

Convair Sailing Club (CSC)

Dockmaster (DM) Program

Thanks for participating in Convair Sailing Club's Dockmaster Program !

The club's Dockmaster program was implemented a few years ago after a number of mishaps resulted in significant damage to club boats. At the time, we found launching and recovering of boats to / from the docks was the most likely time when damage occurred.

The primary goals of our Dockmaster program is the following; One - to provide another set of hands on the dock to *prevent accidents during the launching and recovery phase of boats*, and Two – to help keep club costs low by *performing basic repairs to boats and equipment* at the dock. To encourage members participate, it is also a great opportunity to earn credits toward their personal sailing time.

All Convair club members are expected to know rules of conduct, basic dock operations, and how to properly care for equipment. As the Dockmaster, you are there to graciously and courteously assist other members when things don't go as planned.

Dockmaster Guidelines:

- Dockmasters should call for emergency help when needed

In the event of an emergency, use the following numbers;

911 General Emergencies

619 224-1862 Harbor Patrol

619 295-3121 Coast Guard Rescue

- Dockmasters should assist club members when appropriate

If you see a problem occurring or about to happen, the DM should politely assist to the best of his/her ability in order to prevent injuries to people and damage to boats. DM's are not, however, expected to be mechanics, red caps or busboys and should help student sailors only when requested by their instructor.

- Dockmasters should remind us to be good neighbors

In the event of a gross violation of club rules or conduct unbecoming of a sailor, the DM should contact a member of the board for further action. Our use of dock facilities is contingent on our ability to maintain a peaceful relationship with our neighbors. If we behave poorly, we could be evicted from these docks.

Dockmaster Tasks / Duties:

- Check Wind and Sea conditions

While driving to the marina, note the wind strength and waves on the bay. Are there white caps? If so, remind members not to sail in these wind conditions as launching and recovering boats can be difficult or dangerous.

- Check on Reserved boats

While at the blue box, note if any boats are reserved so you can make sure the boat remains available until the club member shows up.

- Check the Status of all boats

Check the sailing log to see which boats have been checked out and when they may be returning so you're ready to help.

- Help other club members stay safe, and have a good day sailing

Make sure club members sign out and sign in for boats.

Remind members with small children to wear life jackets while on or near the dock and especially while sailing

- Perform basic repairs to the best of your ability

Boats are in constant need of tender-loving care, with repairs both large and small. We have a great Fleet Captain that takes on these repairs, and Dockmaster's can help free up his time by doing basic maintenance and repairs, e.g. repair frayed jibsheets and mainsheets, scrub bird droppings off boat decks and mainsail covers, etc.

- Record your time in the Sailing Log

Get credit for volunteering your valuable time by recording your name, member number and time at the dock in the sailing log.

If you do a double shift, make sure you record two entries, one for the AM shift, and one for the PM shift.

In case of bad weather at the docks

If the weather turns bad while you're at the docks, and boats are still out, *your assistance could be needed more than ever*. Stay at the docks, as long as safe, to assist other boats with their recovery. If all boats are in, you may leave and are excused from DM duty. Send an email to the Chief Dockmaster noting why you left, then print out this note and bring it with you to the annual signup meeting, just in case you get tagged for a fine and you didn't deserve it.

Suggested Items to bring:

- Sunscreen

There is a dock chair and an umbrella, but you won't be able to stay under the umbrella the whole time.

- Water/Snacks

Each shift is 3.5 hours long, you may get thirsty or hungry.

- Jacket or cover-ups

The winter months of DM duty can be cold or rainy, and the Summer time can be oppressively hot.

- Work clothes

DM's aren't expected to rebuild engines, but you don't want to be scrubbing bird droppings off boats in a nice pair of slacks.

- Sunglasses

The sun's glare can be hard on the eyes, be prepared.

Dockmaster Qualification Criteria:

1. All Regular club members are required to serve 2 Dockmaster shifts during the year. Associate, Student or Honorary members are welcome to volunteer, but are exempt from the requirement. Those wishing to volunteer should contact the Chief Dockmaster.
2. Club members who are age / physically challenged and unable to perform their yearly DM duties are also exempt.
3. Club members who live outside of San Diego County, or the state of California are also exempt.

Thanks again for all your help and volunteering your valuable time to be a CSC Dockmaster. See you on the water !

Sincerely,

Robert Skillings Chief DockMaster