



# Lloyd Harbor Yacht Club

## RED KITE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Operators of LHYC vessels Must Be Club Members

### Dear RC Volunteer:

Thank you very much for volunteering to serve as race committee volunteer. Included below are this year's instructions for the operation of the RC boat, the *Melrose*. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask. Thanks again for your service to our racing program.

Thank You,  
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### The RC Boat

**Red Kite** is located at Willis Marine on Mill Dam Road off New York Ave. The Launch is located on the gas dock to the left of the office as you come in, about halfway down the parking lot.

1. **Unlock the cabin** using the combination sent by the Fleet Captain in a prior email.
2. **Turn on battery** switch located just starboard of the companionway ladder near the floor. The ignition key is stored in the cabin, on hanging on a hook just inside the cabin door to starboard of the companionway.
3. **Ventilation** This is a gasoline powered inboard engine. You should turn on the vent fan as soon as you arrive on board. The engine compartment vent fan switch is located at the helm, rightmost switch. When operating a red light illuminates, and the sound of the fan is audible in the cockpit. The engine compartment can be opened by lifting the cover at the step up from the main deck to the bridge deck. The USCG states ***"Warning gasoline vapors can explode. Before starting engine, operate blower at least 4 minutes and check engine compartment bilge for gasoline vapors."***
4. **Running Lights** are on a switch on the dash. Up is running lights, down is anchor light, middle is off.
5. **Registration** is mounted on the bulkhead in the galley.
6. **GPS** is located in the orange tacklebox in v-berth. The unit snaps into holder at the helm station. Be sure to remove rubber cap on power connector in holder.
7. **Life jackets** are in hanging locker forward of the head.
8. **Check fuel** Although the boat should be well fueled, you can check the gas gauges through the sight glasses in the deck, port and starboard aft of the seats on the bridge deck. If you need to switch fuel tanks, lift the engine cover (as described in #3) and find the lever mounted at the forward bulkhead of the compartment. If you need to add fuel, do not mix oil with the fuel.
9. **Start the engine.** Ensure the transmission is in neutral checking the left-most of the chrome levers is in the center position. Start the engine by applying the choke (pushing the start key inward while

turning the key – only necessary for two or so attempts, no longer). If you need to increase throttle in neutral (if you may have flooded it), advance the throttle which is the right-most lever. After the engine starts, let it warm up for at least 5 minutes while you continue to prep. Turn the bilge blower off before leaving to dock to prevent running the battery down after anchoring.

10. **The flags** that you will need for the divisions are located on poles in a sling on the port side of the bridge, as is the P flag and other flags that may be needed. The blue “RC” flag is also on a pole and should be mounted in the PVC socket on the starboard bow pulpit.
11. **The starting pin** resides on Melrose and needs to be assembled. If Red Kite is the only boat operating the race you may need to retrieve it on your way out of the harbor. The top half with the flag fits into the lower half with the float, and is held together with a pin.
12. **The Ollie starting system** is a portable unit stored in the cabin on Red Kite. The horns should be clamped to the aluminum cabin top support on the port side facing aft, and the hose connected to the control unit. Flip the white rocker switch down to activate 20 seconds prior to the start (see RC Instructions), or push the black button for a manual horn. If you have trouble with this system, you may need to go back to the old method and signal with an air horn.
13. **After racing**, return the boat with equipment left inside to the Willis slip behind the gas dock. Red Kite exhibits significant prop-walk to port in reverse. Plan for this when backing into the slip. Request assistance if necessary. Launch may need to be moved off the end of the dock to get Red Kite into the slip.
  - a. Roll flags on poles and stow in sling on the port side of cockpit/bridgedeck.
  - b. Remove GPS, replace the rubber cap on the mount contacts, and stow the unit in the orange tackle box.
  - c. Turn the radio off and switch batteries to Off.
  - d. Drain & stow the cooler. Hose off the salt from around the topsides, deck and house. Lock the cabin & zip up the dodger.

**THANK YOU – For a Job Well Done!**