



Volunteer Marine Rescue Brisbane Inc

Providing a Safer Marine Environment for Our Community

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Walkway and Pontoon

1.0 Introduction

This document sets out the steps to be taken and the precautions to be considered when entering from the grounds to the pontoon and the safe use of the pontoon.

2.0 References

Volunteer Marine Rescue Inc By-Laws

3.0 Detailed Information

3.1 Entry

- a) Entry to the pontoon from the grounds is via the walkway which extends horizontally to the security gate which hinges outwards from the pontoon.
- b) The walkway, when wet, may be slippery and particular care should be exercised at these times. Climbing or standing on any section of the handrails is prohibited.
- c) On reaching the security gate, insert your members key and turn to unlock the gate. This gate opens outwards. (away from the pontoon)
- d) For security reasons, this gate should be closed after you pass through, however, if you need to secure the gate in an open position while you load or unload, a hook on the handrail is provided which will clip onto the wire mesh of the gate. Remember to lock the gate again after you have finished.
- e) Once through the security gate, the remaining section of the walkway down to the pontoon hinges to allow for the rise and fall of the tide. Extreme care should be exercised when the tide is low as the angle of descent of this section can be quite steep. Leather soled shoes can be particularly dangerous.

3.2 Entry

- a) Once on the pontoon care should be taken when approaching the edges. Children especially, should be well supervised.
- b) Keep hands and feet away from the roller assembly which locates the pontoon to the piles.
- c) Bollards or cleats are provided for the securing of vessels. Take care that you do not trip on these when you approach the edges also be aware that when a vessel is moored against a face of the pontoon, mooring ropes may present an additional hazard.

3.3 By-Laws Relating to the Use of the Pontoon (By-Law 7)

- a) Vessels which are entitled, subject to this by-law, to be moored at the pontoon are those belonging to and in charge of members or those which are moored by the express written permission of the Secretary of VMR Brisbane.
- b) The outstream face of the pontoon shall be only for the purpose of embarking or disembarking of crews and/or the loading or unloading of stores, equipment etc. Period of use of this facility must be limited to a minimum on all occasions and **MUST NOT EXCEED 20 MINUTES MAXIMUM.**



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- c) VESSELS SHALL NOT BE LEFT AT ANY TIME AT THE UPSTREAM FACE OF THE PONTOON.
- d) Work may be performed on vessels moored at the downstream inshore face of the pontoon provided that an application, in writing, stating the work to be performed, is lodged with the Association Secretary and approved in writing. This provision for use of the pontoon shall not apply for Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays. Rate of charge for this purpose is \$10.00 per day or part thereof, payable in advance.
- e) Vessels are not to be moored at the walkway to the pontoon.
- f) The rigging etc of vessels shall not be connected to any part of the pontoon or its walkway.
- g) All Association members are expected to adhere to notices on the pontoon.
- h) Members using the pontoon etc must ensure that same is left in a shipshape condition.
- i) Swimming in the vicinity of the pontoon is prohibited.
- j) Fishing and/or diving from the pontoon or its walkway is prohibited.
- k) Members misusing the pontoon and its associated facilities will be considered to be in contravention of this by-law.
- l) The penalty for contravention of this by-law is as determined by the VMR Brisbane Management Committee.

4.0 Summary

By following these guidelines members using the pontoon and walkway will be minimised by potential accidents.