



## **PROTOCOLS FOR PRIVATE VESSELS, CREW AND GUESTS:**

### **TO BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

**All current St. Maarten policies must be adhered to. These policies can change. At the moment of writing this document, the guidelines include:**

- **The national quarantine guidelines dictate that everybody arriving on the island must quarantine for 14 days. The national quarantine protocol could make exemptions for arrival from specific countries based on bilateral agreements. These agreements will be announced and will also be applicable for yachts.**
- **Social distancing of 2 meters must be adhered to at all times**
- **Ensure adherence to preventative measures: provision of hand sanitizer, tissue and garbage bag for good respiratory etiquette**
- **Specific cleaning guidelines for COVID-19 (see attached poster from CARPHA)**

### **I. GENERAL GUIDELINES APPLICABLE TO ALL INCOMING CREW/GUESTS/VESSELS**

#### **1. Entry requirements**

- o All incoming crew/guests and/or vessels must work with a legal agent on Sint Maarten to facilitate crew entry and safe provisioning/passage/compliance with rules
  - Collective Prevention Services (CPS) and Immigration must receive a list of all legal agents who will be facilitating this process.
- o Prior to arrival in Sint Maarten, the names and contact information for all crew and passengers must be provided to Collective Prevention Services via the agent. Collective Prevention Services must be able to contact the agent and the vessel 7 days per week.
- o All crew and guests must provide proof of health insurance to the agent.

#### **2. Incoming guests and crew will be permitted, with prior approval, to enter by any possible means, including:**

- o Flying into Grand Case (subject to permission also from French authorities) and transit to Sint Maarten
- o Fly by private plane into Juliana
- o Fly on any incoming flights announced to Juliana

#### **3. Private flight permission and pre-landing requirements:**

- o The following information **MUST** be provided at least 48 hours in advance to the Civil Aviation Authority of Sint. Maarten prior to scheduled arrivals at Princess Juliana International Airport in order to obtain permission to fly into Sint. Maarten.
  - Basic information of the Company
  - Type of Equipment



## **PROTOCOLS FOR PRIVATE VESSELS, CREW AND GUESTS:**

- Nationality and Registration marks of the Aircraft
- Date and time Arrival and Departure
- Copy of Air Operators Certificate
- Copy of Airworthiness Certificate
- Copy of the relevant pages of the Specific Operating Provisions (SOP)
- Copy the Insurance Certificates
- Exact Routes
- Purpose of the Flight
- Name of Vessel
- Name of local Agent

#### **4. Transportation from the airplane to the vessel:**

- All transportation must take place by a recognized vehicle/company who is adhering to the guidelines as set by Government for transport by private car/taxi. The driver needs to ensure guidelines for transport are adhered to.
- Driver must wear mask and gloves to handle any luggage.
- All passenger must wear Surgical masks in taxis/transport.
- For (mini)buses/vans, there must be a maximum of 2 persons per row. Cars can carry no more than two passengers. No passenger may be seated next to the driver. Windows must be open for ventilation, and the air conditioning must remain off. Hand sanitizer must be provided and used upon entering the vehicle.

#### **5. Quarantine procedure:**

- During the self-quarantine all crew (and guests) must stay onboard the vessel. Collective Prevention Services will call to ensure the crew and passengers are keeping to the quarantine guidelines and check whether they have developed symptoms.
- If during quarantine a crew or passenger develops symptoms, an assigned licensed physician must be contacted by the crew and/or passengers immediately. The assigned licensed physician will do a medical examination and perform testing if deemed necessary. If there is a need for admittance to the hospital, the assigned licensed physician should coordinate this with Sint Maarten Medical Centre and the ambulance services. In the event of a medical emergency the vessel should directly call the ambulance (912) and mention the patient is under quarantine. The assigned licensed physician will afterwards report the information about this person to Collective Prevention Services.



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- Once Vessel is in self-quarantine, Vessel must immediately locate to approved Quarantine area:
  - Anchorage area in Simpson Bay to be identified by Maritime Affairs with increased Coast Guard Patrol
  - Approved quarantine berths in marina facilities (to be approved by Maritime Affairs as soon as possible)
  - Port of Philipsburg
- 6. Completion of Quarantine.** At the completion of the 14-day quarantine, the Vessel must;
  - Undergo medical exam by an assigned licensed physician on Sint Maarten to declare all crew members healthy.
    - The list of licensed physicians who will be consulted for the medical examinations should be provided to Collective Prevention Services. Any changes in this list should also be communicated to Collective Prevention Services.
    - Testing can be required if so determined by a medical professional. All costs to be borne by Vessel.
  - Captain must submit declaration that nobody on board has exhibited COVID-19 systems, signed under penalty of perjury and subject to fines.
  - After completion of the medical examination the assigned licensed physician will contact Collective Prevention Services. Collective Prevention Services will, in consultation with the assigned licensed physician, decide whether to lift self-quarantine for these individuals.
  - Vessels can opt for voluntary testing if desired. All costs to be borne by the vessel.
- 7. Private Plane Crew**
  - Private plane crew are not allowed to stay on Sint Maarten for longer than 24 hours. This crew must remain in self-quarantine until departure, i.e. no contact with persons on the island. The crew must have an apartment close to the airport and must remain in this apartment until departure. This apartment should not be staffed by personnel. Food can be delivered to the door, without contact with the crew. Cleaning of the apartment after departure of the plane crew should take place according to the protocol. The local agent should coordinate and rent this apartment on behalf of the private plane crew. All costs and services attached to this accommodation is the sole responsibility of the private plane crew or their local representative.



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### **II. DEPARTING VESSELS (THOSE VESSELS CURRENTLY IN ST. MAARTEN WATERS LOOKING TO DEPART IN ADVANCE OF HURRICANE SEASON)**

1. **Limited Crew/Owner Arrivals if required for safe departure/crossing:**
  - All General Requirements in Part I must be followed.
  - To the extent a vessel currently in Sint Maarten MUST have crew for safe departure from Sint Maarten, all efforts will be made to facilitate such crew arrival where possible. Crew must transit directly from point of arrival to Vessel, and Vessel must depart within 24 hours. Once crew arrives on board, complete self-quarantine on board is required, i.e. this means that the whole crew must remain on board at all times.
  - If a local technician needs to board the Vessel due to emergency technical issues, the crew is required to stay more than 2 meters from the technician and the technician is advised to board the Vessel with surgical masks and gloves. The name and the contact information of this technician must be provided to the agent, the agent will provide the information to Collective Prevention Services if requested.
  - Agent must require Captain to sign declaration ensuring compliance with these rules, signed under penalty of perjury and subject to fines

### **III. ARRIVING VESSELS: PROTOCOLS FOR ARRIVING VESSELS**

1. **Vessels are permitted to dock in Philipsburg, Simpson Bay, or Simpson Bay Lagoon for 24 hours for fueling, berthing, provisioning and deliveries**
  - Subject to receipt of all necessary documents, including health declaration, 48 and 24 hours prior to arrival
  - Crew MUST remain on board
  - All provisioning and deliveries must be made with no contact (leaving items outside of Vessel for Vessel to collect)
  - Vessels are free to use this option once per week, if required, for deliveries and provisioning under the above conditions
2. **Vessels are generally permitted to enter Sint Maarten under the following conditions:**
  - All Procedures in Section I must be followed, including a 14-day quarantine period, which will start from 24 hours following departure of last port of call. The quarantine procedure is set forth in Sections I.E and I.F.
3. **Crew changes and quarantine for incoming crew.**
  - Vessels can use Sint Maarten as a hub for crew changes (to extent flights available) under the following conditions:



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- Crew member goes into a 14-day self-quarantine in an apartment in the vicinity of the marina organized by marine trade association/agents. Agent/captain remain responsible for the crew and to ensure the quarantine period is completed. The person cannot leave the apartment. Food needs to be delivered with no contact. Collective Prevention Services needs to be notified of all arrivals, and Collective Prevention Services will call to ensure the crew are keeping to the quarantine guidelines and determine whether they have developed symptoms. Collective Prevention Services can determine the moment the person can be released from quarantine.

OR

- Crew transits immediately to Vessel practicing social distancing and wearing necessary protective equipment (See Section I.D above), in which case the Vessel must re-enter 14-day complete quarantine (Vessel is permitted to depart the island prior to the expiration of quarantine period)

### **4. Yacht guest/owner arrival by private plane**

- Yacht guests and owners will be permitted to land at the FBO subject to requirements in Part I.
- Guests must undertake all safety precautions specified in Part I.
- Owners/guests must transit immediately to Vessel and can only enjoy the facilities of the yacht and the waters surrounding the island.
- The 14-day quarantine period must be restarted for Vessel when persons have disembarked in another port or persons have embarked on the Vessel. The Vessel is free to leave during these 14 days, but will not be allowed to disembark on Sint Maarten unless the 14-day quarantine period has been adhered to.

## **IV. VESSELS ARRIVING FROM THE FRENCH SIDE**

Any Vessel that is currently on the French side and can prove that the Vessel, along with everyone on board, has been in French St. Martin for at least 14 days, that Vessel can come to Dutch St. Maarten without quarantine. The Vessel must clear into the Dutch Side through an agent, and CPS must be informed. In the event that the vessel has been on the French side for under 14 days, quarantine rules will be in effect.



**PROTOCOLS FOR PRIVATE VESSELS, CREW AND GUESTS:**

***Approved/Signed:***

***Date: 28 May 2020***

  
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**Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs,  
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