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# Member and Boating Safety at PCYC

As we prepare for another exciting season at our yacht club, it is crucial to emphasize the importance of safety behavior both on land and on the water. Our community thrives on shared experiences, and ensuring the safety of all members is paramount.

1. **Wear Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)**: Always wear a life jacket while on the water, regardless of your swimming ability. This simple act can save lives.
2. **Conduct Safety Briefings**: Before any outing, hold a safety briefing to review emergency procedures, equipment usage, and the potential risks associated with sailing.
3. **Maintain Equipment**: Regularly inspect and maintain all boats and safety equipment. Report any issues immediately to ensure that all gear is in optimal condition.
4. **Be Aware of Weather Conditions**: Stay informed about local weather forecasts and be prepared to adjust plans accordingly. Safety should always come first.
5. **Encourage Open Communication**: Foster a culture where members feel comfortable discussing safety concerns and reporting unsafe behaviors.

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring a safe and enjoyable environment at the yacht club, we want to remind all members and staff about the importance of promptly reporting any safety hazards. Identifying and addressing potential risks is crucial in preventing accidents and protecting everyone in our community.

1. **Recognize Shore Hazards**: Be vigilant about identifying hazards, whether they are related to equipment, the environment, or general safety practices. This includes slippery surfaces, damaged equipment, or any obstructions.
2. **Recognize Harbour Hazards**: Be vigilant about identifying hazards, whether they are related to docks (slippery surfaces, damaged equipment, or any obstructions), on the water (flotsam, pollution, suspicious floating debris), or, below the surface (obstruction that represents a danger to navigation).
3. **Reporting Procedure**: If you notice a shore safety hazard or encounter an obstruction while navigating in the harbor please report it immediately to the club management, staff or by filling out an incident report available at the clubhouse bar, bulletin board at the restroom entrance, the office or on our website.
4. **Documentation**: When reporting a hazard, provide as much detail as possible, including the location, nature of the hazard, and any immediate actions taken to mitigate risk.
5. **Follow Up**: After reporting a hazard, stay informed about the actions taken to address it. Your feedback is valuable in ensuring that safety protocols are effective.
6. **Encourage a Culture of Safety**: We encourage all members to actively participate in promoting safety awareness and to support each other in maintaining a safe environment.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Together, we can ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone at the yacht club.

*Safety Memo, Executive Committee February 2025*