

Royal Geelong Yacht Club
Marina Live Aboard Policy 2013
Effective from January 1 2014

Introduction.

Royal Geelong Yacht Club has a Marina with accommodation for approximately 250 boats and several swing moorings for additional boats. There are some RGYC Members who live on board their boat from time to time and others who live on board full time. It is necessary to have a management policy for these situations so that the people who live aboard understand their responsibilities, what the Club may provide and what other RGYC Members can expect.

Objective.

To provide suitable controls to manage the number of vessels used as “live aboard” in the RGYC Marina to protect the amenity, environment and security of the marina precinct.

This extract from RGYC By-Laws 2012 provides the operational context:

“RGYC Marina Rules

8(d) Living onboard vessels for a period in excess of 3 days is prohibited unless permission is obtained from the Marina Manager. Living onboard a vessel for extended periods must be approved by RGYC via the General Manager.”

Definitions of “live aboard” –

- a. Permanent RGYC Member live aboard – RGYC pen lease holders who live aboard their boat at RGYC. The boat may be used by its owner as a live aboard vessel for the year (July 1 to June 30) for an annual fee. Further explanation below.
- b. Casual RGYC Member live aboard. Members who live aboard their boat for periods of up to 14 days. (It is not sufficient for the occupant to leave the marina for a short time and then return to reset the time period.) A further period of up to 4 weeks is available for a fee (see details below).
- c. Casual Non RGYC Member live aboard. Visitors to RGYC Marina who stay on their boats overnight for up to 14 nights (see details below).

Live Aboard Management

- 1) A person living on a vessel (as defined) in the marina will pay an additional fee above the standard pen lease fee. The fee will be determined by the RGYC Board on an annual basis.
- 2) Permanent and casual live aboard vessels do not receive any refund for time spent away from the RGYC Marina.
- 3) A schedule of fees is provided and reviewed annually.

What do live aboard people receive as benefits from using the RGYC Marina?

1. A safe mooring for their boat. (Pen fees pay for this.)
2. Security fencing around the yacht club perimeter.
3. Security lighting.
4. Shoreside visits from a security patrol.
5. Water supply to the marina near vessels.
6. Electricity supply to sites near vessels.
7. Rubbish bins and recycling bins on shore.
8. Showers and toilets on shore.
9. Workshop facilities.
10. Café - Restaurant and bar facilities.
11. BBQ facilities
12. Opportunities for free parking on the waterfront east of the RGYC gate.

Introductory information.

The RGYC Marina By-Laws are to be provided to each visiting boat and must be complied with by all people visiting the Marina. Failure to comply may result in the Marina Manager directing the boat occupied by those people to be removed from the Marina. There will be no refund of fees in such cases and any Marina booking request in the future may be declined.

- All berthing is at the direction of the Marina Manager. RGYC does not accept any responsibility for damage or injury to any vessel or person using the Marina.
- Any person in charge of a boat in the Marina is responsible for the vessel and the persons on board.
- If the person in charge of a vessel in the Marina does not wish to comply with RGYC Rules, By-Laws or the directions of the Marina Manager they should remove their vessel from the Marina immediately.
- Note that every boat that stays in the RGYC Marina must have full insurance and a copy of the current insurance policy must be provided to the Marina Manager with the booking or upon arrival. No insurance policy means no stay in the Marina.

Key points:

1. There will be no more than 5 permanent live aboard boats in the Marina at any time.
Rationale: The Marina is not able to provide resources for large numbers of live aboard boats.

The Marina electrical system cannot carry very heavy loads. There will be potential problems with waste water disposal.

2. Live aboard fees are applied on a per boat basis of \$160 per week for casual bookings. See item 7 (b) below.

(Live aboard fees were \$120 per week in 2005 as explained in a letter from the Club to a RGYC Member.)

There is no pro rata fee – all fees are per night or weekly, paid in advance.

4. *Participants in RGYC sponsored events such as the Festival of Sails and the RGYC Wooden Boat Festival will not be charged a live aboard fee for the duration of the event for which an entry fee has been paid. Standard fees will be charged for nights before and after these events. Marina berths will be made available where possible and at the direction of the Marina Manager.*

5. *No permanent live aboard permits will be issued to boats using swing moorings.*
Rationale: Boats are at risk in heavy weather from the north. If there is a person aboard, they are at increased risk in storms and if there is a crisis other persons may be involved in rescue operations for that person. Waste disposal is problematic and water supply provision is limited. If the resident falls ill or is injured it will be difficult for anyone to recognise their situation or hear their calls for help.

6. *Casual live aboard is possible on swing moorings at the Marina Manager's discretion. The fees are the same as for the use of a site in the Marina. A person using a casual live aboard mooring may be asked to leave the boat or the mooring if the Marina Manager considers the weather conditions are forecast to be severe or dangerous. If the boat resident does not wish to comply with this direction they will sign a declaration that they have received the instruction and that they have refused to comply. There is no onus on the RGYC Marina Manager to provide this information.*

7. There are 3 categories of live aboard arrangements and fees:

- a. **Permanent RGYC Member live aboard – The boat may be used by its owner as a live aboard vessel for the year (July 1 to June 30).** There is no rebate for time spent away from the Marina. There is a maximum of 5 live aboard places in the Marina under this category and the annual fee reflects the privilege offered by the Club. A RGYC Member may apply in writing to the Marina Manager for one of the permanent live aboard positions. An existing permanent live aboard Member will have the first right of refusal for their live aboard position each year.

The Member may seek a refund of up to 50% of the remaining live aboard fee if they elect to leave the Marina or cease to live aboard. Any refund request should be made in writing to the General Manager. Use of electricity is charged at the same weekly rate for all RGYC Members.

- b. **Casual RGYC Member live aboard.**

RGYC Member boats will not be charged a live aboard fee when Members stay on board for periods of up to 2 weeks at any one time. Stays beyond 2 weeks up to a maximum of another 4 weeks will be charged at the casual rate of \$160 per week paid in advance. There are no RGYC Member casual live aboard stays of longer than 6 weeks.

Rationale: Live aboard boats use additional resources provided by the Club (all Members) and we are seeking to provide a fair allocation of our resources and infrastructure. The fee structure and time limit are designed to discourage more than the 5 permanent live aboard positions as provided for in this policy. The standard electricity use fee will be paid by the Member if electricity is connected to the boat.

c. Casual Non RGYC Member live aboard – Boats visiting RGYC for up to 14 nights:

1. Individual boats that are members of yacht / boating clubs **without reciprocal rights** linked to RGYC or are not a member of any club and are visiting RGYC.

Bookings in advance are requested. Berths may not be available. Each night is charged at the rate in the schedule of fees, paid in advance.

Stays beyond 7 nights will be charged at the rate per week in the schedule of fees.

There is no berthing available during the period of the Festival of Sails or other major regattas.

There is no provision for commercial vessels to use the marina.

2. Individual boats that are members of yacht / boating clubs **with reciprocal rights** linked to RGYC visiting RGYC.

Bookings in advance are requested. Berths may not be available. The first 2 nights of any stay at RGYC are at no cost. Each night after that will be charged at the scheduled rate per night in advance for the next 5 nights.

Stays beyond 7 nights will be charged at the rate per week in the schedule of fees.

There is no berthing available during the period of the Festival of Sails or other major regattas.

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The RGYC By-Law 8) RGYC Marina Rules should be read in conjunction with this policy.

The RGYC Live Aboard Policy is to be reviewed in October 2014.

LIVE ABOARD POLICY

SCHEDULE OF FEES

(All fees inclusive of GST)

To be effective: 1 January 2014

1. Casual Non RGYC Member Visitor

- \$40 per night
- \$160 per week (7 nights)
- Additional: \$40 per night
- New Year's Eve and other designated peak periods: \$75 per night

2. Permanent RGYC Live Aboard

- \$1,500 per boat per calendar year, payable in advance, (pro rata for periods less than 12 months).

3. Reciprocal Clubs

- First two nights free
- \$40 per night
- \$160 per week
- Additional nights after week(s) stay: \$40 per night

**No Casual berthing/ overnight stays during the period of the Festival of Sails and other designated events.*