

# Sutton in Ashfield Sailing Club - Club Procedures during COVID-19

## Members Guidance

Our approach to the reopening of the club is to always take into account the latest advice from the Government and the RYA.

### 1. We will always follow Government advice

The COVID-19 preventative measures are vital to protecting health and wellbeing and to minimising pressure on frontline services. We all have a role to play by following the Government guidelines.

### 2. We will always follow RYA Guidance

We will, as a sailing club, take a considerate and conservative approach :-

**Considerate:** be mindful of the potential impact that we could have on users of the reservoir and local communities, including not placing extra strain on the emergency services.

**Conservative:** help to minimise risk by taking an extra conservative approach in a phased & careful re-introduction of our sailing activities.

Over the weeks since the announcement of the 3 stages of relaxation of Government Alert Level 4 restrictions on 11<sup>th</sup> May, we have now established our Covid-19 Policy, and created a phased plan of re-introduction of sailing activities in step with the Government's Covid-19 Alert Levels and announcements of permitted activities. This was revised again upon announcement of Covid Alert Level 3 on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020, and subsequently on 4<sup>th</sup> July with further easing of restrictions.

We have contacted Ashfield District Council regarding re-starting free sailing with organised safety boat cover on Kingsmill Reservoir. We now have a full set of Council approved Risk Assessments in place, Mitigation Measures, and Limitations set as to the number of people and boats on the water (8), and in the compound at any one time (30), to effectively manage the potential risks identified.

The aim of this document is to provide guidance on our proposed measures to reduce the risk of virus transmission during the first and second phases.

Any member intending to visit the club outside of the designated sailing days **MUST** be aware of the contact transmission mitigation measures outlined in our risk assessments and communicated to members by our Snipe email bulletin, on our Facebook site and in this document.

When accessing the club compound outside of designated sailing days, you are required to bring your own hand sanitiser, anti-viral wipes / paper towels, and rubbish disposal bags.

To avoid contamination you should on every occasion spray/wipe down surfaces such as padlocks and bolts on the ADC barrier and club compound access gates after use, and then immediately sanitise your own hands using a hand sanitising gel and paper towels or wipes, double bag them and dispose of them in your home rubbish bin.

**For casual sailing sessions to take place there have to be confirmed volunteers in place for the roles of OOD, Assistant & Safety Boat Driver.**

## No Volunteers, No Sailing.

The OOD's will be Committee Members, but the Assistant and a competent Safety Boat Driver must be from the general membership, and you are required to combine a 3 hour sailing slot booking with a minimum separate 2 hour volunteering session on the same day, or on a future day if no slot is free.

For members visiting our club for sailing sessions, we will be open to members from 11.00 hrs to 17.00 hrs on Sundays, and 18.30 hrs to 21.00 hrs on Wednesdays, subject to the following:

To reduce the risk of virus transmission we:

- Require 2 metre social distancing at all times, or with face-to-face interactions at 1 metre+ only if a facemask is used,
- Encourage everyone to be considerate around our club,
- Require anyone who is unwell with likely Covid-19 symptoms to stay away from our club,
- Require anyone who has been in contact with someone who has Covid-19 symptoms to stay away for a minimum of 14 days,
- Require everyone to follow hygiene procedures e.g. thoroughly washing hands for 20 seconds after touching surfaces and coughing, sneezing etc.,
- Require members entering the unisex toilet facility in the Ladies Changing Room to wash their hands/use sanitiser, disinfect the area after use, and follow the directive instructions posted,
- Require members to arrive at the club dressed for sailing, as no changing facilities will be available

Specific requirements for attending the club during Phase 2 re-opening are as follows:

- Casual Sailing will be on nominated days (Sundays & Wednesday Evenings) and in each case is conditional upon 3 key volunteers being available on the day (OOD, Assistant & Safety Boat Driver),
- Simple Pursuit Racing will take place at 1.30pm & 3pm on Sundays and at 7.30pm on Wednesdays, and free sailing is still allowed at all times, but you are requested to keep clear of all competing boats if that is the case,
- Access to the club on designated sailing days will be controlled by the OOD and Assistant, and the OOD will be the only person allowed to open up and close the Club compound gates and ADC barrier,
- Only fully paid up members should visit the site, unless otherwise agreed beforehand (e.g. lapsed members moving boats away, etc.), and in such circumstances barriers and gates must only be opened by nominated Committee Members observing the precautions in our Risk Assessments,
- You will be required to pre-book a sailing slot using the Timeslot Booking System on our website under the COVID-19 section. You will be able to sail up to a maximum of 3 hours only, bookable in slots of 1 hour each,
- The OOD will monitor wind strength and assess if it exceeds the displayed competence of those sailing. The OOD has been vested with the power to call all boats off the water with a whistle signal if he/she assesses that sailing must cease due to windspeed consistently exceeding the capability of those sailing, to minimise the risk of an emergency rescue being required involving the safety boat. As a guide, the average upper limit will be in the region of 15 knots (17mph/Force4) maximum,
- We strongly advise members use a masthead float, even if they are experienced, and its use is compulsory for Juniors,

- A parent of the Junior Sailor must be in attendance at all times to Rig/De-Rig, and assist with launching and recovery
- Only singlehanded sailors or doublehanders crewed by members of the same co-habiting address, or part of the same “social bubble” may go sailing,
- You shall attach a minimum 5 metres long painter to the bow or mast of your boat, to allow aid from others with recovery on the slipway, or in case of a tow being required from the rescue boat,
- Use of Club boats will only be available on Sundays and Wednesdays, and not by multiple users on the same day. Users are to rig and de-rig the boats and re-berth them after use,
- Club facilities, except the designated Unisex (Female) Toilet in the changing rooms, will not be available as access will be limited to the boat park only,
- Use of the outside dining area/tables will be limited to 4 persons sitting opposite each other and taking mitigating precautions including use of a face mask and wiping down surfaces before & after use. Please bring with you any folding chairs, tables, food and drink required for your own use while on site. Use of barbeques externally will be allowed, but there will be no access to the kitchen for cleansing of utensils & crockery, so all soiled equipment must be removed from the site by the user. All surfaces used must be thoroughly cleansed by the member responsible with anti-bacterial disinfectant spray/paper towel or disinfectant wipes,
- While we will endeavour to ensure there are adequate supplies of hand sanitiser and other PPE available on site, it would be appreciated if members would also bring hand gel, disposable gloves and a face covering for their personal use. Hand Sanitiser & anti-bacterial wipes or anti-bacterial spray with paper towels is a requirement for those visiting outside of designated sailing days,
- Members may take their boats away from site, or bring one to an existing allocated space,
- The site should not be used as a car park for undertaking activities outside club grounds,
- Members are to double bag and remove any waste they generate on site and take it home,
- Please contact the nominated OOD or the Assistant in the case of an emergency, who will now be using radio communications when sailing is underway.

As Government restrictions change we will review our approach, and may also make changes in light of member feedback and our review of the arrangements.



Coronavirus  
COVID-19

**STOP THE SPREAD**

# WELCOME BACK



**This club is following COVID-19  
secure guidelines.**

**Please help us by following hygiene  
and social distancing guidelines.**



**wash your  
hands**



**respect social  
distancing**



**check local  
restrictions**

If you have any concerns, please contact a member of the committee.  
The RYA supports Government guidelines to prevent spreading  
of COVID-19 and minimise pressure on frontline services.

[rya.org.uk](http://rya.org.uk)

**RYA**