

Michigan Sailing Club Boat Borrowing Policy

Background and Rationale

This policy governs the borrowing of boats owned by the Michigan Sailing Club (club)

The privilege to borrow a boat from the club to sail elsewhere is not a perquisite of membership; it is an extra-ordinary privilege that can be granted only on a limited basis.

In particular, this policy is intended to address the following concerns:

1. Encourage members to sail in other waters than Baseline Lake
2. Encourage members to attend regattas
3. Ensure that there is sufficient equipment available for normal club usage
4. Ensure that the borrowed equipment is returned in good condition when it is scheduled to be returned
5. Encourage the safety of everyone using the boat

Policy:

The Executive Board may grant a member permission to borrow a boat from the club by a simple majority vote on a case-by-case basis. The following criteria will be used to determine whether to grant the request:

- The requestor's level of participation in helping to keep the club running
- The requestor's sailing ability, taking into consideration the destination
- The requestor's experience in trailering or otherwise transporting boats
- The suitability of the requestor's vehicle for the proposed transportation
- How the absence of the boat will impact club operations

Generally, the requestor should be an active club member, have at least a Key-rating (or equivalent skills), experience trailering or car-topping boats, and intend to use a vehicle suitable for the journey. Exceptions may be granted if the requestor is accompanied by other members who have the above skills.

Making a request:

All requests for borrowing shall be in writing and brokered by the Fleet Captain or his or her designee. The Fleet Captain or designee shall communicate the request to the board for approval.

Requests shall include:

- Name of the member requesting to borrow
- Which boat they would like to borrow
- Where they are planning to take it
- When they are planning to borrow it
- When they expect to return it

Agreement

By entering into the borrowing agreement, borrowers agree that they will be responsible for returning the equipment in the same condition as they found it or making/arranging for appropriate repairs to restore its condition, and that they hold the club harmless for any incidents, accidents, or injuries involving or related to the borrowed equipment.

Borrowers agree to follow these rules:

- All persons who have not passed the swim requirement of the Basic rating must wear a PFD while under way in any Club boat.
- A rated Member must be aboard each Club sailboat or sailboard at all times. This requirement may be waived with the explicit permission of a Skipper.
- There must be a Skipper aboard to sail in over 15 knots.
- Anyone who comes aboard the boat must sign the club's liability waiver, with the borrower being responsible for returning the signed copy to the club officers.

Anyone borrowing a boat from the club must sign below to indicate that they have read and understood the policy.

Exceptions

Same-day use of paddlecraft where the club is the start or end of the voyage is considered routine usage and is exempt from this policy.

Changes

This policy is subject to change at the discretion of the board at any time. In particular, if the Fleet Captain is too busy to deal with borrowing and cannot find a designee to broker the loans, he or she may decline to lend any boats.

I have **read** and **understood** the policy above.

Name _____

Signature _____

Date ____/____/____