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ISLAND ACCESS POLICIES
Revised November 2005

Dewees Island is a private community. Our ferry functions as the “gate” and ferry personnel are required to enforce the Island Access Policies that are established by the POA Board.

ACCESS STATUS

OWNERS:
Owners will have their own profiles in gateaccess.net where they are responsible to keep their family, guests and contractors updated.

In addition to property owners and their immediate families (residing in the owner’s home) the following people may access the Island.

- Owner’s guests when the owner is “on Island”.
- Guests staying at the owner’s home without owner presence.

CONTRACTORS:
- Construction site personnel between the hours of 7:00AM and 6:30PM, Monday through Saturday.
- Contractors’ names must be added to the profile of the owner for whom they are performing work.
- The owner must provide a cart for their use. Contractors are not allowed to utilize Shuttle Carts

STAFF:
- Staff during working hours, otherwise with permission of the Island Manager.

PAYING GUESTS:
- Paying guests will entered into the profile of their rental agent for ferry access.
- Paying guests must provide the names of all individuals who will be coming/visiting them to their rental agent for ferry access prior to arrival.
- No one will be allowed ferry access unless their name is in the computer system.

SERVICE PERSONNEL:
- The owner must enter the name of all regular service personnel in the computer system.
- Regular service staff will need to identify which lot they are going to the ferry crew for proper authorization.
- Non-regular service staff need to have the owner they are visiting put their name in the computer system.
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- Non-service staff will not be allowed access to Dewees unless their name is on that day’s list.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS:

- Real Estate agents must accompany clients to the island on their initial visit.

Guests do not have day-use access to common property if the Owner is not in residence or accompanying them

NOTIFICATION

Owner’s unaccompanied guests, construction contractors, paying guests, service personnel and real estate agents must have an owner’s expressed permission to Island access.

There will be a computer on the ferry for owners to add any last-minute guests/contractors.

The ferry staff typically has only eight minutes at each dock. This means approximately eight minutes to load/unload the ferry, use the rest room, interact with passengers, and insure that the above expectations are fulfilled. Your assistance in accomplishing this task is necessary and appreciated.
BARGE

A barge is contracted on an “as-needed” basis to bring large items to and from the Island. All barges must be coordinated through POA management (homeowners are not permitted to work directly with the barge companies or schedule barges to/from the island).

BOATS

Only boats without heads and less than twenty-five (25) feet in length shall be allowed to dock at any Association owned dock. No boat shall remain at any dock for longer than twenty-four (24) hours. Only owners are permitted to dock boats at Association owned docks; guests, construction personnel or paying guests are not permitted to dock personal watercrafts at Association owned docks. The Association owned docks shall also be subject to such other rules and regulations regarding their use as may be adopted from time to time by the Association. In the event of a violation of any of the provisions of this section or the rules and regulations adopted by the Association, then the Association shall have the authority to remove any boat in violation of the provisions hereof and the costs of any such removal shall be paid by the owner of the boat removed. Any such costs shall be the personal obligation of the offending Owner and shall constitute an additional assessment against any Lots owned by such Owner. These provisions shall not apply to the ferry service boat operated by the Association or any barges which may be necessary to deliver building materials or other supplies to Dewees Island. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Covenants allowing for amendment, the provisions of this Section 2(b) may not be amended so as to lessen the restrictions imposed without the approval of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the South Carolina coastal Council, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department.

CONTRACTORS

Contractor Regulations and Conduct

1. Contractors are required to read the Construction Waste Management Plan, develop a waste management program specific to their construction situation, and review this program with the utility corporation staff. The Dewees Island Construction Waste Management Plan is available through the ARB.

2. Contractors must provide evidence of general liability insurance in advance for operations of any vehicles to be used on the Island for the duration of the project, Dewees Utility Corporation and the Dewees Island Property Owners Association shall be named as additional insured parties.
3. Contractors must provide evidence of worker’s compensation insurance. A contractor may not begin work until insurance is in place.

4. The contractor is fully responsible for the conduct of his employees and sub-contractors.

5. Workers are restricted to the job site.

6. Access to the Island is provided between 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M., MON-SAT only. All construction workers must leave by 6:30 P.M. No construction workers are allowed after 6:30 P.M. or on Sundays or holidays without prior approval of the ARB. Only emergency interior work will be considered.

7. No harassment of residents will be tolerated.

8. Shoes and shirts must be worn on job site, and on any Dewees Island property.

9. Portlet facilities must be provided by the contractor.

10. Contractors must be licensed in the state of South Carolina.

11. Loud music is prohibited.

12. No littering or defecation.

13. No hunting, fishing, crabbing, shrimping, trapping, within the legal boundaries or marshlands of Dewees Island.

14. Consumption of alcoholic beverages or drugs is strictly prohibited.

15. The A.R.B. has full authority, without notice, to remove violators from the Island and full authority to stop work.

16. Contractor must provide emergency telephone service on site during the entire construction phase.

17. The contractor must post the ARB permit, Charleston County permit, and emergency procedures and phone numbers in a visible and accessible location on the job site.
DOGS AND PETS

Pets are to be leashed (with the owner in control of one end of the leash) or kenneled at all times on the ferry, ferry landing or associated docks. Owners and guests be considerate of their neighbors, wildlife and shorebirds. In other areas, pets should be leashed or under effective voice control.

Environmental Program Board Recommendations:

As a “private island community dedicated to environmental preservation,” The island is host to a variety of declining, rare, threatened, and endangered species. Piping Plovers, Wilson’s Plover, Atlantic Red Knots and American Oystercatchers -- These birds suffer from habitat loss and disturbance from humans and dogs. We can be certain that the “Dewees design” and pristine dune and beach habitats play large roles in attracting these shorebirds. It is imperative, therefore, that as visitors to the fragile island landscape, everyone follow these simple guidelines:

● Avoid walking above the high tide line & dune areas. Threatened shorebirds use these areas for shelter, nesting and raising young.

● Keep dogs leashed in the vicinity of all shorebirds. Resting and nesting shorebirds that are repeatedly bombarded by unleashed dogs can tire quickly. The best time and location to run your dog on the beach is at low tide near the center of the island and where birds are not congregating.

● Do not intentionally flush resting birds. Large flocks of birds will reside on the beach at high tide. Consider walking the beach during a mid or low tide, this allows birds to rest and helps protect the dunes.
DRIVING REGULATIONS (DEWEES ISLAND)

Only those holding a valid State Driver’s License may drive Golf Carts on Dewees Island.

Except;

1) At the age of 11, a child or grandchild of a property owner may obtain a Dewees learner's permit from the Management Office allowing him/her to drive a golf cart provided that a parent or grandparent is in the front passenger seat. At the age of 12, with a required minimum of 5 hours of driving time with a parent or grandparent and so certified by same, the child may obtain a Dewees license after passing both a written test and a driving test administrated by Public Safety.

2) The Dewees Under Age Driver's License must be displayed on the windshield facing oncoming traffic whenever the child is driving.

3) The Dewees Under Age Driver's License is valid only for carts belonging to the child's family.

4) Carts belonging to the POA or a rental house may not be driven by anyone without a valid State Driver’s License.

A violation of these regulations will result in an e-mail with a paper copy delivered to the responsible party, advising them of the golf cart rules. A second violation will incur a fine (collected as an additional POA assessment) of $100, increasing to $250 and thereafter by $250 for each subsequent violation.

Please report any underage driving activity to Public Safety at 843-296-4952.
FERRY OPERATING GUIDELINES
Revised March 2014

The ferry staff is tasked with providing safe, courteous, and time-sensitive transportation under the oversight of Island Management, the POA Board, and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Chapter 46, as administered by the United States Coast Guard (USCG). CFRP, Chapter 46, requires that U.S. Merchant Marine Officer (licensed Master) oversee all aspects of vessel preparation and operation. During operation, the Captain’s decision is final – when appeal or debate is warranted, it should take place only after the ferry has docked and operations have ceased.

The Dewees Island Ferry provides ferry transportation for property owners, their guests, and invitees; as well as contractors, workmen, service personnel, real estate clients, paying guests, and staff. Mates will assist with handling of baggage, groceries and leisure gear.

1. The ferry departs on time based on the pilothouse atomic clock. A bell or horn will be sounded one minute before scheduled departure. The captain may delay departure for only two minutes for passengers who have called ahead (843-568-3990). These passengers must be able to board the ferry and load any baggage within the allotted 2-minute grace period. Please do not call to hold the ferry if you have excessive baggage or other material to be loaded as this will further delay departure. Calls of impending arrival beyond two minutes will not be honored; loading beyond the two minutes will be aborted.

2. Passengers may depart the ferry only after the crew indicates it is safe to do so and after all lines and ramps are secured, and the doors or barriers opened. This will require that passengers remain seated until the crew informs passengers that it is safe to disembark.

3. Baggage space on the ferry is limited to 8 push carts, or 4 on the Breeze, under Coast Guard regulations. The Mate will load and unload carts to and from the ferry or ferry shelter, assisting all passengers with pushcart and baggage handling to speed the process and provide safe and efficient handling. To assist in speeding the ferry loading process, able bodied passengers may bring their pushcart and baggage onto the floating dock adjacent to the ferry after all passengers and luggage have disembarked. Please do not call to hold the ferry if you have
excess material to be loaded. During peak times, baggage loading assignments may be made 15 minutes prior to departure. At this time, push carts will be rationed one push cart per household until all 8 push carts are used. If all 8 push carts are not utilized, the push carts will be divided proportionately between each household. All passengers are able to hand-carry all remaining baggage into the ferry cabin. Passengers should hand-carry items such as fishing rods rather than loading them in carts.

4. The Mate needs to off-load baggage and passengers need to disembark before loading for the next trip begins. Passengers waiting to board the ferry should make room for people and materials coming off the ferry. Standing in the loading area can restrict push cart and passenger movement. There are to be no golf carts in ferry landing areas once the ferry is at dock or until the ferry departs.

5. Some passengers may have to wait for the next ferry if passenger load exceeds the USCG legal limit. If this occurs, the boarding order is: owners first followed by guests, construction personnel, paying guests, and island staff. However, if an owner, guests, construction personnel, paying guests, and island staff is unable to be loaded on the previous run they then have priority on the next run in order of their original arrival time.

6. All owners must pre-register their guests/contractors in their individual profile in the ferry access system (FAS). If a passenger is not in the FAS the ferry crew will attempt to contact the owner he or she is visiting to have them enter the person in the FAS for access authorization. The ferry crew is not authorized to enter any person in owner’s profile. For the convenience of owners, a computer is available on the ferry for owners to enter guests in the (FAS). Island access will be denied until authorization has been confirmed in the FAS.

7. The Captain and crew have the authority to intervene when conduct occurs that could compromise passenger safety or comfort. Parents must exercise control over children. A related adult must be present for children under age 12 to use the ferry’s upper deck.

8. For the safety of other passengers and crew members, all pets are to be kept off the seats of the ferry and must always be under owner control (kenneled or on a leash). Unless they are in a kennel, all pets are to be leashed when in the ferry landings/shelters and on the ferry and associated docks.

9. Shirts and shoes are required.
10. Personal computing devices such as laptops, tablets, smart phones, and cell phones are to be used in such a way so as not to distract from the safe operation of the vessel. Video and music players must be played in silent mode or be used with headphones. All video or light generating screens are to be orientated in such a way that they are not viewable by the Captain from the bridge deck of the vessel at night. The Captain and crew have the authority to intervene and take appropriate action when conduct occurs that could compromise vessel and passenger safety or comfort.

11. The Captain may refuse construction materials or household furnishings. No materials will be carried that have the potential to damage the deck of the vessel. Steel wheeled carts, unprotected metal air-conditioning units, steel rods and pipes and large quantities of construction materials are examples of materials that will not be transported on the ferry. Call the POA Administrative Office for alternative transportation. Materials will not be transported during peak times and if they could interfere with safe operation, passenger comfort, or timely departure.

12. Access to the Island for construction workers is provided between 7:00 A.M.- 6:00 P.M., MON-SAT only. All construction workers must leave by 6:30 P.M. No construction workers are allowed after 6:30 P.M. or on Sundays, holidays or the POA Annual Meeting without prior approval of the Island Manager. All other service contractors such as house cleaners, babysitters, house sitters, dog sitters, may be on the island during any hours and days of the week as long as they are guests of the Dewees property owner for the property where such service is being rendered.

13. Ferry on Demand. All ferry runs from Dewees Island are On Demand. All passengers are to call in advance of traveling and inform the ferry of the number of passengers that will be leaving Dewees Island with you on a particular run. Some passengers may have to wait for the next ferry if they have not called the ferry in advance and passenger load exceeds the USCG legal limit. If this occurs, the boarding order is: owners first, followed by guests, construction personnel and paying guests, all who have called and reserved their seat. For those who have not reserved their seat in advance, the loading order will be owners first, followed by guests, construction personnel, paying guests and island staff. However, if an owner, guests, construction personnel, paying guests, and island staff is unable to be loaded on the previous run they then have priority on the next run in order of their original arrival time.
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14. The Captain may refuse passage to any person or persons refusing to abide by the above guidelines.

FERRY LOADING GUIDELINES
Revised March 2014

The Breeze is used for 1 to 14 passengers and the Islander for 11 to 50.

All ferry runs from Dewees Island are On Demand.

All passengers are to call at least 40 minutes before their scheduled departure time and inform the ferry of the number of passengers, pets and baggage carts that will be leaving Dewees Island with you on the next run.

It is very important the ferry crew know at least 10 minutes prior to the top of the hour a passenger, pet and baggage count so they may assign the correct sized ferry. The crew is set up to respond to requests for the Island Side ferry 10 minutes before they are due to leave the Isle of Palms Terminal, enabling them to respond in real time.

Please do not leave advance reservations or text the ferry your request for ridership.

Some passengers may have to wait for the next ferry if they have not called the ferry in advance and passenger load exceeds the USCG legal limit. If this occurs, the boarding order is: all who have called and reserved their seat being owners first, followed by guests, construction personnel and paying guests. For those who have not reserved their seat in advance, the loading order will be owners first, followed by guests, construction personnel, paying guests and island staff.

However, if an owner, guest, construction personnel, paying guest, and island staff is unable to be loaded on the previous run they then have priority on the next run in order of their original arrival time.

The ferry Captain will be responsible to enforce the guidelines.
GENERAL LIABILITY DISCLAIMER

The Dewees Island POA is not liable or responsible for any damages, loss, theft, or any other cause whatsoever of any “property” by an owner use of Dewees Island Marina or any Dewees Island Common Properties. Property is solely the responsibility of the owner (homeowner, guests, staff, and contractors), and is at the owner’s risk. The POA is under no obligation to provide compensation, maintenance, repair, or rescue for loss or damages to property. “Property” can include, but is not limited to, vehicles, vessels, packages, mail, materials, bicycles, furniture, tools, perishable items, groceries, or merchandise.

GOLF CARTS
Revised January 2018

Motorized private transportation on Dewees Island is solely by electric vehicles. Approved electric golf carts and electric cars may only be driven on roads, public beach access paths, and private driveways. They shall not be driven off road, on the beach, on the dunes, on narrow docks or boardwalks (less than 5’ wide), such as Big Bend dock, or anywhere else POA signs prohibit their use beyond a given point.

The community speed limit is 17 mph everywhere on Dewees. Electric golf carts and electric cars will only be permitted that have a maximum speed capability of 25 MPH. Any vehicle capable of going more than 25 MPH must 1) be approved in writing by the POA Board and 2) be outfitted with a governor that limits the top speed to 25 mph.

The following maximums shall apply to all electric vehicles:

Length = 148”
Width = 58”
Height = 78”
Weight, including batteries = 2500 pounds

Dewees expressly prohibits the use of the following types of vehicles:
- Amphibious vehicles, such as Quadskis
- Off-road vehicles, such as ATVs, Quadbikes and Off-road Motorcycles
- Full-size electric cars
- Any vehicle with a combustion engine, except as otherwise allowed for construction, and POA and DUC purposes

All vehicles should have working head and tail lights, working brakes and must be labeled with the owner’s lot number on the front and driver’s side of the vehicle.
GOLF CART PARKING

Emergency Vehicles must be able to maneuver around all roads and parking areas during an emergency situation. Golf carts must not obstruct Emergency Vehicle access on the island.

All golf carts parked at the front Dewees Island dock can only remain there for three (3) consecutive days. After this period of time, they must be moved to an alternative spot (an owner’s home, the Landings Building, or Public Works storage area). Due to an increasing number of golf carts on the Island, and the room at the front dock is very limited.

If a homeowner is leaving the island for more than 3 days, it is expected they park your cart at their home and utilize one of the shuttle carts for transportation to the ferry immediately before departure and upon return.

Owners of lots (unimproved property) are permitted to park their carts at the Landings Buildings for short periods of time when using the island, but no longer than two (2) weeks. If lot owners are not returning to the island within two weeks, carts must be parked at the Public Works Storage area and utilize the shuttle carts in the same manner as homeowners.

Golf carts using common charging areas must be moved once the golf cart is charged to allow other owners access. Please understand that once a golf cart is fully charged, it does not keep recharging. If a cart’s batteries are in good condition, a charge should hold for a month or more. For owners who are leaving golf cart unattended for an extended period of time, it is suggested that the owner call Jimmy Small (843-568-3995) or another independent contractor and make arrangements the cart to be charged prior to arrival.

Towing Fee
There is a $75.00 towing fee for relocating any cart that violates the parking policies. Any golf cart left on the side of the road due to flat tire(s), mechanical or other problems for more than 3 days will be towed to Public Works at the owner’s expense.

GROCERY DELIVERY PROCEDURES

The POA is not liable in any way for groceries delivered to the Dewees Island Marina. Please see full disclaimer below.

Members are entirely responsible in organizing, arranging and monitoring the delivery of their groceries to Dewees Island.
Procedures to follow for grocery delivery:

1. Groceries can be placed in a POA ferry cart with the name of the owner and their phone number clearly written on the bags.

2. Once the delivery person places the groceries in the ferry cart on the Isle of Palms, they are to immediately inform the member who ordered the groceries that the groceries are ready to be loaded on the ferry.

3. The member is then to immediately call the ferry and request that they deliver the groceries on the next available ferry.

4. Every effort will be made to accommodate the delivery of groceries to the Island; however, members need to be aware that a grocery cart will not precede baggage carts for riding passengers. If there is no space available for baggage carts on the current ferry, groceries will be placed in a bin and hand carried onto the ferry.

5. Should there be no room for a bin, then the grocery cart will be boarded on the next available ferry. The member will be notified in the event that the groceries are delayed.

6. Once a member has confirmed the delivery of groceries on the ferry to the Island, they are responsible to retrieve the groceries from Dewees Ferry Landing upon the ferry’s arrival.

Members understand and accept that animals frequent the Dewees Isle of Palms Marina as well as the Dewees Island ferry dock and the POA accepts no responsibility for the completeness, quality and condition of the groceries delivered.

HUYLER HOUSE NIGHTS ON DEWEES
Revised January 2016

Terms and Conditions for Nights on Dewees:

Each owner of an undeveloped lot may have complimentary use of one Huyler House room for a combined total of 10 Nights per year on Dewees Island. Owner is responsible for the cost of housekeeping cleaning the room.

The offer is for one room for a total of 10 nights per year per lot owned; nights may be taken consecutively, separately or combined for a group. The only cost is a cleaning/admin charge per room for each visit. Golf carts are optional and may be rented by the day.
Owners may book at any time subject to availability. Nights may not be transferred or gifted to other owners. The year availability runs January 1 - December 31.

This offer is available for all owners of undeveloped lots who are in good standing, current in all POA and Utility fees and assessments. Owners may include family and guests in the use of their complimentary nights; however, owners must be on island accompanying their guests.

IOP PARKING REGULATIONS

No vehicle is allowed in the Dewees Isle of Palms Marina parking lot that is unregistered and/or uninsured and/or inoperable and/or in a state of disrepair.

During the high season, recreational vehicles may not be parked in the Dewees Isle of Palms Marina parking lot and must be removed.

TRAILERS

POA TRAILER POLICY FOR THE DEWEES MARINA IOP PARKING LOT
January 2015

- Trailers are to be clearly identified or will be towed at owner’s expense.
- Parking of boat trailers during the off-season (October 1 – April 30) for a maximum of 72-hours in designated area only. Two spaces will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Boat trailers may not be parked long-term or stored in the Dewees Island Marina parking lot.
- Boat trailer found in violation of this policy will be towed at the owner’s expense.
- The only exception to this policy is for owners who are having their boats pulled out for maintenance by a third party and cannot predict exactly when the third party will arrive to haul the boat. In this situation the owner should alert Port Captain at 843-860-3946 to avoid having their trailer towed.
SHUTTLE CARTS
Revised March 2014

Shuttles are for property owner use only. If shuttles are used for their intended purpose, they will be available for all owners. With over 200 owners on the Island, please be courteous with the use of these community shuttles.

- Shuttles are to be returned within the hour for other owners to use.
- Shuttles are not for the use of your service contractor, so please arrange to have your cart at the front dock for your contractor to use or call the rental agent to rent a cart.
- Use only one shuttle per household. Shuttles are to be used to retrieve an owner’s golf cart.

WASTE MANAGEMENT
Managing Trash

Living on a barrier Island has some unique situations. Everything that is brought to the island eventually must be removed from the island. To lighten your impact on the environment owners should always do the following and advise all of their guests of the same.

- Bring a refillable water bottle for each person instead of bottled water.
- Bring soda and beer in cans instead of glass or plastic bottles; smash the cans before placing in the recycling containers.

There is no trash pick-up on the island. All owners and guests must properly dispose of trash and recyclables in the designated Public Works waste disposal location.

1. **Trash** – must be properly bagged in heavy (black type) trash bags and must be brought to the Public Works disposal area (please ask for directions if you are unsure of the location). Owners and Guests MUST CLOSE THE SLIDING DOOR to keep raccoons & rodents out.

2. **Recyclables** – It is expected that all owners and guests recycle to reduce trash on the Island. Recycle items must be brought to the Public Works disposal area and placed in the designated container. Recyclables must not be placed in plastic bags. Following is a summary of items collected as recyclable on Dewees Island in coordination with Charleston County:

**Mixed:** 3 colors of glass containers unbroken (clear, brown, and green) – metal lids also – Steel food cans – Aluminum cans, aluminum foil, aluminum pie pans – Plastics #1 – #7 (rinse, lids can stay on) – empty oil bottles (drained, with cap screwed on)
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**Paper:** Newspaper – Magazines – Junk Mail – Office Paper – Books (hard-cover and soft-back) – Glossy Paper (fax, magazines or inserts). No food contaminated paper, metal fasteners, Kleenex, paper towels or napkins.

**Cardboard:** Corrugated Cardboard boxes (boxes must be broken down)

**Paperboard:** items such as cereal boxes, soda can boxes, laundry detergent boxes, cracker boxes, cake mix boxes, and tissue boxes

3. **Compost** – all kitchen scraps in a home compost bin. There is no community compost site.

Please use the trash dumpster for bagged trash only. There are wooden trash receptacles located throughout the common areas of the Island for any loose trash. Household garbage is not permitted to be discarded in these receptacles, and doing so may result in a fine.

4. **White Goods**

The County prefers us not to put white goods in our dumpsters, they're not supposed to go to the landfill. They would like an opportunity to recycle them. That's why the city wants these types of items separated out and put it at the curb for later collection. POA staff I'm not in a position to separate this stuff out and dispose of it at the curb on the Isle of Palms.

How can I dispose of junk, old appliances or scrap metal? The City refers to these items as white goods or bulk items. To dispose of old appliances and large metal items, place them separately at the curb. Please drain hot water heaters and remove or secure all doors on refrigerators and freezers. Junk, furniture and other bulk items can be placed in their own pile at the curb on your collection day. Smaller items (dishes, clothing, etc.) should be bagged on your first scheduled collection day.

**WILDLIFE**

Remember State regulations require that a saltwater fishing license when fishing in the Impoundment and to harvest oysters and clams in recreational waters. SC Guidelines can be found on the state’s website.

Dewees Island also provides a website guide to Common Fish & Shellfish found on the island website.
CRAB POTS AND MINNOW KEEPERS
Crab pots may not be used in the Impoundment. Crab pots are permitted in exterior waterways and Lake Timicau. They must be labeled with a float and clearly labeled with owner’s name and lot number and checked every few hours.

Minnow keepers and minnow traps must also be labeled with owner’s name and lot number and may not be tied to the crab dock or nearby rice trunk.

Fishing Etiquette
- Obey all state laws regarding size and amount limits. These rules are posted on various docks around the island.
- All owners and guests should practice the Dewees philosophy of catch and release. If fishing for food, an individual should take from the sea enough for an evening’s meal. This ensures plenty of fish to catch in the future and always the freshest, best tasting fish for supper! If entertaining a large houseful of visitors, please be considerate of other island families and supplement your Impoundment catch from exterior waterways.
- If an alligator is sighted within 60 feet of an individual’s fishing activities, that party must immediately remove fishing lines and relocate to another location.

Catch & Release tips:
- Keep the fish in the water as much as possible. If possible, remove the hook without removing the fish from the water.
- Always handle a fish with wet hands.
- Use non-offset circle hooks.
- Snip deeply embedded hooks and allow them to dissolve. Cut the line if the fish is hooked in the throat or stomach. Fish are much more likely to survive if deeply embedded hooks are left in place and allowed to dissolve.
- If the hook is in the jaw or lip, hold the fish gently at the base of the head just behind the gill covers and remove the hook with needle nose pliers. Be very careful not to squeeze the fish.
- Don’t drop the fish in the boat or on the dock or allow it to thrash around on the shore. Fish bruise easily, and damage to internal organs can be fatal.
- Never lift fish by the eye sockets or gills. Use both hands to support the fish’s weight evenly.
- When you catch the monster, he will be quite exhausted after a long fight. He can be revived by holding it upright in the water and gently moving it back and forth.

Shellfish
Shellfish abounds in the area, and the oysters are salty and large.
The season runs September 16 to May 15. It is illegal to harvest shellfish between ½ hour after official sunset and ½ hour before official sunrise. To harvest any shellfish in the waters of South Carolina, including oysters, hard clams, and mussels, you must have a recreational saltwater fishing license and abide by DNR size and quantity regulations.

- Clams must be 1-inch thick
- The shells of oysters harvested on Dewees can be recycled to the island shellfish beds
- Please refer to the DNR’s website for a full run-through of shellfish harvesting guidelines.