

## RECOMMENDED MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR SINGLE POINT MOORINGS IN DARIEN’S WATERS

- 1). The following recommendations should be considered as minimum guidelines. Darien’s harbors have varying levels of exposure to wind and waves, depending upon the location of each mooring. Those boat owners with moorings in exposed locations may want to consider increasing the size of their mooring anchor and other mooring components.
- 2). **Minimum Weight for Pyramid-Type Anchors:** Pyramid-type anchors in sound condition are to be used for any mooring in the waters or harbors of Darien. The minimum weight of these anchors shall be determined by the size and type of boat as follows:

Open Power Boats	
Under 20 Feet	200 LBS
20 Feet to under 25 Feet	300 LBS
25 Feet to under 30 Feet	400 LBS
Over 30 Feet	700 LBS

Sailboats and Enclosed Power Boats		
Under 25 Feet	300 LBS	
25 Feet to under 30 Feet	400 LBS	
30 Feet to under 40 Feet	700 LBS	} Should utilize top chain rather than nylon pennant
40 Feet to under 50 Feet	1000 LBS	
Over 50 Feet	2000 LBS	

- 3). **Bottom Chain:** The bottom chain shall be at least (10) feet or 1X the mooring location mean high water (“MHW”) depth in feet, whichever is larger
- 4). **Swivel:** A hot-dipped galvanized marine-type swivel shall be shackled between the bottom chain and the top chain or pennant. The swivel shall be sized to have a load capacity equal to or greater than the load capacity of the chain.

5). **Top Chain or Pennants:**

Length of Top Chain or Pennant:	2X mooring location MHW water depth
Pennant Materials:	At the owner’s discretion, either (a) all chain or (b) a combination of 1X MHW water depth of chain and 1X MHW water depth of nylon rode
Chain Specifications:	ACCO galvanized or equivalent

6). **Bridles:**

Number of Mooring Bridles: Two (2) Bridles: At the owner’s discretion, either (a) equal length or (b) one standard and one 25% longer as a storm bridle

Length of Bridles: Length 2½ times bow cleat to water for standard bridle

Bridle Materials: Polydyne or equivalent double braided rope with eye splice on both ends for attaching to pennant and to boat

Chafing Gear: All lines running through any object where chafing could occur are to have adequate chafing guards comprised of Cordura nylon fabric material

7). **Recommended Chain Sizes:**

Anchor Weight	Bottom Chain	Top Chain
200 LB	1/2"	1/2"
300 LB	1/2"	1/2"
400 LB	5/8"	1/2"
500 LB	5/8"	1/2"
700 LB	3/4"	5/8"
1000 LB	1"	5/8"
2000 LB	1"	5/8"

8). The minimum scope length from mooring to boat chocks shall be 3X the MHW water depth.

9). **Mooring Buoy:**

Size: A mooring buoy must be used of sufficient size to support all tackle with a minimum of 60% of the mooring buoy floating above its water line.

Stickers: All buoys are required to have a Town of Darien permit decal. Any buoys without the required permit decal are subject to removal.

10). **Inspection Frequency:**

Consistent with the Harbor Master's requirements, all mooring systems shall be fully inspected no less frequently than once every three years.

11). **Disclaimer:**

*These standards are meant as a guide to boat /vessel owners in the proper mooring procedures. Each mooring space user is fully responsible for his or her own mooring equipment and the maintenance of this equipment and tackle. Furthermore, no standard can insure total protection under all adverse conditions. These standards are intended as minimum standards and as reasonable guides to assist the boat / vessel owners.*

*All mooring space users agree that they have been presented with and will comply with all Harbor Manager requirements within the waters and harbors of Darien, CT and that the mooring site shall be used only for the vessel designated in this application.*

*Mooring space users are completely responsible for the safe ownership, operation and maintenance of their own vessels and any mooring hardware and tackle and any consequential damages caused by their vessel or the failure of mooring hardware or tackle.*

*Mooring users also agree to hold harmless and defend any claim for damages against the Town of Darien caused by the conduct of their vessel or mooring hardware and tackle.*

## RECOMMENDED COMPONENTS FOR SINGLE POINT MOORINGS IN DARIEN'S WATERS

- 1). Pyramid anchor
- 2). Shackles and swivel
- 3). Bottom chain – greater of 10 ft or 1X mooring mean high water (“MHW”) depth.  
Acco galvanized or equivalent
- 4). Thimble
- 5). Top Chain or Pennant – 2X mooring MHW water depth, comprised of all  
chain or chain/nylon combination
- 6). Float Buoy
- 7). Bridles – 2 1/2X bow cleat to water distance made of Polydyne  
or equivalent double braid
- 8). Chafe guards – Cordura nylon fabric
- 9). Lanyard with snap clip
- 10). Pick-up buoy

