliance with local leash laws, use of designated pet areas, clean-up and so forth. **See the SFYC Pet Etiquette section included below for more detailed information.**

### **Funds, Refunds and Deposits**

19) Deposits and refunds will be made per the Cruise and Boating Financial Policies document.

20) You may be asked to give more funds to cover unexpected costs that are more than originally budgeted.

Thank you. We hope you have many safe and enjoyable cruises with the SFYC.

### **Pet Etiquette**

1. When on a cruise, most marina's have rules, please follow them.
2. State of Florida prohibits pets on pool decks and in pools for sanitary reasons.
3. Please use designated waste areas and pick-up all waste and dispose of it properly.
4. At any docktails, meals, parties, etc. please do not allow your pet by the food, hot grills, or on tables and chairs.
5. Keep the noise level of your pet to a minimum.
6. It is your responsibility to keep your dog on a leash and under control, please do so. Do not tie them to a tree and leave.
7. Certain individuals have many good reasons for not wanting to interact with our pets. Please respect their wishes.
8. Many individuals do not understand the companionship owners have with their pets. Don't automatically think they are welcome at every social event.
9. A service dog, as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act as "any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability" has access to anywhere their handler goes. We hope these rules will make for a pleasant cruise for pet owners, cruisers and our loved pets.

### **Disclaimer**

This statement constitutes a legal disclaimer for any and all advice contained in this booklet, conveyed verbally or disseminated by these Cruise Leaders. The old sailor's adage, "Never rely on someone else's charts, advice or direction" is certainly applicable here. You and you alone are the keeper of your soul, sometimes your mate, and always your vessel.

The information contained herein might be acceptable. The coordinates may be close but not exact. The courses may be close but not exact. In fact, neither may even be close. Study your own charts and make your own calculations and act accordingly. There are undoubtedly mistakes in the proposed courses and waypoints. There may even be errors. If so, they are unintentional and not deliberate.

Your Cruise Leaders wish you Godspeed, smooth waters and whatever else would be appropriate under the circumstances.