Important: SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE BOAT OR NEAR THE POOL. PLEASE READ THEM. THEY WILL GREATLY ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR POOL.

Nettle Net® BOAT POOL®

12 foot "*Fun*" size

Frustrate a jellyfish with your ***Nettle Net***®

The 12 foot diameter ***Nettle Net*** is the size developed to maximize ease of use and playing enjoyment. We call it the ***Fun*** pool. It is large enough to swim a few strokes about and it is great for playing games or relaxing on a float mat and cooling off in the water. At the same time, it is very easy to launch and retrieve, and it stores very compactly in a small mesh bag. Following a few instructions will ensure that you will enjoy your ***Nettle Net*** for many years.

SECTION 1: LAUNCHING AND RETRIEVING YOUR POOL

With a little practice, you will be launching and retrieving your pool in minutes. A ***Nettle Net*** can be unwieldy if not deployed and retrieved properly. Please read and follow these instructions until you are adept at quick deployment and storage. Usually only about 3 minutes are required for launch or retrieval.

Launching your pool from a boat WITH a swim platform

A swim platform is an excellent surface from which to use a ***Nettle Net***. Start by taking the pool out of its storage bag and unraveling the pool on the swim platform. Locate the tie strap on the outside of the pool nearest to the air valve and tie onto the tie strap a short length of rope to use as a security line (2 – 4 feet long). This line will help you to control the pool as you feed the pool into the water, and then as you lay your swim ladder into the pool. It will also help you control the pool when you remove your swim ladder from the pool and begin to bring the pool back up to the swim platform when you are retrieving the pool. And most importantly, you will tie this line to your swim ladder to secure the pool to your boat. This security line keeps the pool attached to your boat and prevents it from floating away in the event that your swim ladder floats upwards.

Put the air valve on the pool into the ***closed*** position (please see "**Float Ring Valve Operation**" below), and begin pumping with the enclosed foot pump. The ***Nettle Net*** cannot be over-inflated using the pump supplied; however, any type of electric or compressor pump could over-inflate and burst the float ring, ruining the pool. The pools typically only need 3-4 psi pressure for inflation. Feed the pool into the water as you inflate it. It does not take much air for the float ring to float and support the pool. As you feed the pool into the water, the weighted rope in the bottom of the pool will begin to take the netting down into the water, gently moving any jellyfish away.

If the pool develops kinks or folds while inflating, let the most eager swimmer slide into the pool and help the pool take shape. Once the pool is fully inflated, lay your swim ladder into the pool and tie the security line to your swim ladder. Remove the foot pump from the valve and put the dust cover back on the valve. You are now ready to swim. Enjoy!

Use care: Make sure that there are no barnacles along the waterline of the boat as they are razor sharp and can puncture the float ring. Also, it is a good idea to tape any cotter pins or other sharp objects on rigging or lifelines for your safety and to protect the ring from punctures or under the swim platform to protect the ring from punctures.

Retrieving your pool from a boat WITH a swim platform

Always retrieve the ***Nettle Net*** prior to any storm.

To retrieve the pool, first untie the security line from the swim ladder. Hold on to the security line. While someone holds the security line, lift the swim ladder out of the pool. Open the air valve dust cover on the float ring and put the valve into the open position. Much of the air in the float ring will rush right out. Gently, hand over hand, bring the pool up out of the water and onto the swim platform. Let any water drain from the netting for a few moments. What you do next with the pool will depend on whether you are heading to a new anchorage, or heading home. Please see **"Rinsing, Drying, and Storing your Pool"** below for instructions on each potential scenario.

Launching your pool from a boat WITHOUT a swim platform

Nettle Nets have been used successfully for many years from boats without swim platforms. Start by unrolling the float ring and unraveling the pool along the lifeline or railing along the side of the boat. Locate the tie strap on the outside of the pool nearest to the air valve and tie onto the tie strap a short length of rope to use as a security line (3 – 6 feet long). This line will help you to control the pool as you feed the pool into the water, and then as you lay your swim ladder into the pool. It will also help you control the pool when you remove your swim ladder from the pool and begin to bring the pool back up to the boat when you are retrieving the pool. And most importantly, you will tie this line to your swim ladder to secure the pool to your boat. This security line keeps the pool attached to your boat and prevents it from floating away in the event that your swim ladder floats upwards. It may also be helpful to tie one or two additional longer mooring lines to the tie straps along the sides of the pool. These lines can help you manage the pool to the stern of your boat, and can be tied off to cleats or stanchions to help hold the pool in place while in use.

Once the line(s) are tied onto the pool, position the pool with the float ring inside the lifeline/rail and the net hanging over the side of the boat into the water. Put the air valve on the pool into the ***closed*** position (please see "**Float Ring Valve Operation**" below), and begin pumping with the enclosed foot pump. Inflate as hard as possible using the foot pump. The ***Nettle Net*** cannot be over-inflated using the pump supplied; however, any type of electric or compressor pump could over-inflate and burst the float ring, ruining the pool. The ***Nettle Net*** will tend to become a circle as the air pressure increases and will drop into the water. Hold the valve up near the pump and continue pumping to get all wrinkles out of the float ring. Remove the foot pump from the valve and put the dust cover back on the valve. While holding on to the security line and/or a mooring line, drop the ***Nettle Net*** overboard, pull into position at the stern of the boat with the mooring lines, and gently drop the ladder into the pool. Secure the pool to the ladder with the security line. You are ready to swim! Enjoy!

Use care: Make sure that there are no barnacles along the waterline of the boat as they are razor sharp and can puncture the float ring. Also, it is a good idea to tape any cotter pins or other sharp objects on rigging or lifelines for your safety and to protect the ring from punctures or under the swim platform to protect the ring from punctures.

Retrieving your pool from a boat WITHOUT a swim platform

Always retrieve the ***Nettle Net*** prior to any storm.

To retrieve the pool, first untie the security line from the swim ladder. Hold on to the security line, or a mooring line. While someone holds one of the lines, lift the swim ladder out of the pool. Pull the pool forward away from the stern (and the rudder and propeller) along the side of the boat, open the air valve dust cover on the float ring and put the valve into the open position. Much of the air in the float ring will rush right out. Pull the float ring together and up and over the lifeline (2 or 3 feet at a time), reversing the deployment steps, leaving the net hanging outside the lifeline/rail. Don't fight the boat if it is sailing over the float ring—wait until the boat reverses direction away from the float ring before retrieving the pool.

Once the pool is on deck, let any water drain from the netting for a few moments. What you do next with the pool will depend on whether you are heading to a new anchorage, or heading home. Please see **"Rinsing, Drying, and Storing your Pool"** below for instructions on each potential scenario.

Launching your Pool from a Dock or Pier

These launching instructions assume that your dock or pier has been prepared as recommended in the section below **"Important Information about Using a *Nettle Net*® Boat Pool® from a Dock or Pier".** These preparations include a retractable swim ladder, removing barnacles from pilings and surfaces near the pool area, and putting indoor/outdoor carpeting on the pilings and dock edges where the pool could come into contact.

To launch your pool, remove the pool from its mesh storage bag and unravel the pool on your dock. Be careful of splintered wood, nail heads, or any sharp objects that could catch on the netting or possibly damage the float ring. Locate the tie strap on the outside of the pool nearest to the air valve and tie onto the tie strap a short length of rope to use as a security line (2 – 6 feet long, depending on the height of your dock from the water). This line will help you to control the pool as you feed the pool into the water and when you begin to bring the pool back up to the dock when you are retrieving the pool. And most importantly, you will tie this line to your swim ladder to secure the pool to your dock. Depending on the wind, tide, and current, you will probably also want to tie one or two additional longer mooring lines to the tie straps along the sides of the pool. These lines can be tied off to cleats, pilings, or even boats to help hold the pool in place while in use.

Put the air valve on the pool into the ***closed*** position (please see "**Float Ring Valve Operation**" below), and begin pumping with the enclosed foot pump. Inflate as hard as possible using the foot pump. The ***Nettle Net*** cannot be over-inflated using the pump supplied; however, any type of electric

or compressor pump could over-inflate and burst the float ring, ruining the pool. Feed the pool into the water after you can see the float ring starting to fill with air. Hold the valve up near the pump and continue pumping to get all wrinkles out of the float ring. Remove the foot pump from the valve and put the dust cover back on the valve. While holding on to the security line and/or a mooring line, drop the rest of the ***Nettle Net*** into the water, pull into position resting against the swim ladder. Secure the pool to the ladder with the security line, and tie off the mooring lines to convenient cleats or pilings to hold the pool in place against the swim ladder. You are ready to swim! Enjoy!

You can enter and exit the pool by the swim ladder. Be careful and step gently as you step on the pool material that is resting against the swim ladder.

Retrieving your Pool from a Dock or Pier

Never leave a pool deployed off a dock or pier in a storm or in rough weather. It is not recommended to leave a ***Nettle Net*** in the water overnight off a dock or use for more than three successive days without drying the net. Storms and excessive algae will damage a ***Nettle Net***. There is also a risk in leaving a pool in the water overnight that a passing boat could hit or become entangled by a pool, possibly destroying the pool and damaging the boat.

To retrieve the pool, first untie or loosen the mooring lines. Make sure that the lines are still secure, or that someone is holding them, to prevent the pool from floating away. Then untie the security line from the swim ladder. Hold on to the security line. Lift the pool enough so that you can open the air valve. Open the air valve dust cover on the float ring and put the valve into the open position. Much of the air in the float ring will rush right out. Gently, hand over hand, bring the pool up out of the water and onto the dock. Let any water drain from the netting for a few moments.

Once you are ready to store your pool, give it a rinse with fresh water and let it fully dry in the sun. You especially want to be sure to fully dry the pool if there is any algae (green or brown color) on the net. Drying kills algae that would decay and produce an unpleasant odor.

When you are ready to roll up the pool, lay the pool out and find the end of the float ring opposite the air valve. There should be a tie strap at approximately that position. Put the air valve into the ***open*** position (please see **"Float Ring Valve Operation"** below). Begin rolling the float ring from the end opposite the valve, with the float ring material doubled over. Gather and flip the netting material occasionally as you roll the float ring. Rolling the float ring with the air valve open squeezes any remaining air out of the float ring. When you are done rolling, put the air valve back into the closed position for storage, and in preparation for the next time you will inflate the pool. Close the dust cover on the valve.

Fold the netting material over the valve to protect the valve and stuff the pool back into its mesh storage bag. Tighten the drawstring and you are ready to store the pool.

Rinsing, Drying, and Storing your pool

You have several options as to what to do with the your pool once you have retrieved it from the water. If you are heading to another anchorage, you can let the pool sit in your cockpit or on your aft deck. It can sit in the open, or you may want to stuff it into a plastic bag. Whatever you do, please make sure that the pool cannot fall off of the boat, especially when you are underway. If you want to dry the pool right away, you can spread it out on your deck to dry. Please be careful to protect the pool from any sharp objects, or any objects on which you could catch and tear the netting or float ring. Due to space limitations on your boat, you may need to adjust the netting periodically to air out all sections to dry. Since none of the materials of the pool absorb water, the pools dry in about an hour in the sun. If you are heading back home or back to port, you may want to stuff the pool into a plastic bag. That way you can easily transport the pool home, where you can rinse and dry it.

The pool can stay wet inside a plastic or storage bag for a short period of time, perhaps a day or a couple days. DO NOT STORE THE POOL WET FOR ANY LONGER PERIOD OF TIME. The pool should not rot if stored wet, but anything that is stored wet could develop mildew. You especially want to be sure to fully dry the pool if there is any algae (green or brown color) on the net. Drying kills algae that would decay and produce an unpleasant odor. Once you are ready to store your pool, give it a rinse with fresh water and let it fully dry in the sun.

When you are ready to roll up the pool, lay the pool out and find the end of the float ring opposite the air valve. There should be a tie strap at approximately that position. Put the valve into the ***open*** position (please see **"Float Ring Valve Operation"** below). Begin rolling the float ring from the end opposite the valve, with the float ring material doubled over. Gather and flip the netting material occasionally as you roll the float ring. Rolling the float ring with the air valve open squeezes any remaining air out of the float ring. When you are done rolling, put the air valve back into the closed position for storage, and in preparation for the next time you will inflate the pool. Close the dust cover on the valve.

Fold the netting material over the valve to protect the valve and stuff the pool back into its mesh storage bag. Tighten the drawstring and you are ready to store the pool.

End of season care: Fresh water rinse your ***Nettle Net*** on your lawn, dry in the sun and store in a dry dark area. You could also soak your pool in a tub or clean bucket or trashcan in a very mild water and detergent mix. This will help keep the netting softer over a period of years. Fresh water rinse and dry your pool before storage.

SECTION 2: VALVE OPERATION AND CARE

Float Ring Valve Operation:

Open the dust cap--twist the dust cap counter-clockwise and pull to get to the yellow valve center post.

To inflate, the valve should be closed. Make sure the yellow center post of the valve is in the closed position—air can go in but not out. (To change the valve position, press on the yellow center post and

twist 1/4 turn counter-clockwise to close, or 1/4 turn clockwise to open for deflating). Be sure that the valve is in the closed position before inflating.

Insert the adaptor on the end of the foot pump air tube into the valve and turn 1/4 turn clockwise to lock it into place.

Use your foot to pump the foot pump to inflate the float ring. Both of your hands are free to manage the float ring and the netting as the float ring inflates.

To deflate, the valve should be open. Make sure the yellow center post of the valve is in the open position—air can go out or in. To change the valve position, press on the yellow center post and twist 1/4 turn clockwise to open. Remember to turn it back 1/4 turn counter-clockwise to the closed position to release tension on the spring. You will also be grateful that the valve is in the closed position the next time you try to inflate the pool. Always close the dust cap when you are done.

Nettle Net Valve Protection and Caution

Notice how the yellow float-ring is tightly coiled when you received it. Watch how you uncoil it along the boat's swim platform, lifeline or rail. Recoiling is the only way of getting the pool to fit back in the bag.

The valve used in ***Nettle Nets*** is one of the best and most popular available—it is called a "Halkey-Roberts" and is used in many quality inflatable dinghies. In addition, ***Nettle Nets*** are constructed from the very best hi-tech, tough, composite fabric. The fabric is so tough that it is used in aircraft emergency life jackets and the Coast Guard's newly approved inflatable life jackets for boating.

There is a special care needed by you, the user, because we've chosen to combine the hard plastic Halkey-Roberts valve with the lightweight composite fabric used in a ***Nettle Net*** float-ring. There is a rare possibility that letting the valve drop and hit a hard surface—especially wood or concrete decks—may punch a minute pinhole through the fabric. This can also happen when one rolls up the float-ring and places the pool in the net bag without wrapping netting around the valve to protect it should it be dropped on hard surfaces. (Any pinhole leak is usually easily repaired but better to have none.)

In short, **Protect the valve from hard surfaces** *and* **by cushioning it with netting**.

SECTION 3: WARRANTY, WARNINGS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Limited Warranty:

The ***Nettle Net*** has a limited warranty for one year against defects in material and workmanship. It is not warranted against punctures, tears, material fading, or failure due to over-pressure. This warranty does not cover and ***Nettle Net***® **BOAT POOL**® and **A Fresh Tack, LLC** shall not be liable for incidental or consequential damages due to use of a *Nettle Net* including injury or loss of life or limb.

WARNING:
This ***Nettle Net***, as with any swimming pool, can be used dangerously and injury or loss of life could occur if due precaution is not taken. The Vessel Captain or dock Property Owner must warn crew and guests, including children, that under no circumstances should they dive or jump into a ***Nettle Net*** Particularly, always use a ladder, never jump from the boat into the ***Nettle Net*** as one can easily **slip on a wet deck or rail, hit another person** or tear the netting from the ring. Also, warn your crew that under no circumstances should anyone dive into the pool. ***Nettle Net*s are not safe for diving and the water bottom is too variable in depth. Serious injury can result from diving or jumping into the *Nettle Net.***

WARNING:
Under no circumstances should the boat's propeller be engaged while a *Nettle Net* is in the water. The *Nettle Net* could be wrapped around the propeller destroying it and causing serious injury or death to swimmers.

WARNING:
Only use the supplied foot pump to inflate a ***Nettle Net.*** The pools only need 3 – 4 psi to fully inflate. Electric or compressor pumps can easily exceed that pressure and can blow a seam on the pool, ruining the pool. The included foot pumps work very well and the pools cannot be over inflated with them. Using an electric or compressor driven pump will void the pool warranty.

WARNINGS:
-This product should never be used by children except under adult supervision.
-This product is not a Personal Flotation Device (PFD).
-People who need to wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) in order to swim should wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) in a ***Nettle Net***® **BOAT POOL**®
-Always retrieve the pool prior to any storm.
-Read these Instructions before use.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
Thirty years of use and experience in the bays, rivers, and estuaries along the Atlantic Coast of the U.S. and thousands of satisfied customers attest to the effectiveness of the ***Nettle Net***® **BOAT POOL**® in waters populated by the common, mildly stinging jellyfish of these regions. The pools have proven through years of experience to effectively create a jellyfish free swimming area. The pools have worked successfully in areas populated by Sea Nettles (Chrysaora Quinquecirrha), the most common stinging jellyfish of Chesapeake Bay and along the Atlantic Coast, and the Lions Mane jellyfish and the Moon jellyfish of these regions. These types of jellyfish all have relatively mild but annoying stings. The degree of pain from a sting varies from person to person and with the severity of the encounter with the stinging tentacles.

The mesh netting on the pools is by necessity porous so that water can flow through the pools and allow the pools to function as swim areas. Since the mesh netting is not an impermeable barrier, it is

theoretically possible that some stingers could be felt through the netting if there is direct contact with a jellyfish or its stinging tentacles. **There is no guarantee that a user cannot be stung through the pool netting.** Due to the slight chance that someone could possibly be stung through the netting, we do not recommend that the pools be used by any person who, for physical or emotional reasons, cannot tolerate the risk of a jellyfish sting.

We do not recommend that the pools be used as protection against certain types of jellyfish. These include, among others, the Portuguese Man O' War (which is not technically a jellyfish), and certain highly toxic jellyfish, many of which are often found in tropical waters, such as Box jellyfish and Irukandji jellyfish. On the Atlantic Coast, Portuguese Man O' War tentacles can grow to lengths of more than 20 feet. At that length they could wrap around a pool. In addition, there is documentary evidence that Man O' War stingers can penetrate through latex gloves, which are impermeable barriers, and of a much greater thickness than the netting of the pools.

We do not recommend the pools for protection from Sea Lice, like the type found periodically in South Florida and along the coast of Mexico. These pinhead-sized creatures are small enough to float through the netting.

We do not recommend using the pools for protection from highly toxic jellyfish. Swimmers should avoid waters inhabited by these creatures.

We do not recommend the use of the pools by people who could have potentially severe allergic reactions to jellyfish stings.

SECTION 4: MANAGING YOUR POOL IN WIND AND TIDE CONDITIONS

Keeping Your Portable *Nettle Net* in a Stable Circle

Your ***Nettle Net*** will inflate and maintain a perfect circle off the stern of your boat if wind, tidal current, and/or boat movement are not excessive. Infrequently your pool will not take a suitable shape for swimming, regardless of your best efforts. When you encounter these limits, try for a more protected anchorage or a later time. The more calm and protected the anchorage, the better the pool will perform.

If your pool takes a different shape than a circle, under most circumstances you will not have lost any surface swim area, it will just be a different shape. This section describes the effects of wind and tide on your pool and some of the methods you can employ to counteract these effects.

Wind effect

Strong winds usually do not affect a ***Nettle Net*** but they do affect your boat. Your boat, in turn, affects the pool. We all have the experience of our boat "sailing" back and forth at anchor in a squall. The stronger the wind, the more your boat swings at anchor until several dozen feet or more are traversed and the movement about the anchor can get quite violent. Any pool tied to your stern will be dragged back and forth and can lose its circular shape, sometimes making it difficult to swim. On rare occasions, the boat will can also pull the float ring out of the water, allowing the wind to get under the ring, lifting the ring further and turning the ring into the shape of a pretzel.

Not so apparent is that wind of *any strength* will cause your boat to sail to and fro at anchor regardless of the size or type-sail or motor. The larger the boat, the slower it swings but also the further it swings--always dragging the pool back and forth. The circular shape is eventually lost as the wind increases.

If your ***Nettle Net*** will not take or maintain a circular shape, either your boat is at least slowly dragging the pool or the tidal current is too fast. A good indicator of the problem is that the pool will first appear to be on one side of the boat then, in several minutes, will be on the opposite side or the pool will wrap around the stern of the boat. The problem, 95% of the time, is caused by your boat sailing at anchor.

There are several possible solutions such as using two anchors, stern anchoring, or using a shorter rode that could stop sailing (never use a shorter anchor rode than is required for your boat's weight, the water depth and wind and weather conditions). Tying additional mooring lines from the side tie straps on the pool to cleats or stanchions on the boat can improve the pool's ability to keep its shape if the sailing is not too severe.

But the most successful and simplest remedy is to try the "bridle mooring" technique. Anchor normally, and then prior to deploying the pool, establish a bridle with the anchor line that will bring the boat more broadsides to the wind. This will greatly reduce the boat from "sailing" at anchor and will allow swimming in much higher winds. Use a bridle line that is about the length of the boat. The bridle should be formed by securing this bridle line from a rear cleat or winch direct to the anchor rode. Use a rolling hitch knot to secure the line to the anchor rode. Let out an additional length of anchor rode (the same amount as the length of the bridle line) and the boat will now lie more abeam of the wind and be very stable. Lastly, deploy the pool from the side or stern.

Prior to retrieving the ***Nettle Net***, release the bridle line from the stern and drop its bitter end in the water so the boat swings again from the anchor rode. Retrieve the pool then retrieve the anchor line whenever convenient. The bridle line will come aboard with the anchor line. In an emergency, you can quickly get out of the bridle by simply releasing the bridle line from the stern.

Current effect

In the absence of wind, current will influence the direction your boat lies at anchor. With a light or moderate current alone, the pool should not be greatly adversely affected. When wind and current are both present, there should not be a great effect on your boat and the pool if the wind and the current are running in roughly the same direction. A stronger current running from bow to stern will tend to elongate the pool and make it more oval. Mooring lines tied from the side tie straps to cleats or stanchions on the boat can help counteract this effect to some degree.

Most problems arise when the wind and the current are coming from opposite directions. In this case, the wind will tend to hold the boat pointed in one direction (toward the wind), while the current pushes the pool from the other direction into the stern of the boat. This is a situation where mooring lines and/or a bridle line are generally not effective. Swimmers pushing the pool against the current can sometimes help temporarily, but usually the pool will not take a circular shape until the current slackens or changes direction after a few hours.

SECTION 5: POOL REPAIRS

Repairing the *Nettle Net*
Although ***Nettle Nets*** are manufactured from expensive, tough and light hi-tech composite fabrics, tears or punctures may occasionally occur - almost always from overlooked sharp objects such as barnacles, shells or exposed screws or bolts.

Net repairs
Carry a needle and thread (preferably nylon or polyester) on your boat and simply stitch a torn net together. If you are not comfortable with tackling the job, give us an email or call. We can advise you or you could send the pool to us to do the job for a reasonable fee.

Float ring repairs
First, try to avoid situations where the pool could become damaged. Try to police the parts of your boat where the pool may come in contact (particularly around the stern) and remove or cover sharp objects. Dock users please see **"Important Information about Using a *Nettle Net*® BOAT POOL® from a Dock or Pier"** below. Repairs for the 12 Foot and 8 Foot pools are as follows.
Buy now a small bottle of contact cement with a brush (a form of rubber cement). This is a brand name, manufactured by the DAP Company. You can find bottles at your local hardware store. No other glue or adhesive will work and will actually make it difficult to subsequently do a proper repair.

Repair of small pinhole leaks or seepage leaks
First, find the leak by submerging the float ring under the water to locate air bubbles. Second, mark the exact location of the air bubbles with a number 2 lead pencil. Third, after the float ring is completely dry, brush 3 coats of contact cement over a 1/2 inch area centered on the bubble location. Let the contact cement dry one hour or more between each coat. The last coat must dry overnight before inflating the pool to be a permanent repair. More than 3 coats are better.

Repair of leaks larger than 1mm:
Make a patch 1 inch larger than the hole by simply putting 3 coats of contact cement on both sides of any small piece of fabric (with at least 35% polyester content) and around the damaged area, letting each coat dry until tacky. Then roll the patch over the damaged area. Women's panty or bra material, 100% nylon or polyester, works best, as it is very stretchy. This provides a nice flexible patch and will be a permanent repair. No other type of patching (except with original material) is likely to work because the material will not stretch enough. If you are not comfortable with tackling the job, give us an email or call. We can advise you or you could send the pool to us to do the job for a reasonable fee.

SECTION 6: Important Information about Using a *Nettle Net*® BOAT POOL® from a Dock or Pier

Many of our customers use ***Nettle Nets*** successfully from their docks or piers. Nettle Nets can be used successfully in most dock or pier situations, but there are a number of issues encountered with dock use that are not encountered when using a ***Nettle Net*** from a boat. The following issues need to be considered when using a ***Nettle Net***® **BOAT POOL**® from a dock.

Barnacles on Pilings
Barnacles are very sharp and can put pinhole leaks or cuts into the float ring or tears in the netting. If you do happen to get a small pinhole leak or netting tear, they are fairly easy to repair, but by following the steps outlined here you can greatly reduce the chances of having any problems.

Every effort should be taken to minimize the possibility of contact between the pool and barnacles. First, identify the pilings or bulkhead surfaces that are at risk of coming into contact with the pool. We recommend scraping the barnacles off of those surfaces and covering the potential contact areas with indoor-outdoor or industrial grade carpeting. Tack on with rustproof nails or hold in place with plastic straps or cable ties. This will inhibit barnacle growth and will give the pool a smooth surface with which to come into contact. We also recommend putting carpeting on the top edge of the dock where the pool will come into contact during launching and retrieving. This will prevent against the pool getting caught on splinters or rough deck planks. We recommend installing a retractable aluminum ladder to get in and out of the pool. Retracting the ladder when not in use will keep it barnacle free.

When using a ***Nettle Net***® **BOAT POOL**® from a boat, the swim ladder is generally laid into the pool. When using the pool from a dock, the ladder is generally kept outside the pool, with the pool resting against the ladder as a contact point. The pool can be entered and exited by the ladder. It will not hurt the pool to step gently on the netting to use the ladder, but do take care not to overly stretch the netting when doing so, or to step on the float ring. Use mooring lines attached to the tie straps on the sides of the pool and secured to cleats or pilings on the dock to hold the pool in place against the ladder and away from pilings. An alternative to using a pool directly from a dock is to use a pool from a boat that is moored at the dock. In this case, you could use the swim ladder and swim platform on the boat. It would still be necessary to scrape and cover any nearby pilings.

Depth of the water and condition of the bottom
All of the ***Nettle Net***® **BOAT POOL**®s are 6 feet deep along the sides and reach depths up to 8 feet in the center areas. They can be used in water that is shallower than 6 –8 feet. In shallow water, a sandy bottom is the best surface. Be sure to swish the pool around during retrieval to rinse out any sand. If the bottom is mucky or muddy, you will certainly want to rinse the pool well when you retrieve it. The primary issue when using the pool in shallow water is the potential for users to be walking on the netting on the bottom. If people will be walking or standing on the netting, you will want to be sure to police the bottom surface to make sure that there are no sharp objects that may be stepped on, such as rusty metal, glass, shells, barnacle covered sticks or logs, etc. These objects could potentially create tears in the netting. These tears are usually fairly easy repair, but should obviously be avoided if at all possible.

Orientation of the dock and local wind and current conditions
Most docks (piers) are situated perpendicular to the shoreline, and consequently are also perpendicular to the tidal current, and also often to the wind, which sometimes funnels along creeks and bodies of water. This differs from using a pool from a boat at anchor, which will orient itself in the direction of the wind and/or current flow. At a dock, the more protected the location and the less the local current strength, the better. To counter a current or wind flow, attach lines to the side tie straps on the pool and

tie them off to cleats or pilings on the dock, or to boats in adjacent slips. The wider the angle of the lines relative to the dock, the more effective the lines will generally be.

Never leave a pool deployed off a dock or pier in a storm or in rough weather. It is not recommended to leave a ***Nettle Net*** in the water overnight off a dock or use for more than three successive days without drying the net. Storms and excessive algae will damage a ***Nettle Net***. There is also a risk in leaving a pool in the water overnight that a passing boat could hit or become entangled by a pool, possibly destroying the pool and damaging the boat.

Nettle Net® **BOAT POOL**®
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