

Collins Bay Marina

Following is a list of tips we hope you will find useful. If you have any others to add, please let us know.

Summer Tips:

Antifouling Paint

- Pay particular attention to the antifouling paint manufacturer's preparation and application information. Do not apply the paint too thickly as it will result in poor adhesion and flaking.
- Previous coats of ablative paints like Micron CSC only need to be lightly cleaned (rather than heavily sanded) before adding a fresh thin coat. A good technique is to use a base coat that is a different colour than the finish coats. Once you see the base coat colour, it is time to apply a new finish coat.
- A previous coat of VC17 only needs light cleaning (a scotchbrite pad can take off any fouling) before adding a fresh thin coat. Note that the solvent in the paint dissolves the previous coat causing the new and old to amalgamate into one.
- Protect yourself. Use a respiratory mask fitted with the proper organic filter. Protect your skin as well.

General

- Wrap your power cord once or twice around the power post to act as a strain relief to protect the plug.
- If you suspect you have weeds on your prop or keel when approaching the marina, back up briefly to lose the weeds before you pass the fuel dock. This will ensure you don't lose steerage due to weeds and also keeps weed clumps out of the harbour.
- Dinghy racks are provided near the entrance of the marina. A dinghy dolly is also provided for easy shuttling of your dinghy. Please leave the dolly near the racks.
- After tying your boat at the dock, push/pull on it in all directions to simulate a storm and ensure that it is properly secured.

Winter Tips:

Mast Storage

- When wrapping masts or tarps avoid the use of duct tape or plastic wrap as they don't stand up to weather and shred away within weeks. Use nylon rope or tie wraps and tarps instead. Do not use bungee cords (they are a safety hazard!).
- When you tie your stays to the mast, cinch stays together into a bundle first, then tie the bundle to the mast.

- Roller furlings protruding past the end of the mast should be supported by using a wood 2x4 as a splint. Place the 2x4 inside the mast or lash it to the side of the mast. Lash the foil to the 2x4.
- Plug ends of masts to prevent birds and squirrels from nesting inside.

Covering Boats

- Do not use poly rope for tarpaulin tie downs. The line will not hold a knot and works loose in the wind. Use nylon rope instead.
- Tarp grommets are common failure points. Do not rely solely on grommets, tie lines over top of tarp as well.
- Protect tarps from sharp corners and other wear points.
- Do not leave any loose edges or corners – this is where failures begin in strong winds.
- If you use bottles full of water to tension down tarps, don't hang them from the edge of the tarp as this allows the wind to lift up the tarp and frozen bottles of water and flail them against the hull. Tie a cord from one side under the hull to the other side and hang bottles from the middle instead. Do not use bottles contaminated with waste oil.
- The best solution is a custom made, framed and fitted canvas cover.
- Never tie tarps to tripods as they can pull tripods out from under the boat in a storm!

Cradles & Trailers

- Maintain cradle pads before haulout: grease adjustable pad threads with white lithium grease; snug up pad hinge bolts to prevent pad from flopping over; resurface or replace worn pads.
- Store cradle/trailer pads at home during the summer to protect them from loss or weathering.

General

- Plug any entry holes into cabin or lockers to prevent rodents from nesting.
- Lock up ladders so as not to attract unwanted visitors to your boat.

Schedule pump outs and mast desteepping on days prior to haul out day to avoid lines and waiting.