

COCID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR USERS OF WATER TAXI SERVICES

The following interim guidance includes recommendations to help reduce the risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19 and other acute respiratory illnesses, in/onboard Day Boat operators.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Operators of passenger and ferry vessels should, when feasible:

- Notify passengers before boarding that they may be subject to a health check to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Notify passengers before boarding that they should have a face covering to cover their mouth/nose, for use at times during their journey when they cannot physically distance from others (e.g., in washrooms or other common areas).
- Have the crew (or crewmember) read out the announcement, provided below, prior to or on-board the vessel. Where this is not feasible, the operator should post equivalent signage.
- Conduct health checks for every passenger before boarding on voyages that are longer than 30 minutes, and advise every passenger they are not to provide answers that they know to be false or misleading.
- Post adequate posters/signs in highly visible locations (for example, at deck entrances and at sinks) indicating:
 - How to stop the spread of COVID-19
 - Frequent handwashing,
 - Use of hand sanitizers
 - cough and sneeze etiquette etc.
 - Correct use a cloth face covering
- Provide sanitizing stations around the vessel
- Provide appropriate facilities (inclusive of appropriate disinfectants and instructions) for employees and passengers to maintain good hand hygiene, Environmental hygiene and PPE for staff
- Document protocols and continuously sensitize staff

EMPLOYEES/STAFF WELL BEING

- Employees who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness should notify their supervisor and stay home.
- Sick employees should not come to work until they are free of fever (temperature of 100.4° F [37.8° C]) or greater, signs of a fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines.

Separation of sick employees:

- Employees who appear to have developed respiratory illness symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath) whilst on the vessel should be separated from other employees and passengers. (isolated within designated room until this potentially sick person can be removed from the vessel)
- Any employee who develops fever and respiratory symptoms must notify the Captain immediately.
- - If you have a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, you can return to work only after you have fully recovered, with a doctor's note confirming your recovery.

SCREENING

Routine screening of passengers

- All vessels should undertake active (ask screening questions) and passive (signage) screening for staff and passengers. Screening should be done on intake and daily for:
 - Fever (if possible);
 - New cough or change in cough;
 - Shortness of breath; and
 - Other symptoms compatible with COVID-19 (e.g., muscle aches, headache, sore throat, runny nose).
- On intake, screen clients for exposures to individuals who are unwell and may have COVID-19, as well as any underlying health conditions (e.g., cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic lung disease) or immune suppression (e.g., cancer).
- Individuals conducting screening should wear masks.

DENIAL OF BOARDING:

- In the event that the vessel operator observes that :
 - he passenger has COVID-19 symptoms; or
That their response to any of the questions on the health check indicates a need to deny boarding; or
 - the passenger is not in possession of a face covering

HYGIENE REQUIREMENTS

- Employees and passengers should wash hands after using the toilet, before eating, and after cough/sneezing (follow the 20 second rule). If soap and running water are not immediately available, use alcohol-based sanitizers.
- Cough/sneeze into your sleeve, preferably into your elbow. If you use a tissue, discard it properly and clean/sanitize your hands immediately.
- Open the windows regularly to ensure open ventilation.
- Avoid touching your face, particularly eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands to prevent from being infected.
- If you find yourself coughing/sneezing on a regular basis, avoid close physical contact with your coworkers and take extra precautionary measures (such as requesting sick leave).

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Physical distancing between the passengers is important, even in smaller vessels.

- Maintain 6 feet distance between passengers. Arrange seating to achieve this required distance.
- Staff and passengers whilst on the vessel shall maintain 6 feet physical distance between each other.
- There shall be no overcrowding within the vessel (a minimum of 30 square feet per individual)

MEAL SERVICE

- Provide waterless hand wash (e.g., alcohol-based hand sanitizer) to clients before meals;
- Dispense food onto plates for clients or meals should already be prepared on separate trays or bags
- Minimize client handling of multiple sets of eating utensils by providing individually wrapped utensils or having staff hand out utensils;
- Remove shared food containers (e.g., shared pitchers of water, salt & peppershakers, etc.)
- Dispense snacks directly to clients and use pre-packaged snacks or dispense snacks onto a plate before handing it to the client;
- Ensure there is adequate spacing between clients/staff while eating (at least 6 feet) apart;
- Ensure that food handling staff are in good health and practice good hand hygiene;

GUIDANCE FOR PASSENGERS

Personal Hygiene:

- Where possible, please use hand sanitizer before and after you have entered or exited the vessel.
- When you get off the vessel, you should wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with water and soap, and then dry your hands thoroughly.
- Any passenger who develops fever and respiratory symptoms must notify the Captain immediately.

CONTACT TRACING

- Please comply with requests to provide contact tracing information.
- Captains and deck hands need to be medically fit to navigate, all staff must follow hygiene guidance and stay at home if they are, or feel, unwell.

GUIDANCE FOR CAPTAIN AND DECKHANDS

Personal hygiene:

- Ensure you follow the general personal hygiene guidance about washing your hands.
- Carry hand sanitizer and use it regularly.
- Minimise interactions with passengers. This includes minimising cash payments. Use hand sanitizer or wash your hands after each interaction, where possible.
- Use hand sanitizer or wash your hands after handling a passenger's luggage.
- Always wear face mask

ANNOUNCEMENT

On-board announcement

- Undertake periodical announcement informing passengers and staff of the measures implemented to mitigate against Covid 19.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- Increase frequency of routine cleaning and disinfection, emphasizing cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and after every journey/when visibly dirty, wipe all surfaces that a passenger may have touched with antiseptic wipes or disinfectant e.g. door handles rails, handles, seats etc.
- Use standard procedures for cleaning and disinfecting, and use an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered disinfectant.
- Using the proper concentrations of disinfectant, allowing required wet contact time.
- Where available, use rubber gloves when cleaning. Dispose of them and any cleaning materials safely when you have finished.
- Ensure safe and correct use and storage of disinfectants, including storing products securely.

GENERAL

- Remind passengers about preventive measures to reduce risk to drivers
- Consider installing plexi-glass shields as a barrier between the driver and passenger in the back seat.
- Ask passengers to sit in the back seat to maintain physical distance.
- Consider minimizing shared rides so passengers are not travelling with individuals unknown to them.
- Individuals wearing a non-medical mask. Please note, that when worn properly, a person wearing a non-medical mask or face covering can reduce the spread of their own infectious respiratory droplets to others.
- The effectiveness of non-medical masks in protecting the wearer from respiratory droplets from others is uncertain.