



ALL BOATERS

Parade of Sail Instructions

Friday, June 7th, 2024

Fleets

Festival Fleet – These are the featured tall ships, character vessels, period vessels, navy ships, etc. The Festival Fleet Parade Commander will broadcast on VHF Channel 72.

Starboard/Rendezvous Fleet – Private boats registered with their yacht club. The Starboard Fleet sails on the starboard (right) side of Festival Fleet. Each yacht club will be assigned a vessel in the Festival Fleet to escort. The Starboard Fleet Parade Commander will broadcast on VHF Channel 74.

Parade Fleet – Individual Boaters (No yacht club) who are not docking at Harborfest but wish to participate in the Parade of Sail will Follow the USCG Cutter at end of parade. Parade Fleet monitors VHF Channel 74.

Communication

Festival Fleet VHF Channel 72

Starboard Fleet VHF Channel 74

Rendezvous Fleet VHF Channel 74

Parade Fleet VHF Channel 74

Stay on your fleet's channel throughout parade and for docking instructions.

Minimize VHF transmissions. Use cell phones for casual communications.

Parade Formation

The **Festival Fleet (Tall Ships) AND**

- **Parade Fleet (individual)** boats will muster at *Sewell's Point Anchorage "K," off the Navy Base*.

The **Starboard Fleet will muster by yacht club** along the west side of the Elizabeth River between the **RED** buoys and Craney Island. Each yacht club should choose a specific location such as buoy "**R-10**."

A USCG vessel will lead the Festival Fleet south down the Elizabeth River. Each yacht club will join the Starboard Fleet as their **assigned vessel in the Festival Fleet approaches** by forming a half "V" formation from the ship's starboard stern quarter. Avoid following any boat from directly behind to avoid a collision in the event of sudden change of speed and to allow plenty of room to maneuver. It's best not to be too close to a tall ship. You never know if she needs to maneuver your way, or just - fire a cannon!

The **parade speed is 6 knots** based on the minimum speed for some tall ships to maintain steerage, but some ships may temporarily speed up or slow down to adjust spacing.. If you cannot maintain speed, simply work your way to starboard and let the parade pass.

Burgees

Docking vessels in the parade MUST fly the official 2024 Harborfest burgee provided. The larger burgee identifies the tall ships and smaller burgees identify the boats docking at the "Rendezvous" or Waterside after the parade.

Displaying the Burgee on the starboard side is preferred so it will be easily seen as we make a counterclockwise circle around the harbor. Safety boats are identified by yellow burgees. Burgees are NOT required to just participate in the parade, however all rules pertain to all boaters.

Sail Plan of the Day

- 9:00 AM All Parade of Sail vessels get underway from downtown waterfront.
- 10:00 AM **Festival Fleet** rendezvous at Sewells Point Anchorage "K" off the Navy Base. Contact the Festival Fleet Parade Commander on VHF Channel 72 to identify your vessel and position. Proceed as directed to organize parade order with other vessels.
- Starboard Fleet** rendezvous along the west (**RED**) side of the Elizabeth River. Each yacht Club captain should contact the Starboard Fleet Parade Commander on VHF Channel 74 to report the number of boats present and their current position. Docking Vessels must fly designated burgee to enter harbors.
- Parade Fleet (individual boaters)** should also contact Starboard Fleet Parade Commander to receive any additional instructions. (No streamers/burgees required – Please adhere to all rules stated.)
- 10:30 AM **ALL VESSELS ON STATION FOR START OF PARADE**
- 10:30 AM **PARADE OF SAIL UNDERWAY**
- Noon **PARADE OF SAIL ARRIVES OFF NAUTICUS AND TOWN POINT PARK**
- Maintain parade order.
 - All vessels shall follow the parade route past Hospital Point, Tidewater Yacht, and around the fireboat near Metro Machine. Proceed along the Norfolk waterfront and wave to all of the spectators.
 - Proceed to assigned docking location. Boats registered for the Yacht Club Rendezvous should proceed towards the Pagoda basin. When called by boat name, enter the Pagoda basin and dock as directed.
 - If you're not docking, you may go around the fireboat again if you wish or cross the river for home.

For questions regarding the Parade Order, Parade Route, or Parade Instructions, please contact the Starboard Fleet Commander: **Preston Carraway (Cell 757-287-3548)** VHF Channel 74