

**DARTMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**BOATFLOAT RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
**FROM APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> 2022**

Policy approved at F & GP meeting on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

Purchase of a permit entitles the holder to moor their boat in the Boatfloat for a period of 12 months. The permit is issued subject to the following conditions:

1. **The following requirement for a space has to be observed:**

- a. Each boat or vessel **must bear a name** or identification mark and a **current sticker** issued by the Council Office which **must be visible at all times**. Failure to do so will result in the mooring being re-allocated and the vessel removed at the owners' expense. A charge may be made to replace a sticker if lost or damaged.
- b. Owners or local agent are required to check their boat or vessel **at least once a week**. This is especially important during bad weather to ensure that the boat or vessel is safe and that others can get to the boats behind safely.
- c. No boat or vessel exceeding **18 feet** in length and **6 feet 6 ins** in beam shall be placed in or moored in the Boatfloat unless otherwise authorised or determined by the Council
- d. Propellers should not be exposed above the water line unless they are securely covered with a bucket in order to afford protection to other boats. Failure to comply will result in a 14-day notice being issued, the vessel removed at the owners' expense (minimum £100), and the mooring being re-allocated
- e. If one of the Rules and Regulations are not honored, **a 14-day notice will be issued. The boat will then be removed at the owner's expense (minimum £100) and the mooring reallocated**

2. **All owners must adhere to the following:**

- a. There is no automatic right to renewal.
- b. All owners **must** supply the Council with details of their vessel including;
  - Make
  - Model
  - Type
  - Size
  - Owners contact details; we require a **local** contact point should any problems arise.
  - A photo of the vessel
  - All vessels must have displayed DTC sticker along with a current DHNA sticker.
  - The **telephone number must** be filled in on the sticker. This is to allow users of the Boatfloat to be contacted by another user if there is a problem with their boat or vessel when the office is closed. **We strongly recommend that you fill this in.**
  - All charges shall be paid by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021. **Failure to do so will result in a 14-day notice being issued by registered post. The boat will then be removed at the owner's expense (minimum £100) and the mooring reallocated**
  - In the event of the owner selling or otherwise disposing of the boat or vessel authorised to use the mooring, the Council shall be notified, in writing, and in such event the permission hereby granted shall cease forthwith and the Council shall be entitled to re-let or otherwise deal with the said mooring as they shall deem fit. **Moorings are NOT TRANSFERABLE.**
  - There shall be absolutely no subletting or "lending" of moorings. Should this take place it will result in the mooring being re-allocated and the boat or vessel removed at the owners' expense.
  - No new shared ownership applications will be considered. Existing shared ownerships **already on record** will be honoured.
  - No person shall **sleep or stay overnight** on any vessel whilst it is in the Boatfloat.
  - All vessels must be berthed in the Boatfloat within 3 months of being allocated a mooring.
  - All vessels to be in the water for a minimum of 4 months of the year.

Policy to be reviewed November 2022

- All vessels must have a **current** Harbour Authority sticker on display.
- All owners are required to keep their vessel in a good condition. Any owner with a vessel considered by DTC or a DTC representative to be in a state of disrepair or in a dirty or unsightly condition will be issued with a 14-day notice requesting the undertaking or remedial work. **If the remedial work is not completed during the notice period, the vessel will be removed from the Boatfloat at the owners' expense (min £100) and the space will be reallocated**
- **Under no circumstances** are boat owners to cut or splice the trot mooring lines. If a boat owner has a problem with their trot mooring line, they MUST contact Dartmouth Town Council.
- No refunds will be provided irrespective of circumstances.
- All owners or agent must bail out their vessel – DTC will not bail any vessels

### 3. **Use of the Boatfloat:**

- a. No person shall place or lay down any private moorings in any part of the Boatfloat or interfere with the moorings provided by the Council.
- b. The trots will be numbered consecutively. **You must note which Trot your boat or vessel is on along with the mooring number on your registration form.** Registration forms without this will not be processed.
- c. Each numbered trot will have six lettered spaces available. Failure to stay in the allotted space will result in the boat being removed at the owners' expense.
- d. No boat or vessel shall use a mooring prescribed in the mooring scheme prepared by the Council for a boat or vessel of a different size than that applied for without the express approval of the Council.
- e. No master or member of a crew of a boat or vessel, or other person, shall, without the permission of the Council, make fast any rope, chain or tackle from the boat or vessel to any property of the Council within the Boatfloat other than the mooring buoys, dolphins, bollards, or rings provided by the Council for that purpose.
- f. All boats and vessels shall be made fast to the Trot mooring line, fore and aft only. All vessels must be tied with suitable lines to the **TOP** rope. Please ensure once you have returned your vessel to the mooring that you **PULL** the line back out to original position. Propellers should not be exposed above the water line unless they are securely covered to afford protection to other boats, and all vessels must be appropriately fendered (the use of inner tubes or car tyres is NOT acceptable).
- g. No person shall, without having either the consent of the owner or other lawful authority take, remove or cast adrift any boat or vessel moored, anchored, made fast or otherwise left in the waters of the Boatfloat bounded on the east by the bridge carrying the North Embankment.
- h. Free access shall be allowed across and over all boats or vessels lying at the landing ladders, steps or slipway, and all persons are required to use all care and attention when exercising this right.
- i. No person shall cause or permit a boat or vessel to manoeuvre, come to anchor, or be moored or placed so as to obstruct in any manner whatsoever the free passage of any part of the Boatfloat or the slipways or steps connected therewith unless moored to one of the trots.
- j. No person shall navigate in the Boatfloat any boat or vessel which is mechanically propelled and is not fitted with an efficient silencer.
- k. No person shall remove, attempt to remove or cause to be removed any shingle, stone, gravel, earth or other material from the Boatfloat without the permission of the Council.

- l. No person shall obstruct the slipway or undertake any repair or reconditioning of any boat or vessel thereon without the prior consent in writing of the Council.
- m. Only rubber tyred vehicles or trailers shall be permitted on the Slipway.
- n. No person shall use or sound loudhailers or amplifiers within the Boatfloat unless authorized to do so in writing in connection with a town event.
- o. No person shall, without the consent of the Council, pump or willfully or carelessly allow to escape into the Boatfloat any dangerous or offensive matter.
- p. No person shall deposit or cause to be deposited any trade or other refuse, rubbish or sweepings in any place in the Boatfloat, neither shall any person leave on or in any part of the Boatfloat any old boats or any disused gear or materials.
- q. No person shall cause or permit any advertisement or notice offering craft, goods or materials for sale other than those authorised in writing by the Council.
- r. No person shall within the Boatfloat throw stones or other missiles, or discharge any catapult or firearm, or have in his possession any loaded firearm, or use or ignite any firework or other explosive substance without the permission in writing of the Council.
- s. No person shall within the Boatfloat, be in a state of intoxication or use any threatening, abusive, indecent, obscene, profane or offensive language or be guilty of riotous, disorderly, indecent or offensive conduct or use language or behave in such a manner as is calculated to cause a disturbance or breach of the peace or molest or willfully interfere with the comfort or convenience of any persons being within the Boatfloat.
- t. No person shall commit a nuisance of any kind within the Boatfloat or upon or against any part of the property or works of the Council.
- u. No person shall in, or about the Boatfloat retail or offer for sale any article or merchandise whatsoever or tout or ply for or solicit custom or employment of any description without the permission in writing of the Council.
- v. No organised water sports or games shall take place within the Boatfloat without permission in writing of the Council.
- w. The mast on a vessel must remain upright at all times whilst moored in the Boatfloat, unless the length of it is less than that of the vessel.
- x. No single fin keel boats or vessels are permitted in the Boatfloat.
- y. All boats and vessels must be able to dry out flat.

**4. Removal of Boats by DTC:**

- a. DTC has the authority to remove any boat or vessel from the Boatfloat, at the owners' expense, on the breach of any of the Boatfloat Regulations after a 14-day notice has been given to the owner. A charge (minimum £100.00) will be made in respect of the cost of removal and an additional fee in respect of storage.
- b. In the event of a vessel having to be removed due to breach of the Boatfloat Regulations, every effort will be made to contact the known owner, but failing that, the Council reserves the right to dispose of the vessel accordingly. Should the owner lay claim to the vessel after it has been disposed, they will

only be entitled to the residue after the Council has deducted monies owing to them for removal and storage.

5. **Insurance:**

- a. Whilst the Council undertakes, as far as possible, to provide safe moorings the Council accepts no responsibility for any damage or loss to any vessel. Owners must obtain independent professional insurance advice and arrange for adequate Public Liability Insurance Cover, which will remain in force throughout the Agreement Period. **A copy of this must be supplied to Dartmouth Town Council with the registration form and payment and at every renewal. If your insurance is due for renewal during the year an copy of your insurance renewal must be given to DTC. Failure to do this will invalidate your mooring and vessels will be removed.**

**HELPFUL HINTS TO MOORING HOLDERS  
TO ASSIST IN MOORING BOATS IN THE BOATFLOAT**

**Running Mooring**

Each trot is a running mooring (a closed loop) that runs through a ring in the wall and through a spinner attached to a length of rope (the tail) secured to the central chain. The tail allows the trot to rise and fall with the tide. The running mooring enables the boats to be pulled towards the wall for access and returned out away from the wall for safe mooring.

Boats are moored 2 a breast to 1 line of the loop (the mooring line). The other line (the running line) should have nothing attached to it. The rope is leaded so that the running line will sink.

All boats and vessels shall be made fast to the Trot mooring line, fore and aft only. All vessels must be tied with suitable lines to the **TOP** rope.

The length of the bow and stern lines should allow the mooring line to run close to the surface of the water. Bow and stern line should **NOT** run under the running line. The bow line of one boat should **NOT** cross the stern line of the next boat.

Please ensure once you have returned your vessel to the mooring that you **PULL** the line back out to original position.

Propellers should not be exposed above the water line unless they are securely covered to afford protection to other boats, and all vessels must be appropriately fendered (the use of inner tubes or car tyres is NOT acceptable).

Boats should not be moored to the wall, nor to another boat, nor the running line, nor to the mooring tail.

Before leaving a trot, **you must pull the boats back out away from the wall.**

**Propellers**

Propellers should not be exposed above the water line unless they are securely covered with a bucket in order to afford protection to other boats.

**Access**

Boats should be bailed out regularly to allow access across them. Boats that do not afford access across them should be moored at the far end of the mooring line. Handlers should not access across other boats when there is no water in the Boatfloat.

**Slipway**

The slipway is for access to and from the Boatfloat. The slip may only be used for repair to boats after approval has been granted by the Town Clerk.

**Stickers**

Valid stickers should be **PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED** and visible from the wall.

**AFTER READING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND HELPFUL HINTS, PLEASE READ AND SIGN THE STATEMENT BELOW AND ATTACH IT TO YOUR REGISTRATION FORM. PERMITS WILL NOT BE ISSUED WITHOUT THIS SIGNED DECLARATION.**

I,..... confirm that I have read and fully understand the Rules and Regulations of The Boatfloat.

I understand that if I break any of these Rules and Regulations, my vessel will be removed and I will be charged a minimum fee of £100 for it, as per the Rules and Regulations.

Signed:..... Date:.....

Name:.....

Tel No:.....

Email:.....

Please attach this to your Registration Form.

**Below is an evidence checklist of paperwork required by Dartmouth Town Council to keep on record. Without this evidence, you will not be issued with a permit.**

**This information may be shared with the Dart Harbour Authority if requested.**

**Evidence Checklist**

- Registration Form – Please ensure that all contact information is legible
- Insurance Documents
- Harbour Dues proof of payment
- Photo of vessel
- Council Tax bill
- Trot number and place form