



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Safe Harbor Marinas Named Official Marine Services Partner for A2N

Annapolis, MD (May 21, 2021) — Many of the 85 boats currently entered in the 2021 Annapolis-to-Newport Race will be berthed at a Safe Harbor location prior to the start, following the finish, or both.

Visiting race boats arriving for A2N have long made port at Safe Harbor Annapolis, the facility formerly known as Mears that is located on Back Creek. Meanwhile, several competitors have always docked at either Safe Harbor New England Boatworks or Safe Harbor Newport Shipyard upon completion of the 475-nautical mile passage.

Members of Safe Harbor know they will always find safety, comfort, and unparalleled service at any facility operated by the company. Considering they were already supporting the Annapolis-to-Newport Race competitors, it made sense for Safe Harbor to formally come aboard as a multi-year partner of the event.

Annapolis Yacht Club is proud to announce that Safe Harbor Marinas will serve as Official Marine Services Partner for the 2021, 2023, and 2025 editions of Annapolis-to-Newport.

“We are pleased to welcome Safe Harbor Marinas as the Official Marine Services Partner of the Annapolis to Newport Race,” event chairman James Praley said.

“Safe Harbor’s service facilities are located throughout the United States and are renowned for bringing their technical excellence to any task – ranging from simple oil changes to major refits of signature yachts,” Praley added. “I’m a satisfied customer of Safe Harbor and can recommend them to anyone who needs service or repair work.”

Safe Harbor Marinas is the largest owner and operator of marinas in the world. The company, which is based in Dallas, Texas, is dedicated to delivering exceptional service and memorable experiences to the global boating community.

Safe Harbor owns and operates more than 115 marinas in 22 states and provides the full range of services from mechanical and electrical systems to mast and rigging to paintwork and refinishing.

Rebecca LeBlanc, Vice President of Partnerships and Sponsorships for Safe Harbor Marinas, called the partnership with A2N “a perfect match.”

“The Annapolis-to-Newport Race is an iconic event and it’s wonderful that Safe Harbor has a presence in both markets,” LeBlanc said. “We’re thrilled to work with Annapolis Yacht Club to promote this renowned race while at the same time supporting sailboat racing at-large.”

Even amidst a pandemic, Safe Harbor has continued to expand its network and enhance its Member experience by adding new destinations. Among the most recent acquisitions were a pair of Florida superyacht facilities – Lauderdale Marine Center and Rybovich Superyacht Marina.

By becoming a Member of Safe Harbor, boaters receive exclusive privileges and benefits that extend across the company’s vast network of facilities.

Safe Harbor has welcomed owners of racing sailboats at numerous locations around the country and the company naturally supports the sport in every way possible.

In fact, Safe Harbor Zahnisers in Solomons Island, Maryland will welcome boats participating in Annapolis Yacht Club’s Fall Race to Solomons for the awards presentation and is offering a special rate on dockage for competitors in the race.

Additionally, the inaugural Safe Harbor Race Weekend has been scheduled for August 13-15 in Newport, Rhode Island. LeBlanc said buzz has been building about the three-day regatta and nearly 40 boats are already entered.

Safe Harbor Marinas is also a sponsor of Block Island Race Week and had signed on as a partner for the 2020 Newport-to-Bermuda Race that unfortunately had to be canceled due to COVID.

Annapolis Yacht Club will start the 38th biennial Annapolis-to-Newport Race on June 4th and 5th on the Chesapeake Bay. Six classes (ORC 3, 4, 5 and Doublehanded along with PHRF and PHRF Classic) will start on Friday. Two classes (ORC 1 and 2) of larger, faster boats will start on Saturday.

Prospector, a Mills 68-footer owned by Shelter Island Transatlantic Partners, is the early favorite to capture line honors. *Privateer*, a Cookson 50 skippered by New York Yacht Club member Ron O’Hanley, will certainly challenge to be first-to-finish.

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