COVID-19 Control Plan for the Newport Yacht Club

This Board of Directors approved COVID-19 NYC Control Plan is based on Rhode Island law and direction provided by the RI Governor, RI DEM, and the Newport Harbormaster. It is evolving as conditions allow and is maintained by a special subcommittee consisting of the House and Float & Dock Chairs, Club Steward, one member-at-large, the Vice-Commodore, and the Commodore. It shall be in place to promote the health and safety of our members and staff. It will be monitored and enforced - Bartenders, Club Managers (Steward, Bar, Office, Dock), House Chair, Float & Dock Chair, and Commodores have authority and responsibility to enforce. As guidance from State government evolves to ease restrictions, this plan will be revised. To maintain communications to membership, updates to this plan will be posted weekly on the NYC web site. This plan will be posted on the Club premises.

On 15 June, the NYC was subjected to a surprise inspection by the State’s COVID Inspection Team. This was a comprehensive review and thorough tour of the Club that looked at implementation of this COVID-19 Plan, required signage, visitor and cleaning logs (past and present), availability of hand sanitizer and wipes, employee health screening, COVID training, occupancy restrictions, foot traffic patterns and markings, and other required elements. The NYC passed this inspection without incident. We were told we can expect additional unannounced inspections so everyone using the Club must be vigilant in compliance with the rules and also be on the lookout for members who are not following the rules. Our ability to remain open depends on everyone’s compliance. On Friday 3 July, 1 hour prior to closing, the NYC was subjected to a second surprise inspection by the state. All went well and the Club and its members and staff present were in compliance. The NYC was subjected to a third surprise inspection by both the DOH and DBR on Saturday 1 August just before closing. Two discrepancies were noted (self seating and standup service) and corrective action is in place.

Overarching guidance

- House hours are from 0800 until the lounge closes or 2100 hrs. This is subject to change as conditions allow.
- Access to the Clubhouse is through the Main Deck door so that an accurate occupancy headcount can be maintained. All other doors are for emergency exit only.
- As we will be making every effort to increase ventilation as recommended by the RIDOH, we will be keeping the windows open when Clubhouse is open. Please be aware of this and bring a light jacket if you desire.
- All members entering the Clubhouse are required to sign in with their name, date, state of residence and time. This is necessary as the Club is required to have a plan in place in the event of an outbreak to facilitate contact tracing.
- No one may come to the Club that is not feeling well or has been in contact with someone symptomatic.
- All employees, members and guests visiting NYC will be screened for COVID symptoms.
- Physical distancing is to be observed at all times – 6 feet.
- Face coverings or masks are to be worn by staff and members; members to provide their own mask/covering.
- Members and/or spousal members and two guests max will be permitted in Clubhouse with priority given to members as capacity is reached.
- No reciprocity is allowed.
- No one may enter the Clubhouse or marina coming from a state with a COVID-19 positivity rate greater than 5%. As of this Plan revision, the following locations are not allowed: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky. Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin, and all international locations. Mandatory 14 day quarantine or a certified negative COVID-19 test within past 72 hours is required for all coming from a restricted state including RI residents who have traveled to one or more of these states in the last 14 days. As this list changes frequently, consult the following web site for the latest updates: https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/testing/testing-positivity
- All gatherings are limited to 15 persons effective 30 June. Physical distancing/face covering requirements apply.
- Staff and/or security will function as “House Monitors” to verify occupancy, masks, and distancing requirements.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at multiple locations.
- Restrooms and all high touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected regularly.
- Professional services and contractors working within our facility are permitted entry.

Highlights of this week’s changes:
- Revised restricted states (deleted 1, added 1)
- Added note reminding members that outside food is not permitted.
- Changed Grill nights to show Friday Grill nights have ended.
- Revised Launch hours of operation
**Lounge**
- TV will be in service on Sundays for football. Members are reminded no outside food is permitted.
- No standing consumption is permitted.
- There will be no self service table selection. Either the Greeter or Bar staff will direct all patrons to a table to ensure seating only at tables which have been properly cleaned and disinfected. This is a mandatory requirement.
- Until an alternate plan is developed and approved by the RI DOH and DBR, there will be a server taking and delivering drink orders to seated patrons only, similar to how food is handled. Patrons are still to buss their own table upon leaving.
- The lounge has been relocated to the Main Deck with seating arranged to maintain physical distancing.
- No more than 6 persons allowed at a table.
- A limited menu will be available starting 1 June. No outside food is to be brought in, including on decks.
- No member use of Galley permitted.
- Occupancy of the Main Deck lounge will be limited to 66% capacity (59 persons max).
- Members and guests must utilize seating. If all seating is occupied, please check to see if the lounge is at max capacity. Please do not enter the lounge if max capacity has been reached.
- Member time in Lounge will be limited to 2 hours so more members can access service. An exception will be if the lounge is not operating at capacity, member time can be extended.
- Members are to avoid mingling between tables to reduce opportunity for exposure.
- All tables and chairs will be cleaned between each new party.
- Members at tables are to wear face mask/cloth face covering when standing or walking in the Clubhouse. Failure to comply could result in being asked to leave the lounge for the safety of all.
- Members are to buss / clear their table prior to departure.
- The lounge is directed to serve in single use containers only. No glassware. No exceptions. This includes mixed drinks, liquor and wine. Bottled beer is acceptable.
- No outside glassware or plasticware is to be brought into the lounge by members or guests.
- Lounge hours are: closed Monday and Tuesday; 1600 – 2100 hrs Wednesday and Thursday; 1400 – 2100 hrs Friday; 1200 – 2100 hrs Saturday; 1200 – 2000 hrs Sunday. This is subject to change as conditions allow.
- One bartender will be working at a time.
- The upstairs lounge is closed.
- All liquor, wine and beer deliveries to have boxes disinfected before being put into storage.
- All fruit/garnishes to be cleaned/disinfected to the best extent possible.
- No minors will be permitted on the Main Deck during hours when alcohol is being served. Use of bathroom is permitted if accompanied by an adult member.

**Rest of House**
- All gatherings or tables are limited as determined by clearly marked seating designations.
- Laundry will be closed.
- No additional seating or tables are to be taken from storage closets.
- No access to garage by members is permitted.
- No access to the Club computer or printer will be allowed.
- Grill nights on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays have ended.

**Restrooms**
- The back door to the Clubhouse will be open from 0800 hrs until the lounge closes or until 2100 hrs for access to the Women’s and Men’s rooms. Members with keys can access the restrooms 24/7.
- Soap, hand sanitizer and wipes will be available. Additionally, a hand sanitizer station will be placed just inside the rear door of the Club so that members can sanitize their hands before entering the restroom. Members are urged to take all sanitary precautions.
- Showers will be closed and unavailable for use until further notice.
- Masks must be worn at all times when accessing the rest rooms.

**Docks and Marina**
- The daily use of our marina is no longer limited to seasonal slip holders or member transients. Non member transients are permitted (except from states with greater than 5% COVID-19 testing positivity - see page 1). Lounge access for non-member transient crews will be allowed, with priority given to NYC members as lounge capacity is reached.
- Members using docks must ensure no gatherings or congregating occurs and to maintain physical distance.
- Dockwa reservations will be accepted.
Launch Operation

- Hours of launch operation are from 0800 – 30 minutes after sunset; Hours are posted on Dock Office.
- Masks are required to board the launch.
- Do not board the vessel until instructed by the captain.
- The captain cannot assist in holding, passing, or touching any personal belongings of any passenger - you are responsible for your belongings.

Racing events

- Offshore: Mitchell Columbus Day Regatta is cancelled.
- Juniors: Marine Adventure Camp (MAC) has ended for the season.
- Regatta: One design racing PHRF racing have ended for the season.

Decks

- The upper East Deck is closed.
- The lower East and South Decks are open. Tables and chairs are positioned to maintain physical distancing. Groups are limited to 15 persons max. These two decks are open to members and their families. Total occupancy is limited to 36 persons (66% capacity)
- The West Deck is closed. No one is to use the fire escape.

Parking Lot

- Physical distancing guidelines apply to members’ use of parking lot.
- No impromptu parties/gatherings in the parking lot are permitted.

Other

- In the event a positive case has been diagnosed, the Steward will call the Department of Health at 401.222.8022 (or 211 after hours) to assist in contact tracing and to provide further information.
- Upon notification that an employee, member or guest who has visited the Club has tested positive for COVID-19, the NYC will close immediately. A 24 hour waiting period will apply before a thorough cleaning and disinfection process is conducted. When this is done, the Club will reopen. This is per CDC guidelines referenced in reopeningri.com.
- The authorized point(s) of contact to interface with the RI Department of Health for inspections, audits, and/or contract tracing in order of precedence is: Club Steward, any Flag Officer, House chair, Bartender on duty.
- The COVID-19 Control Plan template provided by the State of Rhode Island (reopeningri.com) which has been executed is incorporated in this plan by reference.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, we understand the inconvenience this COVID-19 pandemic has caused for us all. We all share in the difficulties caused by this crisis. Please know that this plan is led and managed by the Club leadership and executed by the staff for your safety. It is incumbent upon us all to follow this plan to the best extent possible when visiting the Club to promote safety and compliance with requirements levied upon us by the state. Please monitor yourself and be respectful of each other, especially if you are cautioned if a minor transgression of the requirements occurs. Thank you for your cooperation and compliance during these times of restrictive but necessary measures.

Approved by the Board of Directors 30 April 2020.

Revised by the COVID-19 Control Plan Sub-committee:
- House Chair Jack Ellis
- Float & Dock Chair Steve Damas
- Club Steward Rudy Borgueta
- Member-at-Large Peter Jencks
- Vice Commodore Betsy Green
- Commodore Tom Rowe

cc. NYC web site, Club Steward