

# Aquatic Consulting Services

1220 Rosecrans Street #915 • San Diego • California • 92106

## Boating Tip #25: Pre-Sail Checklist

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chart \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Point \_\_\_\_\_

Departure time \_\_\_\_\_

Destination \_\_\_\_\_

Time arrived at destination \_\_\_\_\_

Distance traveled \_\_\_\_\_ nautical miles

Time returned to port \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Remove all unnecessary items from the cockpit. Secure all items below.

\_\_\_\_ Stow hatch boards.

\_\_\_\_ Fill starboard forward \_\_\_\_\_ and port aft \_\_\_\_\_ water tanks.

Tank valve open: Starboard / Port / Both

\_\_\_\_ Check holding tanks.

Forward holding tank valve:

Open / Closed

Aft holding tank valve:

Open / Closed

\_\_\_\_ Check tank monitoring system:

\_\_\_\_ 1 Holding tank, bow

\_\_\_\_ 2 Water tank, S

\_\_\_\_ 3 Holding tank, aft

\_\_\_\_ 4 Water tank, P

\_\_\_\_ 5 Fuel

\_\_\_\_ Remove sail cover, fold and stow.

\_\_\_\_ Attach halyard to head of main sail and check that the main halyard is untangled. Wrap halyard around winch. Take up slack.

\_\_\_\_ Store winches in cockpit winch holders.

\_\_\_\_ Close hatches (5) and portholes (10).

\_\_\_\_ Check that bilges are dry. Run bilge pump if necessary.

\_\_\_\_ Turn battery dials to correct setting:

Windlass: Off / On

House: Off / 1 / Both / 2

Engine: Off / 1 / Both / 2

\_\_\_\_ Check battery voltage.

House Battery 1 \_\_\_\_\_

House Battery 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Battery Charger \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Check the battery level on the cell/digital phone. Plug in and recharge if necessary. \_\_\_

\_\_\_ Turn on the propane tank.

\_\_\_ Turn off the water heater.

\_\_\_ Switch on 12 volt DC breakers.

\_\_\_ Turn on VHF radios at the helm \_\_\_ and navigation station \_\_\_.

\_\_\_ Turn on the Tridata depth sounder, knotmeter and wind instruments.

\_\_\_ Find navigation equipment and review charts for planned trip.

\_\_\_ Turn on the chart plotters at the helm \_\_\_ and navigation station \_\_\_.

\_\_\_ Record latitude and longitude. N \_\_\_ ° \_\_\_ . \_\_\_ " W \_\_\_ ° \_\_\_ . \_\_\_ ' ,

\_\_\_ Erase old track lines.

\_\_\_ Create route.

\_\_\_ Turn on the RADAR at the helm \_\_\_ and navigation station \_\_\_.

\_\_\_ Turn on the autopilot breaker.

\_\_\_ Turn on VHF radio. Check the weather (channel 2 – San Diego), then tune to channel 16.

Winds: \_\_\_ k from the \_\_\_ Barometric pressure: \_\_\_ F S R

Relative humidity \_\_\_ % Visibility \_\_\_ miles

Wind waves \_\_\_ Swell: \_\_\_ ' from the \_\_\_ @ \_\_\_ second intervals

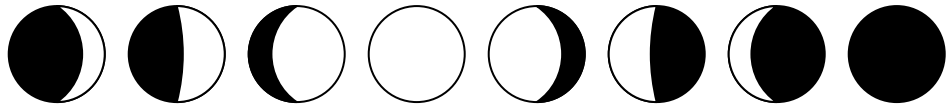
Air temperature: \_\_\_ ° Water temperature \_\_\_ ° Weather:

\_\_\_ After sunset, switch on running, steaming, or anchor lights – as appropriate.

Sunrise \_\_\_ Sunset \_\_\_

	Time	Height	High / Low	Current:	
___ Record tides:	_____	_____	_____	___ kts	Ebb / Flood
	_____	_____	_____	___ kts	Ebb / Flood
	_____	_____	_____	___ kts	Ebb / Flood
	_____	_____	_____	___ kts	Ebb / Flood

Moon phase: Waxing Crescent / First Quarter / Waxing Gibbous / Full / Waning Gibbous / Last Quarter / Waning Crescent / New



\_\_\_ Make sure anchors are stowed but ready for use. Bow anchor \_\_\_ Stern anchor \_\_\_

\_\_\_ Remove sacrificial anode from the water and stow

\_\_\_ Check rescue equipment (Lifesling, MOB pole, ring buoy, floating strobe light).

\_\_\_ Attach jacklines if sailing at night or in rough seas.

- \_\_\_ Remove the through hull fitting and clean marine growth off the knot meter with wire brush.
- \_\_\_ Remove debris from the sea strainer in the engine compartment.
- \_\_\_ Check engine oil level.
- \_\_\_ Check coolant.
- \_\_\_ Extend boat hook and bring topside.
- \_\_\_ Tie off the dinghy at dock,
- \_\_\_ If carrying dinghy, use lifting cables, block and tackle, halyard, and bring aboard and secure.
- \_\_\_ If towing dinghy, remove outboard and secure to sailboat stern rail mounted outboard bracket.
- \_\_\_ If towing, secure the dinghy to sailboat and tow "short" while backing out or leaving mooring.
- \_\_\_ Secure the kayaks
- \_\_\_ Check steering wheel. Find rudder center. Put clutch lever in neutral.
- \_\_\_ Hoist radar reflector, if sailing at night, in fog, or crossing commercial traffic lanes.
- \_\_\_ Raise / display appropriate flags.
- \_\_\_ Open or fold dodger and bimini
- \_\_\_ Bring up the swim ladder. Secure helm bench with toggles and close the lifeline gate.
- \_\_\_ Make sure that enough fresh water and food are stowed for emergencies.
- \_\_\_ Take Dramamine.
- \_\_\_ Check that there are enough PFDs in correct sizes for everyone aboard. Have children / non swimmers don PFDs.
- \_\_\_ Turn off 30 amp master circuit breaker at the dock box and unplug power cord from the boat.
- \_\_\_ Turn on the inverter.
- \_\_\_ Have the captain and crew sign the log.



Captain: \_\_\_\_\_

Crew: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_ Identify second in command in case of emergency. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Assign line and boat hook handlers.
- \_\_\_ Explain the vessel's waste management plan and show the placard.
- \_\_\_ Remove finger rings.

- \_\_\_ Go over the location and use of PFDs, fire extinguishers, MOB pole and strobe, Lifesling, first aid kit, harnesses and tethers, EPIRB, flares and other safety and rescue equipment.
- \_\_\_ Review the operation of the VHF radio. Discuss emergency and “mayday” procedures. Explain how to call the Coast Guard and Vessel Assist.
- \_\_\_ Review drug, smoking and alcohol policies
- \_\_\_ Review MOB procedures.
- \_\_\_ Start the engine. Idle low in neutral. Engine hours \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_ Check diesel fuel level in tank. Fuel gauge at \_\_\_\_\_. Stop at fuel dock if necessary.
- \_\_\_ Check effect of wind and current on boat drift, and where paddle wheel effect will take the stern.
- \_\_\_ Leave \_\_\_ lines attached to cleats on dock. Take along the other dock lines.
- \_\_\_ Check for traffic in the channel before backing out, then motor out of the slip.
- \_\_\_ Pull fenders aboard after clear of dock and stow.
- \_\_\_ Secure lifelines and gates.
- \_\_\_ Stow docklines.
- \_\_\_ Turn boat in to the wind. Remove sail ties.
- \_\_\_ Release main sheet, boom vang and reef lines.
- \_\_\_ Send crew member forward to mast to help jump the mainsail.
- \_\_\_ Hoist the mainsail. \_\_\_ Cleat mainsail halyard. \_\_\_ Adjust the reefing lines.
- \_\_\_ Head off wind. Remember to duck out of the way of the boom. Unfurl the Genoa, and sheet in.
- \_\_\_ Cut the air to the engine by pressing and holding the stop button on the engine panel until the engine stops. Switch the toggle off.
- \_\_\_ Ease mainsheet. Trim sails. Adjust traveler. Adjust boom vang. Adjust fairleads for uniform telltales.
- \_\_\_ Monitor depth and speed. Make sure that the chart plotter is charting position, speed, and course. Log position at least once per hour. Chart when in unfamiliar waters.
- \_\_\_ Empty holding tanks.

Comments: