

I hope everyone is coping with the changes in our lives from the corona virus pandemic. Personally, even though I usually get a bit of cabin fever this time of year waiting for the boating season to start, and in reality would not be doing that much more anyway, not being able to do anything is frustrating. And, being retired, I am one of the lucky ones. Many, perhaps most of you, are incurring much greater disruption in your daily lives. Still, it is better to be safe than sorry.

On the good news front, the bar has cleared most of its hurdles. Construction is complete, and we have passed our inspections by the city building departments and the health department. Our liquor permit has been provisionally approved, pending a final inspection by the state liquor board. Of course, the liquor board has suspended all field work, but we could not open the bar until this pandemic crisis is under control anyway.

The Stay at Home Order affects the Club in other ways as well. Although marinas and docks are listed as an “essential business” and may remain open as long as proper social distancing is observed, the Stay at Home Order specifically includes non-profit businesses such as the Club. Therefore, in order to comply with the Stay at Home Order and keep our members safe:

1. There will be no events or social gatherings at the Club until after Ohio allows restaurants and bars to fully reopen. Any events already on the calendar are suspended until further notice.
2. Boat owners and their contractors will continue to have access to their boats. You must maintain at least a six-foot distance between people. Be sure to lock the gate when you leave. If you are not working on a boat, we ask that you stay away.
3. The main Clubhouse is off limits except for board-approved maintenance and repair activities. The combination has been changed; it will be distributed when restrictions on social gatherings have been lifted.
4. The restrooms will remain accessible. Note, however, that the Club is not in a position to ensure frequent sanitizing of the facilities. It would be prudent to bring your own soap/towels for hand washing.

The Board will be meeting online until the crisis is over to make sure we are doing everything we can to have a strong club ready to re-open as soon as it is safe to do so. If you would like to join the next on-line Board meeting (second Tuesday of the month) please contact Wes Scott for a link to the on-line meeting. Note that we have a limited number of connections available, but should be able to accommodate the usual number of people who attend board meetings.

It is too early to know for sure how all this will impact launching boats in May. Right now, if no additional restrictions are put in place by the health department, it looks like we would be able to proceed as normal, perhaps with a few modifications to accommodate the social distancing requirements. We will monitor the situation closely and let you know if anything changes. These are difficult times that will try our patience. I encourage you to do everything you can to remain safe and healthy. Stay home if you can, and wash your hands often. We'll get through this.

Jon Peter
LHBC Commodore