

BLACKWATER SAILING CLUB LIMITED

RULES

INTRODUCTION

The Committee under the powers granted to it by Article 10(1)(e) of the Articles of Association of the Blackwater Sailing Club Limited (hereinafter called "the Club") has made the Rules contained in this booklet for the conduct of the affairs of the Club and for compliance by Members. Section A of these Rules, and updates thereto, have been approved at Extraordinary General Meetings of the Club, in accordance with the requirements of Article 3(e) and (f). These Rules are in addition to, and in amplification of, the Articles of Association of the Club.

In these Rules:

Reference to a Member shall mean a Full Member, Honorary Member or Cadet Member (as the case may be), as defined in the Articles of Association of the Club, and "Cadet" shall mean Cadet Member

Reference to an Officer of the Club shall mean either a Flag Officer or an Honorary Officer, as defined in the Articles of Association of the Club

Reference to the Club Notice Board shall mean any of the notice boards in the main entrance lobby of the clubhouse

Reference to the Members' Information File shall mean the file kept for that purpose in the main entrance lobby of the clubhouse and on the Club website

Reference to parent in the context of Rules concerning Cadets or children shall include also a legal guardian

Words importing any gender shall import any other gender

Words importing the plural number shall include the singular and vice-versa

A reference to a statute or statutory provision includes a reference to that statute as from time to time consolidated, modified, re-enacted or replaced by any other statute or statutory provision and includes any subordinate legislation made under it

Any case not provided for in these Rules will be referred to the Committee whose decision will be final.

(Introduction revised 26th November 2013)

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A. RULES RELATING TO MEMBERSHIP, SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CHARGES

1. Election of Members

(a) Full Members

Every candidate for membership shall apply to the Hon. Membership Secretary in writing in such form as shall be required for that purpose by the Committee. Each such candidate shall either:

(i) Be proposed and seconded by two Full or Honorary Members of the Club (who shall not be related to one another) in writing in the form required by the Committee or

(ii) Submit himself for interview by a member of the Committee or the Membership sub-committee.

(Rule A1(a)(ii) revised 20th November 2011)

In the case of (i) above the Hon. Membership Secretary or any Flag Officer may in addition in his sole discretion decide that a candidate be required to submit himself for interview prior to his election being considered.

Subject to the above and to each application (or a copy of it) being posted on the Club Notice Board for a period of not less than fourteen days (or such other period as the Committee shall decide) each application shall be considered by either the Committee or the Membership sub-committee and voted upon by secret ballot. If the Membership sub-committee is unanimously in favour of a candidate, his application shall be deemed approved by the Committee. If the Membership sub-committee be not unanimously in favour of a candidate his application shall be passed to the Committee. At Committee, whether or not the application has previously been considered by the Membership sub-committee, if there be one vote in four against the candidate, he will not be elected.

For the purposes of the above, a quorum of the Membership sub-committee shall comprise the Hon. Membership Secretary or a Flag Officer and at least three other Members of the Membership sub-committee.

(b) Honorary Members

Any distinguished person, or a person who has rendered special service to the Club, may be elected an Honorary Member of the Club, for such period as the Committee may decide. He may be nominated by any Full or Honorary Member and shall be elected by secret ballot of the Committee provided this is agreed by 90% or more of those voting at the meeting.

(Rule A1(b) revised 21st November 2010)

(c) Cadet Members

A Cadet shall be elected in the same manner as described in Rule A1(a), but require only a proposer who may be his parent. All applications shall be in the form required by the Committee and (if not incorporated in such form) must be accompanied by a letter of consent from a parent (or legal guardian) of the applicant. All applicants must be 8 years of age or over and less than 18 years of age at the date of election.

A Cadet must have at least one parent (or legal guardian) who is a Full or Honorary Member of the Club, except in exceptional circumstances which must be approved by the Committee. In the latter case, the Committee shall as a pre-condition of election of any Cadet (or of any Cadet renewing his membership) require that a Full or Honorary Member first agrees in writing to accept responsibility for the Cadet in such form as the Committee shall require.

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Cadet membership shall cease on 31st December of the year in which the Cadet reaches 18 years of age, at which time he will automatically be considered as a candidate for Full membership commencing at the beginning of the following calendar year.

2. Other Categories

(a) Associates

A Full Member of the Club may apply to the Committee to transfer to Associate status. The Committee will approve such a transfer, if it considers in its sole discretion that there are proper reasons why the Member is unable to make use of the Club but wishes to continue his association with it. The transfer shall be approved by the Committee by secret ballot and if there shall be one vote in four against, the transfer will not be approved. The Committee need not give a reason for its decision.

Associate status is not membership and confers none of the rights and privileges of a Full Member of the Club (including the right to launch, recover or keep a boat at the Club). If an Associate wishes to visit the Club he shall only do so as a Temporary Member or as a Guest under Rule A2(d)(i) or A2(d)(ii) respectively.

(b) Provisional Members

The Hon. Membership Secretary or a Flag Officer may grant a candidate for membership Provisional membership, pending consideration as per Rule A1(a) or A1(c). Such membership shall not confer any of the rights or privileges of a Full or Cadet Member of the Club (as the case may be) other than to use the Club's premises for a continuous period of up to three months and to launch, recover or keep a boat at the Club, for which the appropriate charge is payable. No Provisional Member shall be entitled to a mooring. Provisional membership shall be granted to any one person on one occasion only.

Every candidate for provisional membership shall apply to the Hon. Membership Secretary in writing in such form as shall be required for that purpose by the Committee. Names of Provisional Members shall be recorded by the Hon. Membership Secretary.

(c) Training Members

Persons other than Full Members, Honorary Members and Cadets who attend any training scheme or course operated by the Club on or from its premises are deemed to be Training Members. All Training Members shall be under the control and supervision of an instructor nominated by the Principal of the Sailing School. Training membership shall confer none of the rights and privileges of membership of the Club other than to use, for a limited period, such of the Club's facilities as are necessary in connection with the scheme or course being attended, and under the control and supervision of the relevant instructor. The names of all Training Members shall be recorded by the Principal of the Sailing School or a person appointed by him for this purpose.

(d) Visitors

Visitors are categorised as either Temporary Members or Guests.

(i) Temporary Members

Persons who wish to utilise the Club's facilities for short periods may be introduced to the Club as Temporary Members only by Full or Honorary Members who shall be responsible for payment of their subscriptions and charges in accordance with the prevailing tariff. Temporary Members shall have none of the rights or privileges of Full Members of the Club other than to use the Club's facilities (including launching, recovery and parking of dinghies) for a limited period under the control and supervision of the introducing Member.

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Members who wish to introduce Temporary Members shall apply to the Hon. Treasurer in writing in such form as shall be required for that purpose by the Committee. Temporary membership is effective upon completion of the form and payment of the appropriate fees.

Associates wishing to have Temporary Member status may introduce themselves by applying to the Hon. Treasurer in writing in such form as shall be required for that purpose by the Committee. They are responsible for payment of their own charges. Temporary membership is effective upon completion of the form and payment of the appropriate fees.

For each individual, temporary membership is restricted to a maximum of seven days per calendar year.

Participants in open sailing events at the Club, having signed an entry form and paid the corresponding entrance fee, are deemed to be Temporary Members whose charges are included in their entrance fee..

(ii) Guests

Full and Honorary Members have the privilege of introducing (except on the occasion of General Meetings) not more than two Guests on any one day. No Guest shall be introduced more than four times between 1st April and 30th September in any one year and more than four times between 1st October and 31st March in the following year. No person who has been expelled, suspended or rejected as a Member shall be introduced as a Guest. Guests shall not be allowed to bring, launch or recover boats. Members introducing Guests shall enter their names in the Guest book kept in the clubhouse main lobby.

Full and Honorary Members may invite Guests to formal Club social events, in which case the Member is responsible for all charges. Such Guests are not included in the above limits on frequency and do not have to be entered in the Guest book.

Associates may sign themselves in the Guest book, subject to the above limits on frequency.

Visiting yachtsmen who are members of a club affiliated to the Royal Yachting Association, or an equivalent overseas club, may visit the Club for short periods without charge, and shall sign themselves in the Guest book, subject to the above limits on frequency.

(e) Children

Children, who are 8 years of age or over, are not permitted on the Club's premises except as a duly elected Cadet, as a Provisional, Training or Temporary Member, or as a bona fide Guest.

Children of any Full, Honorary, Provisional or Temporary Member who are under 8 years of age are admitted to the Club's premises without payment provided that at all times they are under the control and supervision of their parent (or by a responsible adult nominated by their parent) who shall be solely responsible for their conduct, safety and well being.

3. Subscriptions and Charges

- (a)** Entrance fees, membership subscriptions and boat charges shall be in accordance with the prevailing tariff as approved in General Meeting of the Club and posted on the Club Notice Board and web site.
- (b)** Charges for other services and goods provided by the Club shall be in accordance with prevailing tariffs determined by the Committee, or by a duly authorised sub-committee, and posted on the Club Notice Board and web site.
- (c)** Membership subscriptions for Full and Cadet Members, subscriptions for Associates, and boat charges fall due annually in advance on 1st April in respect of the calendar year January / December.
- (d)** At Committee discretion, membership subscriptions and boat charges may be paid in two equal instalments, one on 1st April and one on a later date, to be specified by the Committee, in the same year. If no payment is received by 1st April the full amount is deemed to be due on 1st April; if the first 50% instalment is received on or before 1st April then the second 50% instalment is deemed to be due on the specified later date.
- (e)** Subscriptions and boat charges for Provisional, Training and Temporary Members are payable on demand.
- (f)** Charges for boats brought newly to the Club are payable on demand.
- (g)** Charges for all other services are payable on demand.
- (h)** If any Full, Honorary or Cadet Member or Associate fails to pay his account, either for subscriptions or charges, within one month of its due date, a further written application for payment will be made. If payment is not received within a further period of twenty-one days following the date of the further application for payment, the name of the Member/Associate concerned will, at the discretion of the Committee, be posted on the Club Notice Board, and if his account is not paid within twenty-one days of such posting, his name may, at the discretion of the Committee, be removed from the list of Members or Associates, without prejudice to the right of the Club to collect outstanding dues, and he shall thereupon cease to be a Member or Associate as the case may be.

(Rule A3(h) revised 13th November 2016)

4. Subscriptions and Boat Charges for fractional years

- (a)** For Full and Cadet Members elected to the Club during the year, entrance fees, membership subscriptions and boat charges if applicable are payable within one month of election, and if not so paid the election may be void at the discretion of the Committee.
- (b)** A Full or Cadet Member elected on or after 1st September but before 31st December shall not be liable for any membership subscription in respect of the calendar year immediately following his election.
- (c)** A Provisional Member elected to Full or Cadet membership shall pay the full entrance fee and subscription relating to the year of his election, but after giving credit for Provisional membership fees, subscriptions and charges already paid in that year. He shall be liable to pay all subscriptions and charges for the following calendar year, even if his election to Full or Cadet membership took place on or after 1st September, unless he also became a Provisional Member on or after 1st September.
- (d)** A Member or Associate whose relationship with the Club ceases during a year for whatever reason is not entitled to any refund of subscriptions or charges.
- (e)** Subject to (f), (g) and (j) below, the full respective boat charge is payable for each boat kept at the Club for any part of the year.
- (f)** If a boat is brought to the Club on or after 1st September but before 31st December the full respective boat charge is payable at the time of arrival at the Club, and no boat charge shall be due in respect of the calendar year immediately following such arrival.
- (g)** If a boat is removed from the Club before 1st April then no boat charge is due for that year, provided that a full charge has been paid for the boat in the previous year.
- (h)** If a boat is brought to the Club only for winter storage or winter mooring the full respective boat charge is payable at the time of arrival at the Club, and will fall due in advance on 1st April in subsequent years.
- (i)** Members intending to bring a boat which is new to the Club shall advise the Hon. Treasurer in writing in such form as shall be required for that purpose by the Committee. The same form shall be used to advise sales of boat between Members, sales of boats to non-Members, or removal of boats from the Club. Where a Member fails to notify the Hon. Treasurer within 14 days, the 'non-registered boat charge' will apply for the non-registered period in addition to the prevailing boat charge.
(Rule A4(i) revised 13th November 2016)
- (j)** Full, Honorary and Cadet Members may keep a boat (other than a cruiser) at the Club for up to seven days per year at the same rate as applies to Temporary Members. Members who wish to do so shall apply to the Hon. Treasurer in writing in such form as shall be required for that purpose by the Committee.

5. Reductions in Fees, Subscriptions and Charges

- (a)** A husband and wife both of who are Members shall pay the reduced subscription according to the prevailing tariff, which reduction shall not apply to entrance fees.
- (b)** Couples living permanently at the same address may apply in writing, through the Hon Membership Secretary, for Rule A5(a) to be applied to them as if they were husband and wife. Such application must be made before 1st March in order for the discount to apply from the year in question, and will be recorded in the Club database.
- (c)** Full Members who have not attained the age of 24 years shall be termed Juniors and pay the reduced subscription according to the prevailing tariff.
(Rule A5(c) revised 21st November 2010)
- (d)** Any Full Member having reached the age of 65 years and who has been a Full Member of the Club for at least 25 years, or having reached the age of 70 years and who has been a Full Member for at least 15 years, may apply for his subscription to be reduced to one half of the prevailing rate.
- (e)** Any Full Member having reached the age of 80 years and who has been a Full Member of the Club for at least 15 years may apply for his subscription to be reduced to one quarter of the prevailing rate
- (f)** If a Member who has left the Club wishes to rejoin within a period of seven years, at the Committee's discretion a further entrance fee will not be payable.
- (g)** The Committee may in any particular case at its discretion reduce or waive payment of any subscription or charge.

(Rule A full revision 25th April 2010)

B. GENERAL AND HOUSE RULES

1. Burgee

The Burgee of the Club shall be white with the former Maldon Borough Arms and a horizontal bar in dark blue. The design of any merchandise bearing the name of the Club and/or the burgee must be authorised by the Committee.

Note: Details of current designs are contained in the Members' Information File.

2. Hours of Opening and Closing of the Club

The clubhouse is open to Members subject to such limitations as are imposed from time to time by the Committee.

The last Member leaving the clubhouse shall be responsible for ensuring that all windows and doors are closed or locked (as the case may be) and for turning off the lights and generally securing the premises.

(Rule B2 revised 16th January 2012)

3. Flood Prevention Gates

The flood prevention gates in the sea wall are normally left open and shall only be operated upon the receipt of an official notification of a flood warning, either by a person authorised by the Environment Agency or by a Club employee or Member formally authorised by the House, Precincts and Equipment sub-committee. A list of the latter is contained in the Members' Information File.

(Rule B3 revised 9th May 2011)

4. Pier and Pontoon

The pier and pontoon are primarily for the purpose of embarkation or disembarkation. Diving or jumping from the pier or pontoon are not permitted, except during organised Club events. Any Member of the Committee, Officer of the Club or the Race Officer, for reasons of safety or nuisance, may require any person swimming in such vicinity to cease doing so immediately.

5. Galleys

The Members' galley, located on the lower deck, is for the use of Members. Users shall be individually responsible for ensuring that Club crockery and cutlery are returned clean to store after use.

The functions galley, located on the upper deck, is only for use for organised catering in connection with Club events, by arrangement with the Rear Commodore.

The consumption of food is not permitted in either galley.

Children under 8 years of age are not allowed in either galley.

6. Dress

Members wearing wet clothing shall not use the internal staircases or any first floor areas of the clubhouse, other than as provided for in connection with organised social events, and they are encouraged to use the wet entrances for access to the toilets and changing areas.

7. Cadets and Children

Cadets under 11 years of age shall not attend the Club unless a parent, or a responsible adult nominated by the parent, is also on the premises.

Children under 8 years of age shall be under the control and supervision of a parent, or by a responsible adult nominated by the parent – refer Rule A2(e)

The sunroom is reserved for use by persons over the age of 18.

Cadets shall wear a suitable buoyancy aid or life jacket at all times when afloat.

For the safety of all, the use of bicycles, roller blades, skateboards, scooters or similar equipment is not permitted on the clubhouse terrace, upper dinghy park (north), wash-down and slipway areas, and the roadways between them. During Club week and Cadet week, these items are not permitted on any part of the Club's premises.

(Rule B7 revised 26th March 2007)

8. Dogs

Dogs are not permitted in the clubhouse. Elsewhere on Club property dogs shall always be on a lead, and any fouling shall be cleared up.

9. Radios, mobile phones etc.

The use of portable radios, personal audio equipment, games computers or similar equipment is not permitted in the clubhouse or on the terrace. The use of mobile telephones in these areas is strongly discouraged and any such use shall be with due regard to the comfort and convenience of other Members.

10. Not used

11. Roadways within Club Grounds

Drivers shall not exceed 15 m.p.h. on all Club roadways.

Motorised vehicles shall not proceed beyond the car park areas, except for the purpose of necessary access on Club business.

12. Members' Vehicles

In order to identify Members' vehicles, the sticker provided by the Hon. Secretary shall be affixed to Members' vehicles' front windscreens in a clearly visible manner.

13. Club Tractor and Digger

Members shall not drive the Club tractor or digger unless they have been formally authorised by the House, Precincts and Equipment sub-committee. A list of authorised drivers is contained in the Members' Information File.

(Rule B13 revised 11th January 2010)

14. Club Notice Boards

The Club Notice Boards are to be used only for notices concerning Club business and events. Members wishing to post a notice shall use only the Members' notice board, provided for this purpose.

15. Letting of clubhouse rooms

Full and Honorary Members who are over 21 years of age may rent rooms on the upper deck for private parties or other events. Applicants must sign a letting agreement in the form required by the Committee. Charges, which include a refundable deposit, will be in accordance with the prevailing tariff and are payable in advance. Any associated use of

the Stewards' services will be charged additionally in accordance with Rule B18. Further details are contained in the Members' Information File.

There will be no charge for events which are:

- i) Open either to all Members, or to all members of a recognised group of Members within the club; examples of the latter would be the Cadets or a sailing boat class with a recognised Class Captain, and
- ii) Are either free to participants or, where a charge is made, any surplus on the event is returned to Club funds.

The Committee may refuse a booking if it considers that the proposed event is of a nature that could bring the Club into disrepute.

(Rule B15 revised 15th January 2018)

16. Club Bungalow

Full or Honorary Members may rent the Club bungalow. Charges will be in accordance with the prevailing tariff. No person under 18 years of age may book or stay overnight unless accompanied by an adult. Further details are contained in the Members' Information File.

(Rule B16 revised 6th December 2010)

17. Camping

Tents, caravans and sleeping in camper-vans are permitted on Club grounds to facilitate Members' participation in Club events.

This facility will take place only on dates and in areas designated by the Committee, or by the Camping Co-ordinator appointed by the Committee for this purpose, and be subject to a maximum of 28 days per year.

Campers must sign the camping register (kept in the entrance lobby) for each night they camp at the Club.

Persons under 16 years of age shall not camp at the Club unless accompanied by a parent, or a responsible adult nominated by the parent.

Visitors having Temporary Member status (refer Rule A2(d)) may camp provided that they have been formally granted permission by a Flag Officer.

Donations for camping are voluntary, and may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer at the Club.

(Rule B17 revised 26th March 2007 and 6th September 2010)

18. Stewards

The Stewards' duties are identified and controlled by an Officer of the Club designated by the Committee.

Any Member wishing to avail himself of the Stewards' services for work on his boat shall enter and sign his request in the Stewards' instruction book kept in the Stewards' office; the request must be countersigned by the designated Officer of the Club. No responsibility is accepted by the Club concerning such services and it is the responsibility of the Member requiring the said services to ensure that the working conditions are safe. The services will be charged to the Member's account in accordance with the prevailing tariff. For work on Members' moorings refer Rule C3(b).

Any complaint regarding the stewards' services must be made to the Hon. Secretary.

Note: Faults found in Club facilities should be reported in the Fault Book, kept in the clubhouse main lobby.

19. Payments to Stewards

The only payments which may be made by a Member to the Steward are as commission for arranging the purchase or sale of a boat on behalf of a Member. Such payments shall be made via the Club. The Club accepts no responsibility for these transactions.

(Rule B19 revised 13th June 2005)

20. Paid Labour

Members shall notify the Steward of any paid labour undertaking maintenance of their boats whilst on Club premises.

21. Club Property

No Members shall take from the Club any article that is the property of the Club without the consent of an Officer of the Club.

22. Stowage and Disposal of Members' Property

Members wishing to stow gear necessary for sailing, separately from their boats, at the Club premises shall only do so at the Committee's discretion and shall stow such gear in the appropriate place in a shipshape manner and properly labelled.

Property which in the opinion of the Committee is considered to be derelict or abandoned, including boats, trolleys, trailers and non-registered boats, whether or not identified with the owner's name, which remains on the Club's premises without being claimed or recovered may be subject to the following:

- Removal to another part of the Club premises, without the Club being liable for any loss or damage howsoever caused
- After taking reasonable steps to trace the owner, which shall include one month's notice in writing to any identifiable owner at that person's last known address as shown in the Club database, disposal under the authority of the Hon. Secretary, who may apply the proceeds (if any) in such manner as he thinks fit.

(Rule B22 revised 10th October 2016)

23. Limitation of Club Liability

(a) General

Members, Provisional Members, Training Members, Temporary Members and Guests (for the purposes of this Rule B23 only hereinafter referred to as Members and Guests) use the Club premises, and any other facilities of the Club, entirely at their own risk and impliedly accept that:

- The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to Members and Guests.
- The Club will not accept any liability for death or personal injury arising out of the use of the Club premises, and any other facilities of the Club, either sustained by Members and Guests or caused by the said Members and Guests, unless such death or injury is directly attributable to or directly occasioned by the gross neglect, default or negligence of the Club.

(b) Sailing

Members and Guests are entirely responsible for their own safety, and nothing in the Rules or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility. It is for Members to decide whether their craft, equipment and crew are fit to sail in the conditions in which they may find themselves. By launching or going to sea they confirm that their craft and equipment are fit for those conditions and that their crew is competent to sail in them. The provision of safety craft does not relieve Members and Guests of their responsibilities.

24. Data Protection Act

Membership of the Club and acceptance of the Rules by the Member are deemed to constitute consent to the holding by the Club of relevant personal data for the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1998.

25. Not to carry on any Business

No Member shall carry on any business activity on or from the Club's premises or from any Club mooring nor shall he make any charge to a Guest for the use of the Club's facilities other than for the purpose of collecting any fee or charge due to the Club in accordance with these Rules.

26. Purchase and Supply of Excisable Goods

(a) Purchase and Supply

The purchase for the Club of excisable goods and the supply of the same on Club premises shall be exclusively and solely under the control of the Committee or of a special sub-Committee appointed by the Committee.

Intoxicating liquor may only be sold for consumption on the Club premises to persons over the age of 18 and entitled to the use of the Club premises in pursuance of the Rules, at the time being in force. No person under the age of 18 may purchase or attempt to purchase intoxicating liquor within the Club premises nor may any person under the age of 18 consume such intoxicating liquor within the Club premises. No person over 18 may purchase intoxicating liquor for consumption by a person under 18.

(b) Hours of Sale

Subject to the requirements of the licensing authorities, the Committee shall cause the facilities for serving intoxicating liquor to be open at convenient times (and such times shall be prominently exhibited in the Club premises) for the sale of intoxicating Liquor to persons who are entitled to the use of the premises of the Club in pursuance of these Rules.

(c) Special Occasions

The Committee may authorise the use of the Club, including the right to purchase intoxicating liquor, to other Clubs, societies, individuals or organisations for weddings, parties, conferences and similar social or properly organised functions organised by the Hirer. Such events shall be authorised in advance in writing and confirmation of the Committee's decision shall be posted on the Club Notice Board at least seven days before that said occasion.

All such applications under this Rule shall be termed "Special Occasions". There shall be no more than 12 "Special Occasions" in any one calendar year.

The Committee shall, arrange for an Officer or a Full or Honorary Member so authorised to be present at each "Special Occasion" to ensure proper and adequate control and the Committee shall keep a record of such occasions whether use of the bar facilities was made or not.

(d) Profits from Sale

No person shall be paid at the expense of the Club any commission, percentage or similar payment on or with reference to the purchase of intoxicating liquor by the Club; nor shall any person directly or indirectly derive any pecuniary benefit from the supply of intoxicating liquor by or on behalf of the Club to Members or Guests apart from any benefit accruing to the Club as a whole.

(Rule B26 new 6th December 2004)

C. RULES RELATING TO MEMBERS' BOATS

1. Boat Charges and Licences

Rules regarding boat charges and their payment are contained in Rules A3 and A4

Boat licences in whatsoever format determined by the Committee, shall be issued each year by the Club on receipt of appropriate payment in respect of invoiced boat charges. A Boat Licence will be issued for each specific boat. All boats kept at the Club shall display a current valid licence confirming that the boat is registered to a Member's account and boat charges paid. This Rule does not apply to boats kept temporarily at the Club under the authority of Rules A2(d)(i) or A4(j).

Members intending to bring a boat which is new to the Club shall advise the Hon. Treasurer in writing in such form as shall be required for that purpose by the Committee. The same form shall be used to advise sales of boat between Members, sales of boats to non-Members, or removal of boats from the Club. Where a Member fails to notify the Hon. Treasurer within 14 days, the 'Non-Registered Boat Charge' will apply for the non-registered period in addition to the prevailing boat charge. (Repeat of Rule A4(i))

(Rule C1 revised 11th January 2010 and 10th October 2016)

2. Insurance of Boats

Members (including Provisional Members and Temporary Members) shall ensure that they keep their boats and all other property belonging to them fully insured at all times against loss, damage, third party risks and where appropriate racing risks. Such insurance shall include proper and adequate cover, as appropriate, for launching, hauling out, stepping and unstepping of masts. Insurance against third party risks shall be in the sum of at least £2 million.

3. Boats kept in Dinghy Parks

(a) Charges

The annual boat charge for a dinghy entitles a Member to keep one launching trolley and one road trailer at the Club.

(b) Dinghy park site allocation

The Club boat parks are under the control of official(s) appointed by the Committee for this purpose. Sites in the boat parks are allocated by the appointed official(s), and the Club may re-allocate sites and/or move any boat, trolley or trailer.

(c) Identification

Members shall keep their boats, trolleys and trailers identified clearly and visibly from the outside in such a manner as the Committee may prescribe.

(d) Trolleys and Trailers

Trolleys and trailers not in use shall not be left in the dinghy parks, but kept in the dedicated storage area. Where a Member has disposed of his dinghy he shall be responsible for disposal of the trolley and/or trailer, failing which charges will be levied. Refer also to Rule B22. Where a trolley or trailer is kept locked, a key shall be deposited with the Steward.

(Rule C3(d) revised 28th November 2016)

4. Boats kept on moorings

(a) Charges

The annual boat charge for a mooring cruiser covers:

- A mooring position (but not the cost of the ground tackle)
- Winter storage in the open (or a berth in the Ballast Hole)
- Summer storage of one launching trolley or road trailer
- Launching and hauling out (subject to 4(e) below), and use of the mast crane, the lifting gantry and the high pressure washing hose
- Storage of one tender.

A further charge may be levied for additional trolleys, trailers or tenders.

A Member whose cruiser will never require a mooring at the Club, but requires storage and/or launching/hauling-out facilities, may apply to pay the reduced non-mooring cruiser charge according to the prevailing tariff. This charge covers the following:

- Storage in the open
- (In the case of non-mooring cruisers that are launched from the Club and moored elsewhere) summer storage of one launching trolley or road trailer
- Launching and hauling out (subject to 4(e) below), and use of the mast crane, the lifting gantry and the high pressure washing hose

There shall be a charge for each moorings inspection, or re-inspection, according to the prevailing tariff.

A concessionary boat charge is applicable for open day boats, not exceeding 17ft LOA, kept on moorings, and not requiring a deep mooring. The annual boat charge for a day-boat covers the same items, and is subject to the same conditions, as that for a mooring cruiser (see above).

(Rule C4(a) revised 5th September 2011)

(b) Moorings allocation

The Moorings, including berths in Ballast Hole, are under the control of the Moorings sub-committee appointed by the Committee for this purpose. A Member requiring a mooring for any craft shall make a request to the Moorings sub-committee using a boat licence/mooring application form (see C1 above).

Mooring positions are allocated by the Moorings sub-committee who may also re-allocate positions as required by the overall needs of the Club. Furthermore, if a mooring is not used by a Member for a complete season it may be forfeited.

The Moorings sub-committee advises mooring positions by means of formal allocation letters.

(c) Trolleys and Trailers

Trolleys, trailers and related equipment shall be clearly marked with the names of the Member and the boat which they support. Where a Member has disposed of his boat he shall be responsible for disposal of the trolley and/or trailer, failing which charges will be levied. Refer also to Rule B22. Where a trolley or trailer is kept locked, a key shall be deposited with the Steward.

(d) Mooring Gear

The length of a mooring from the ground to the mooring buoy shall not exceed that given in the allocation letter. The mooring buoy's strops shall be of minimal length.

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The provision and adequacy of ground tackle, riser chain, buoy and strops shall be the responsibility of the Member.

There will be a mandatory biennial inspection, by the Club, of all moorings up to and including the mooring buoy, and of any new mooring laid by a Member. If a mooring is found to be unfit for use the Club shall require that necessary remedial work be carried out before launching, or re-launching, the Member's boat.

Members requiring the Stewards' services for work in connection with moorings shall make such requests via the Hon. Warden or the Moorings Officer. The services will be charged to the Member's account in accordance with the prevailing tariff.

All mooring equipment shall be purchased through the Club, which shall make such equipment available for sale on a non-profit-making basis.

(e) Cruiser Launching and Hauling Out

A Member who wishes to use the Club premises for launching or hauling out a cruiser shall comply with the following; any queries shall be referred in writing to the House, Precincts and Equipment sub-committee:

- No boat over 30ft overall length (including fixed bowsprit) and/or having a gross weight of 6 tons or more including trolley and all on-board equipment, or with an overall width of boat or trolley exceeding 15ft is allowed to be launched or hauled out at the Club's facilities. Proof may be required of gross weight, length and beam.
Moveable projecting parts such as bowsprit, rudders, folding outriggers, outboards on brackets, davits, may be excluded from the above dimension limits providing they do not impede the launching process. Agreement to such exclusions must be obtained in writing from the House, Precincts and Equipment sub-committee before launching and recovery.
- Launching and hauling out is conditional on the trolley being fit for purpose. Any dispute about the fitness for purpose of a trolley shall be determined by the House, Precincts and Equipment sub-committee.
- The date and time for launching, hauling out or use of the mast crane or other Club equipment shall be agreed with the Steward who may postpone or otherwise vary the operation.
- The Member, or a representative nominated by him, shall be present throughout launching or hauling out and/or stepping/un-stepping of the mast, and shall be responsible for the whole operation.
- The Stewards are under instructions to follow agreed safe working practice at all times. They, or any other person duly authorised by the Committee, have the full authority of the Committee to cease the operation of launching or hauling out at any stage for whatever reason.
- Craft which are not launched by the end of May in any year shall, at the Committee's discretion, be re-located in order to maximise car parking space.

Note: The Members' Information File in the clubhouse lobby contains guidance notes on the following:

- Specification of moorings ground tackle, riser chain, buoy and strops
- Design of cruiser launching trolleys.
- Operational aspects of launching and hauling out of cruisers

(Rule C4(e) revised 15th January 2018)

(f) Lifting Gantry

Operation of the cruiser lifting gantry shall only be by authorised operators, and shall be booked in advance with the Steward. A list of authorised operators is contained in the Members' Information File.

5. Use of Slipway

Other than the launching/retrieval of boats normally kept on moorings (refer Rule C4(e) above), use of the Club slipway is restricted to sailing dinghies, tenders etc. weighing under 200 kg.

Keelboats, or other boats which normally require either a car or a tractor for launching and retrieval are not permitted to be day-sailed from the Club. Exceptionally, the Committee may grant permission to a Member who owns such a boat and wishes to day-sail it at the Club. Applicants for such permission shall submit a letter to the Hon. Secretary in the form required by the Committee.

6. Motor Boats

No motor vessels except those of the displacement type shall be permitted to use the slipway or moor or lie ashore at the Club without the written consent of the Committee.

Exceptionally, the Committee may grant permission for a Member to keep and launch a RIB at the Club, on the express understanding that the main reason for keeping and launching the boat at the Club is for use as a support craft for organised sailing or training events. Applicants for such permission, which must be renewed annually, shall submit a letter to the Hon. Secretary in the form required by the Committee before 1st March each year.

(Rule C full revision 12th May 2008)

D. RACING RULES

1. Race Officer

The Race Officer, with the help of his assistants and coxswains appointed by the Committee for the purpose, is responsible for the management of the racing programme for the day.

2. The Bridge

The Race Officer shall have authority over access to, and use of, the Bridge during racing activities.

3. Sailing Instructions

Persons in charge of boats racing in races organised by the Club are subject to the Racing Rules of Sailing and to the Sailing Instructions issued by the Club from time to time, which are deemed to be Rules of the Club.

4. Safety Boats

From the warning signal for the first race, the coxswains of safety boats will be under the direction of the Race Officer, and will move to suitable positions to keep the racing area under surveillance, and to assist boats as required. The coxswain of an official safety boat may, in the interests of safety, order a boat to retire, or any crew member to come aboard the safety boat. The decision to salvage a disabled boat, if other crews may be in danger, is at the sole discretion of the coxswain.

E. RULES FOR CLUB OWNED BOATS

1. Launch, Workboat, RIBs and Dory

(a) Purpose

The launch, workboat, RIBs and dory are primarily provided for safety purposes. Hereinafter they are referred to as the safety boats

Their secondary use is to facilitate racing within the Club and they will be available before racing commences to take Members to their boats. After racing they will be available for taking Members ashore from their boats or for retrieving incapacitated or becalmed boats.

At other times they will be available for general purposes of the Club.

(b) Control

The safety boats will always be under the control of nominated coxswains. Members shall not except in an emergency take the safety boats without permission of the Steward, the Race Officer, or an Officer of the Club.

(c) Crews

Only the Stewards and Members approved by the Sailing sub-committee may act as safety boat coxswain.

Coxswains must wear the kill-cord at all times whilst driving the RIBs or dory.

Adequate personal buoyancy aids and suitable clothing must be worn by all coxswains and crew members in the safety boats. Smoking is not permitted in the safety boats

The number of persons carried by the safety boats is for safety reasons at the discretion of the coxswains, but in no event shall exceed ten persons in the launch or six persons in the RIBs and dory.

(Rule E1 revised 16th February 2009)

2. Club-owned Dinghies

The Club owns a number of sailing dinghies primarily for use by the Cadets and the Sailing School for training purposes. The Club also owns a number of rowing dinghies.

The dinghies fall into six categories, the rules for each of which are set out on the next page. A list of the dinghies currently falling into each category is contained in the Members' Information File.

Club dinghies must be handled as if they were your own property. If any Member finds or returns any of the Club dinghies with faulty or missing equipment please report the fault to repairs@blackwatersailingclub.co.uk to enable them to be repaired as soon as possible.

In the event of any damage being caused by a Member to a Club-owned boat through mis-use, irresponsible use, or use not in accordance with these Rules, the Club reserves the right to charge the Member concerned for any repairs/replacement parts etc.

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(a) Sailing School Boats for use exclusively by the Sailing School

These can only be used by the Club's instructors or with permission of the Hon. Cadet Skipper, the Chief Instructor or the Principal of the Sailing School.

(b) Sailing School Boats which may be borrowed by Members

Borrowing is subject to:

- Obtaining prior permission from one of the Club's instructors, the Hon. Cadet Skipper, the Chief Instructor or the Principal of the Sailing School.
- Booking in advance on the Club's website or with one of the above.
- Not using the boat if on the day the wind is forecast to exceed Force 4

(c) Sailing School Boats primarily for use in the Volvo Race Training weekends

These can only be used under supervision of one of the Club's race coaches or the Hon. Cadet Skipper.

(d) Training Toppers, Optimists and Optibats

These can only be used under the supervision of the Hon. Cadet Skipper or his nominated representative.

(e) Other Toppers, Optimists, Mirror etc.

These are available for use by all Members. They should not be used if on the day the wind is forecast to exceed Force 4.

(f) Club-owned Rowing Dinghies

Those Club rowing dinghies which are normally kept moored to the pontoon must be returned to the pontoon in the shortest possible time.

(Rule E2 revised 5th December 2011)

F. SAILING SCHOOL RULES

1. Status

The Club operates an RYA Recognised Training Centre - the "Sailing School" - which complies with RYA guidelines. As part of this compliance, the Club has published a Sailing School Policy Document, which is approved by the RYA and updated as appropriate.

2. Responsibility

The Committee appoints a Sailing School Principal and Chief Instructor in accordance with the above Policy Document. Club Members who act as trainers must be qualified RYA instructors and hold the appropriate certificates and endorsements.

All instructors and trainees must observe the Sailing School's safety policy.

3. Trainees

Non-members wishing to attend a course of instruction shall be required to become Training Members - refer Rule A.2(c).

Training charges are according to the prevailing tariff and are payable in advance.

G. LAKE RULES

1. Use

- (a)** The lake is for the use of Members, Provisional Members, Training Members, Temporary Members and Guests.
- (b)** Use by other persons or organisations may be granted after written application and formal agreement as specified in (c) below. Use by an outside organisation does not preclude Members from using the lake at the same time unless specifically stated on the Club Notice Board.
- (c)** The Committee appoints a Lake Warden who is authorised to sign standard letters of confirmation of lake bookings, provided that the dates of bookings have either been agreed in advance with the Committee, or are according to such principles as the Committee may have agreed. Such standard letters shall include dates and charges, together with the Standard Terms & Conditions of Use.
- (d)** Power boats are not permitted on the lake, with the exception of safety boats, in which case prior permission for their use shall be obtained from the Lake Warden or a Flag Officer.
- (e)** Recreational swimming is not permitted.
- (f)** Because of the risk of higher than normal levels of algal toxins in hot weather, Members use the lake at their own risk and must at all times take into account the related guidelines, which are contained in the Members' Information File.
(Rule G.1(f) new 9th September 2013)

2. Safety

- (a)** Adequate personal buoyancy aids shall be worn at all times.
- (b)** Any persons under the age of 11 years shall be under the direct supervision of an adult who is present and shall be responsible for them.
- (c)** Should ice form on the lake, all persons shall keep off the lake.

TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

Note: All these amendments have been incorporated in the main text.

Rule	Revised/new/deleted	Date
B26	new	06/12/2004
B19	revised	13/06/2005
B7 & B17	revised	26/03/2007
C	full revision	12/05/2008
E1	revised	16/02/2009
B13 & C1	revised	11/01/2010
A	full revision	25/04/2010
B17	revised	06/09/2010
A1(b) & A5(c)	revised	21/11/2010
B16	revised	06/12/2010
B3	revised	09/05/2011
C4(a)	revised	05/09/2011
A1(a)(ii)	revised	20/11/2011
B10 & E3	deleted	05/12/2011
E2	revised	05/12/2011
B2	revised	16/01/2012
G1(f)	new	09/09/2013
Introduction	revised	26/11/2013
B22 & C1	revised	10/10/2016
A3(h) & A4(i)	revised	13/11/2016
C3(d)	revised	28/11/2016
B15	revised	15/01/2018
C4(e)	revised	15/01/2018