



## **EXPLANATION AND FEATURES OF DECATUR HEAD BEACH ASSOCIATION**

*DHBA is a unique cooperative located at the easterly tip of Decatur Island with beautiful views of Rosario Strait and points south. Forty families own 45 acres, including the almost 20 acre hillside known as “Decatur Head”. Gorgeous wild flowers adorn it in the spring and hiking trails offer members lovely vistas that are well worth the walk.*

*The community also owns about 1.5 miles of sandy beach, two docks, 8 mooring buoys and 8 fully-equipped cabins.*

### **How does it work?**

*The cabins are available to members on an “as available” basis from Labor Day to Memorial Day, excluding Thanksgiving week and Christmas to New Years. This is considered the **non-prime** season although it can be some of the prettiest time to be on the island.*

*A member who wants to use a cabin during this time period needs to contact the caretakers **no more than one month** in advance. Multiple cabins can be reserved for friends and family as well. (4 max)*

*During the **prime** season, which is Memorial Day to Labor Day, Thanksgiving week and Christmas to New Years, members can request three weeks. They will be asked to give their “first choice” of weeks and a “2<sup>nd</sup> choice” of weeks. These requests are placed in a hat and a drawing takes place in April to determine who gets which weeks. DHBA board members get the first 6 draws and remaining members get the rest. If you don’t get your preferred week in the drawing, you can go on a “wait list” and may be able to come if there is a cancellation.*

### **What’s provided to the members?**

*Each cabin is fully furnished and includes everything but linens for your stay on the island. The kitchens have microwaves, toasters and coffee pots in addition to all the dishes, cutlery and pans you will need to cook up an island feast. Wood is provided for a warm fire in the fireplace or woodstove*

*A large storage unit (35 cubic ft) is available to each member for storing their personal items while they’re off island. There is also a freezer for crab bait and a laundry room. Small skiffs, motors, kayaks, canoes, fishing gear, crab pots, bicycles, etc can also be stored on site.*

*Office has a computer, fax machine, printer and Wi-Fi available.*

## **How do I get to the island?**

DHBA owns their own passenger ferry plus 8 parking spaces at Skyline Marina. Weather permitting, the caretaker can pick you up at the marina and return you at the end of your stay. If the weather report has Gale Warning or Small Craft Advisory, it is too rough for the DHBA boat, and one of the two water taxi companies in Anacortes can transport you to the island. They are larger and able to travel in most weather conditions.

If you come by private boat, there is a dock for loading and unloading and a mooring buoy that you can use while you're on the island.

The community owns a pickup truck that you can use to move your things to the cabin or there are dock carts available.

## **What are the costs that I can expect to incur?**

Transportation: Boat costs \$100 for prime season and can carry 10 people. Non-prime is \$60

If you end up needing to use Paraclete Charters or Island Express, costs will vary depending on number of people.

Parking at Skyline Marina - \$5/day

Monthly fees: \$300

Cabin Fees: Large cabins - \$35/nt Small cabins - \$25/nt

Members are expected to clean cabin when they leave but if you are unable to do so, you can hire it done for a rate of \$45 small or \$60 large. If you are only there for one night, fee may be reduced.

Special Assessments: Occasionally there is a need to ask for a special assessment to fund a boat repair or capital improvement. The last one was in 2016 for \$400 to pay for re-roofing one cabin.

## **Who are the other members?**

Many Seattle professionals own memberships at DHBA. At least 70% of the members are either original owners or their children. Since 2009, five memberships have sold with prices ranging from \$90,000 to \$125,000. Usually memberships stay in the family and some are third generation owners, who are now introducing their children to the beauty of Decatur Island.

## **Is there anything to do on the island, away from DHBA?**

The island has numerous opportunities for the outdoor enthusiast... lovely hiking trails, roads for biking, great boating and kayaking. James Island is just a short paddle away and crabbing and fishing is available in Davis Bay.

For the golfers, there is a 9-hole golf course on the island. Even if you're a newbie, you will have fun and all the clubs, balls and tees are provided. 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend there's an energetic golf tournament that's great for all ages and is followed by a BBQ and awards ceremony.

Saturday mornings, in the summer, a farmers market is held at the school; just a short walk away. A small store is under new ownership and hopes to be opening soon.