



16.5 Club Boats

16.5.1 Club Boats Policy

Policy Background

The Seafarers Sailing Club maintains a fleet of boats for members use. It is important that we provide modern, good condition, easily maintainable boats to allow our trainees and novices to sail with minimum fuss.

The use of club boats is primarily for training and encouraging new and novice sailors to develop their sailing while building their confidence before purchasing their own boat. However, club boats may also be used by suitably qualified and/or experienced members for cruising and/or racing. The use of club boats is subject to the 'Use of Club Boats Policy'. The policy is displayed on the 'Club Boats Booking and Familiarisation Book'.

Policy Aims & Requirements

The aim of this policy is to provide a guide to the committee for the requirements for Club Boats.

Types of boats:

Large, two handed boats, suitable in size for two trainees and one instructor. The boat should include an asymmetric rig and have reefable, cut-down or small sails. This type of boat has to be suitable for the initial stages of RYA L1/L2 Training Course(s) and also cruising. An asymmetric rig also allows them to be used for RYA L3 Training Course and also the more advanced RYA modules.

Medium simple single/double hander suitable in size for two trainees, but can also be rigged and sailed singled handed. The boat should include an asymmetric rig and have reefable, cut-down or small sails. This type of boat has to be suitable for the later stages of RYA L1/L2 Course(s) training. An asymmetric rig also allows them to be used for RYA L3 Training Course and also the more advanced RYA modules.

Small simple boats suitable for 5 - 16-year olds. The boat should be suitable for young sailors to learn the basics of sailing and attain RYA YSS Level 1 & 2

Having a common fleet of boats helps with the provision of maintenance and spare parts.

Numbers of boats

The ideal number of the boats is 9 (3x large, 3x medium and 3x small). The maximum number of trainees on a training course at our club is 12. By having medium/large boats, this allows all 12 trainees a place in a club boat for the majority of the course. It also minimises the requirement to borrow boats from club members.

Maintenance

All club boats are to be maintained to the highest possible standard to allow maximum availability and to ensure passing of the annual RYA Inspection. They should be surveyed on a regular basis and replacements sought when necessary. Having a newer fleet of boats will reduce the required maintenance.

Replacements:

A gradual migration to the necessary type of boat will take several years and regular reviews of requirements will be necessary. With a fleet of 9 boats, a replacement boat is to be purchased as often as necessary.



Seafarers Sailing Club

16.5.2 Use of Club Boats Statement

Seafarers Sailing Club boats are available for all members to use, however, they are not considered as a permanent resource i.e. all members are expected to normally sail in privately owned boats. The club boats are available for training, club organised cruising and 'occasional' use by any club member: for example when a member's boat is damaged, regular helm/crew is not available, taking another family member/guest for a sail or trying out a different boat.

For a member/parent/guardian to sign out a club boat they must be qualified to at least RYA Level 2 or have equivalent qualifications and/or competency and experience. Equivalent qualifications, competency may be approved by an RYA Senior Instructor. (This does not apply during controlled Training or Practice Sailing Sessions.) Members/parents/guardian must have had recent familiarisation with the club boat required and its rig. Familiarisation is to be carried out by a Seafarers Sailing Club RYA Senior Instructor. They will authorise the use of the applicable boat and sign the accompanying member's Club Boat Familiarisation Form. Approval to use a club boat may be rescinded if sailing falls below the level required above.

Members/parents/guardians must have had recent familiarisation with the club boat required and its rig. Familiarisation is to be carried out by a Seafarers Sailing Club RYA Senior Instructor. They will authorise the use of the applicable boat and sign the accompanying member's Club Boat Familiarisation Form. Approval to use a club boat may be rescinded if sailing falls below the level required above.

Members are not to take out club boats in a wind force greater than Force 4. Notwithstanding the 'Force 4 limit', members may be denied the use of a club boat if they are not considered sufficiently competent to safely cope with the prevailing conditions. Such inexperienced club members will be limited to using club boats during organised club racing and practice sailing; this will be noted on their Familiarisation Form. Under these circumstances the onus is on the member to check with the OOD/Shore Co-ordinator prior to taking out a club boat. The member should inform the OOD/Shore Coordinator of their level of experience and seek advice on choice of boat/rig and on whether the conditions are suitable for them.

Boats may be booked out in advanced on a 'first come, first served' basis. Ladies, Cadets/Students and Novices will always have priority over club boats for 'Ladies, Novices and Cadets Races. Club training requirements will always take precedence over any booking.

- Suitable Personal Flotation Devices are to be worn at all times.
- Masthead flotation bags are to be used on club boats at all times
- Small club boats are only to be used by Cadets between the ages of 5 and 16 under 90kgs and only during organised training/practice/racing sessions.
- Cadets under the age of 11 are strongly recommended to wear helmets.
- Cadets under the age of 11, must, at all times, be supervised by a parent/guardian who must have the authorisation of a Senior Instructor for the use of the boat.

In the event of any damage or breakage, the user is to report the incident to the Rear Commodore, Bosun or any other Committee Member as soon as possible. Please do not discuss/agree with any course of action regarding repairs etc. as this will be done by the committee. Also record the damage in the Defect Log. All members/parents/guardians who damage a boat are encouraged to take some responsibility for the damage by fixing or assisting in the repair.

Members/parents/guardians using Club Boats shall be liable for the cost of any damage up to the limit of the insurance excess, in the event of a claim. Insurance Claim Forms are available in the Officer of the Day's cupboard, if required.

16.5.3 Use of Club Buoyancy Aids & Helmets Statement

Seafarers Sailing Club holds a small number of buoyancy aids and helmets which are available for members to use however, they are not considered as a permanent resource i.e. all members are expected to provide their own. The club buoyancy aids are intended for visiting guests/friends etc, but would be available for members if a members needed one because they had forgotten theirs (for example). Buoyancy Aids & Helmets are to be inspected by the users prior to use and signed for in the Club Equipment in the wetroom. In the event of any damage or breakage, the user is to report the incident to the Rear Commodore, Bosun or any other Committee Member as soon as possible. Also record the damage in the Defect Log.



Seafarers Sailing Club

Club Boat Familiarisation Form

Members Name	Members Signature		
	Large/Cruising Boats	Medium Boats	Small Boats
Equipment Location			
Rig (inc different rigs)			
Launching & Recovery			
De – rig and stow			
Spinnaker			
Reefing			
Club Racing			
Practice Sailing			
Cruising			
≤ FORCE 3			
≤ FORCE 4			
Additional Caveats			

