


*The Boat Clubs Inc. advises...*

# DON'T BOAT BLIND

**T**he competent, responsible boater knows that on the water safety is your top priority. Right-of-way, channel markers and informational signs should be second nature to the man or woman behind the helm. Though most boaters do a great job following the rules on the water there are still many who seem to be "boating blind."

The Boat Clubs Inc., located at Brookside Marina in Naples, Port of the Islands, Fort Myers Beach and Port Charlotte, is a firm believer in knowing and obeying the rules on the water. Captain Dave, owner of the Fort Myers location, smiles and talks enthusiastically about their training program.



"When you become a member of the club, we'll spend three hours on the water together - more time if needed," he said.

A special touch that The Boat Club adds is your training session will be conducted by one of the owners of the business.

"It's a blast spending the time on the water with the new members" Capt. Dave says. "We really get to know each other and the members love the personalized service. It may sound old-fashioned for the owners to do this, but that's the way we like to do business."

The Boat Club is a members-only club featuring upscale boats and excellent availability. Unlike other clubs, they only grow each of their locations to 100 members, and spots are still available for the upcoming season. Right now they are running a summer special for locals who would like to get out on the water and become members.

"I don't just want our members to be comfortable on the water - I want them to be confident" Capt. Dave says. "If you are a private boat owner, it's a great idea to take a boating class or even hire a Captain to spend time with you on the water. The more people who know about and follow the rules the safer everyone will be."

When asked what the most important rule is when you're on the water, Capt. Dave said, "This is what they teach us at the Captain's School: Avoid a collision at all costs! That is by far the most important rule to remember when you're on the water."

For more information on The Boat Clubs, visit [www.theboatclubs.com](http://www.theboatclubs.com). ■