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**FLEET CAPTAIN’S OPENING DAY INSTRUCTIONS**

**1. FORMATION**

The following formation shall be maintained by all participating Clubs. Three boats abreast spaced at 50’ apart in each line. Each of the lines will be at 50’ spacing fore and aft. Clubs having boats that desire greater than 50’ separation, may do so, but MUST inform the Parade Marshal when making initial reports. Front lines shall be approximately 500’ aft of the club ahead. Form up early behind the club ahead of you as shown on the attached list. 500 feet is the approximate distance between the entrance buoy and the exit buoy which mark the review area. Once the last boat of the club you are following has past the exit buoy, your club’s lead boat should be passing the entrance buoy. You will be allowed a 5 minute grace period, after which there will be a 5 point penalty for every minute that you’re late. After passing in review, the last boat in your club must pass the turn buoy before any club boat breaks formation and makes a turn out of parade formation.

**2. SPEED**

Maximum speed through the entire review area and beyond is 5 knots through the water until your last line of boats have cleared the Review Vessels and the turn buoy. After you have cleared the turn buoy, you can then make a slow turn to return to you moorage. All clubs that are moored along Marine Drive and down North Portland Harbor should turn to the right, all clubs moored on the north side of Tomahawk Island should turn to the left upon leaving the review area. Maintain a slow speed back to your moorage as a courtesy to
the clubs that are still forming up or working there way up river.

**REMEMBER – NO WAKES IN THE PARADE AREA.**

**3. IDENTIFICATION**

Other than your clubs burgees, a large sign (2’ X 4’ minimum), with your clubs initials in it (BLACK WITH AN ORANGE BACKGROUND), must be mounted on the stern of the last vessel.

**It MUST** be visible to the club following and to the review vessels. In addition to the black and orange sign, a 2’ X 2’ black number on white background displaying your clubs number in the parade line up. This sign will be displayed amid ship on the port side of your clubs assist vessel.

**4. ASSIST VESSEL**

Each club is to designate one vessel as an assist vessel. The vessel is to be equipped to tow any disabled vessel. The boat will fly a bright ORANGE or RED colored streamer high on its mast or antenna.No points will be deducted if it is necessary for the assist vessel to break formation to assist a club vessel. The assist vessel should be assigned to the last row, and in the outboard slot. It is acceptable if this vessel is your Fleet Captain.

**5. REPORTING**

All Fleet Captains must report the following information to the Parade Marshall using VHF CHANNEL 68 (low power).

Number of boats in your parade fleet.

Number of VSC decals on these boats.

Number of members participating in the Opening Day Parade.

**This information MUST BE received by the Parade Marshall before passing in review. Please advice your club not to use Channel 68 until the parade is over. This will keep 68 clear for the Fleet Captains and Parade Marshall. Call the Parade Marshall on 68 only. The Parade Marshall will not be monitoring Channel 16. Have someone from your club maintain a constant watch on channel 68 for the duration of the parade in case the parade Marshall needs to contact your club or in case of an emergency,**

**6. CHART AND PARADE ORDER**

Attached you will find your parade chart, which shows route, formation area, entrance and exit buoys, etc. Locate the club ahead of you in plenty of time to form up well ahead of the review vessels.