

# ATTENDEE BRIEFING PACKET

The following packet has been designed to give you all the information you need to know to have a safe and fun Floatilla. Please read this thoroughly. It has tips on how to have fun, and it covers all of the safety issues.

## Floatilla. Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 2008.

### What is Floatilla?

So someone just blew the whistle and said let's meet at this place, and then you all said sure. What's that mean? That means there is no organizer, and this is not for profit. It's just a party - and it's your party. It is a third-time gathering of all the cool groups of Hong Kong's and Asia's gay culture and their friends brought together to hang out on junk boats, wiggle to some music, and swim, meet new friends and enjoy the diversity and the volume and power of our community.

We have boats representing gay social groups, lesbian groups, club organizers, web portals, gay bars, friends of gays, and a whole bunch of people that have simply organized their friends to come. That's cool. So my first request is that this is "what you make it" and roll with this and enjoy.



## Floatilla FAQ

### 1) Finding My Boat?

We've done this before, and many of you love to come strait from the party, so keep a fuzzy eye on your watch. Many of you take off from Pier 9 which can be a zoo. Smart ones may have diverted to Causeway Bay, or Repulse Bay. If you decide to load at the main Pier 9, I suggest that you have a big fat sign with your boat name on it or you coordinate correctly with your boat organizer. We've learned that the pier is nuts with everyone loading at the same tie and your little crew will have problems finding you.

# ATTENDEE BRIEFING PACKET

## 2) Choking on Hong Kong's Grey Air... Turn Off Those Engines!

Both in the interest of being good gay environmental citizens in this sucked up polluted city we all love so much, let's lay off the engines. Yes I know it runs the Karaoke player and the air conditioning, but please leave that for RED Box. You're on a junk and it's sunny, enjoy. If we have 24 boats with their butts all pumping out carbon monoxide, you'll find boys choking in the water and turning their bellies up like dead fish... please please please, no engines. **You rented the boat, simply tell your driver to turn it off.**

## 3) What if it rains on my parade?

Hell if I know...I'm not God, so he (or she) will have to be in charge. As the boats are rented, and we all can't get out with cancellations we'll just run and party in the hot rain as it always clears up. If it's amber, black, or typhoon then I'll see you on the dance floor at later with HX Productions, Pray for no rain, but even if there is a drop or two, who cares. We'll be out there in the water anyway.

## 4) Where's my Shorts?

We've done this a few times and sometimes it's funny.... at the closing of the day, some boats left without their passengers. So some passengers were stranded on a stranger's boat in nothing but their bathing suit. We did of course take them back to Central Pier 9... but once we dropped them off, they realized they were standing in the middle of Central in nothing but their bathing suit, no money, no shirt, no mobile... Heads up, I'd warn the people on your boat to store their clothes and money safely, and to pay attention to when the boat is leaving, and please don't leave without your crew. (Gosh... I feel like a mother now).

## 5) I'm Drunk, I'm a Mess, You Made Me This Way! (MUST READ)

Liability, I'm going to be direct on this one and serious... As I said, as far as an event goes, you're **not** being hosted, we simply told you where we are going to gather. every boat is contracted under his or her own boat. Thus, there is no organizer for this event - If you participate in this event, be very clear you and your passengers are assuming your own liability. If you or your passengers get drunk or high and jump in the water - that's stupid and a self inflicted risk. If you can't swim then put on a floatation device. We really want this to be a success and repeat it next year and years following. If we go out with 850 people, we want to come back with 850 people. If someone gets seriously hurt, game over, you can assume that it will be the end of Floatilla.

## 6) Canceling Future Floatillas.

We must pull this event off responsibly. I have asked each boat to hire a couple lifeguards. Some have taken this up, some have not. This is in the end of the day your choice but **I am insistent on a safe event** (If one of you're gang is drunk, high, and hurts them self and tries to sue a boat company, it is a self-inflicted act. I want you to know **I will end all future Floatilla's** if someone gets hurt, or someone ruins the relationships with these boat companies. As Drag Queen Miss Michael Jackson once said it only takes, ***"one bad apple can spoil the whole bunch girl"*** Ok, enough said.

# ATTENDEE BRIEFING PACKET

## 7) So Who's your buddy?...

The wonderful boat staff of course... Please respect them and the boat companies. We've done this before, and this has been quite a shock in the past. Some of the boat contracts say no dancing... can't image what that means but please at least roll with them and their needs. If we do not treat these boat companies with respect, we could blow this relationship. The Boat Captains are here to protect the boat, and are empowered to enforce safety. They have already discussed amongst themselves, they will **NOT** tie up, they will **NOT** let the boat get over capacity, they **do not** want massive sound systems. They are well aware of this event and they will monitor these steps closely. Lastly, give the boat crew the support they need, and tip them well (*like gay people always do*) at the end of the journey.

## 8) The story of the Manatee, Speedboats...

If you don't know what a manatee is, do a google search. These wonderful animals get run over by passing speedboats... ouch. A few of you may have rented Speedboats. Please be really cautious here, all these boys swimming we don't want to run them over with a propeller. Propeller marks across your back is really unattractive and certainly not going to get you laid.

Please stop by Toys R Us and bring a load of floating tubes and rafts so people can have fun and float the day away, and remember to swim with friends at all times.? Which other than safe, is a lot more fun. **Play and Swim safe.**

## 9) Warning The Current ...

Sometimes this beach does have a current so please do pay attention. This is a fantastic beach to swim too.

## 10) Keeping the Judy Justice and Johnny Law Away...

Marine Police are very aware of our game. And we've checked, there are some things that will attract police like wild bees to a honey farm (other than our shear size) this includes:

- 1) nudity (unfortunately),
- 2) too many people on a boat (please watch this)
- 3) drugs (of course)

## 11) Pacing Yourself and Planning Your Weekend.

Please see the website for the event schedule. It would be great if you get your boat gang together throughout the weekend. Friday night at **Club 97** will launch the weekend and a great place to meet. Saturday you'll find an entire agenda at **Gay Day at Disney** on the floatilla website. Saturday night the **Madonna pre party** by Party Demon. Sunday **Floatilla** of course, followed by **Labor Day Party** from HX Productions. All of this is on the website. <http://web.mac.com/gregcreate/Floatilla09/Welcome.html>

# ATTENDEE BRIEFING PACKET

## 12) Respect, Mooching, and Smooching...

We are diverse and this event is magical in that it combines “all peoples” from strait to gay, from boys to girls, from the ripped abs on a club kid, to the big cuddles from a bears. This is the joy of diversity, but the hospitality and the personality of this event is up to you. Please spread the love. Remember this is a BYOB event. We love to encourage the boats to decorate, to cater and be hospitable. And just like you’ve been invited to someone’s house, the same goes when you board peoples boats. So show a little respect. Don’t drink up all their booze, graze on all their food, or suck up their fun if you didn’t take the effort to trick out your boat. Sorta bad manners. Smooching strangers however, that’s totally fair game.

## 13) FLOATILLA GEAR

Aids Concern has official Floatilla T-Shirts and waterproof packets for sale. Simply visit the site for more information on where you can buy them and when. [http://web.mac.com/gregcreate/Floatilla09/Floatilla\\_Gear.html](http://web.mac.com/gregcreate/Floatilla09/Floatilla_Gear.html)

## 14) Welcome to the Big Gay Flea Market...

Finally we got a ton of sponsors and supporters... we have the seeds to a real strong gay community. I would like to extend a personal thanks to the companies and groups that have backed this project either directly or indirectly. Some of these people I know through friends or other peoples boats are giving support... This list is simply the ones I know about... **John Ferdinand Jewellery**/Mark Armstrong for sponsoring our lifeguard Speedboat, Jamie and **Club 97** for sponsoring 4 lifeguards, **Svedka** Vodka for throwing in some bottles of booze, **Aids Concern, OutInHK, Volume, HX, Les Peches, Fridae.com, Towel Club, Party Demon, Cocktails, Les Pesches...**, I’m sure there is more. Do me a favor, please hunt them down and thank these organizations yourself.

## 15) Yes, I’m long winded... A final note...

I am absolutely thrilled at what this has grown into. This is not my party, this is your party and Hong Kong has truly figured out a way to bring our vast community together. Not for show, but for just getting together and celebrating. I have no idea what we will grow this into, but I believe we have a fantastic future...

I would like to thank you all and wish you a wonderful magical Floatilla.

## Play Safe - Have Fun

- *Sharkbait.*

### Contact Information.

email: [floatillahk@yahoo.com](mailto:floatillahk@yahoo.com)

website for updates: <http://web.mac.com/gregcreate/Floatilla09/Welcome.html>