



**SHROPSHIRE SAILING CLUB**

Whitemere  
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## **Shropshire Sailing Club Getting back on the water during Coronavirus ( Covid-19 )**

### Summary

At the General Committee Meeting 11th May it was agreed that a working group be formed to investigate how we could get back on the water safely with a target date of 1st June 2020.

The recommendation from this group is that we can get back on the water safely but with a number of restrictions as listed below.

This approach was agreed by the General Committee on Monday 25th May 2020

### Restart Sailing

Shropshire Sailing Club will restart sailing on 6th June but with a phased approach.

#### **Phase 1**

Will be sailing on Saturday and Sunday in two sessions 10am-12pm and 1pm to 3pm. These sessions will be limited to 8 boats on the water at a time. A Duty Officer and a Safety Officer will managed these sessions.

Persons who wish to sail will need to book onto one of these 2 hour sessions using the clubs Sailing Club Manager system.

#### **Phase 2**

During Phase 1, the ability to sail outside of the Saturday and Sunday sessions is not allowed. This is regardless of Safety cover being organised.

This will be reintroduced when the General Committee is confident that actions put in place during phase 1 or working efficiently.

#### **Phase 3**

During phases 1 and 2, access to clubs boats is not allowed. Phase 3 will be the introduction in the use of club boats. The use of club boats will be reintroduced once we are confident that the boats can be cleaned sufficiently for re-use.

What follows may seem a lot of rules. Please remember that we are all in this together and our cautious approach is so that we can safeguard our members and their families. Following Government guidelines, restrictions may be removed but likewise may be reintroduced at short notice.

Please monitor emails, the clubs web site and social media sites for further information.

### Getting us on the water safely Phase 1 - General Principles

Below are listed the general principles for getting us back on the water safely.

#### **1 Protection against Coronavirus**

Our protection against Coronavirus will concentrate on 4 strategies.

- a) If a member is suffering from the symptoms of Coronavirus we ask that members or members of their household do not visit the club until the isolation period as recommended by the UK Government as passed.
- b) All buildings on site excluding the 2 toilet blocks shall be out of bounds to members except for access to emergency equipment . E.g. Telephone and First Aid Equipment. In the early days, these will be available in the old clubhouse.
- c) Keeping to the social distancing guidelines of keeping 2 meters (6 feet) apart.

For us to satisfy this government legislation:

- All members must ensure that they maintain a 2-meter separation from other members unless they are part of a household group. This must be adhered to when rigging, launching, coming ashore and derigging,
  - Shropshire Sailing Club shall introduce a timed sailing system that will work on the principles of 8 boats on the water over a 2 hour period during an organised sailing session.
- d) The washing of hands on a regular basis.

The group acknowledges that self-hygiene namely the washing of hands on a regular basis is the paramount defence against contracting Coronavirus.

To provide our members with as much opportunity as possible to wash hands the club shall provide the following.

- Hand Sanitisation points at the following locations.
  - (1) Entrance gate,
  - (2) Inside and outside of the boat house.
  - (3) To the side of the Nissan hut.
  - (4) Near the front door of the old club house and
  - (5) Entrance to the toilets
- Hand Washing Facilities equipped with Anti-bacterial hand wash and hand towels, will be located at the following locations:
  - (a) Inside the toilets,
  - (b) An external washing point near to the door of the old club house.
- Cleaning solutions to allow the cleaning of the touch points on the Safety Boat shall be provided in the Boat House.

## 2) Sailing

Saturday and Sunday Sailing will be split into 2 sessions each day 10am-12pm, 1pm-3pm. The sessions will be limited to 8 boats on the water at the same time.

Persons wishing to sail during these sessions must use the Clubs Sailing Club Manager system.

We ask that families book on to 1 session per week and limit their booking to 2 boats.

**As the clubhouse and changing rooms are closed, we ask members to come dressed to go sailing.**

## 3) Officer Roles

For the sailing sessions to run the following roles are required

### i) A Duty Officer

Similar to the Officer of the Day this person shall have the following responsibilities:

- (1) Overall Management of the day.
- (2) Unlocking and locking the gate, and the Nissen Hut.
- (3) Signing sailors in. This is to provide evidence that they have read the Risk Assessment and also acts as a list of contacts should a "track and trace" be required.
- (4) To ensure that the processes put in place are adhered to.
- (5) Taking weather conditions in mind, have the final say on the safety to sail.

## **ii) A Safety Officer**

The Safety cover will be provided by the Safety Officer.

The Safety Officer will be provided with Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) e.g. Face Mask. Visor and gloves.

Both roles will be drawn from volunteers. For us to provide this enduring capability we will need the support of members to volunteer for these roles.

## **4) Club House and Changing Rooms**

At this time, access to the club house and changing rooms is prohibited except for access to keys and emergency equipment including the telephone.

Cleaning solution will be available in the club house for the person requiring access to wipe down the touch points i.e. Key Safe, First Aid Box, telephone etc.

After locking up members are asked to wash their hands in the outside wash station or toilets.

## **5) Access to the old toilet blocks**

Access to the toilet facilities will be in the old toilet blocks only. Hand wash and sanitising gel will be available. Members are asked to use the sanitising gel on the exterior of the building after exiting the toilets.

We ask that the use of the toilets is limited to one person at a time unless children need assistance.

## **6) Getting Afloat**

### **6.1 Rigging and Launching**

Members should rig and launch their boats keeping in mind the social distancing rules. ( 2 meter separation\_

To reduce the effects of a capsize escalating into a dinghy inversion members should be encouraged to use Mast Head Buoyancy.

For multi handed boats, only people from the same household can sail them

### **6.2 Use of Club Boats**

At this time the use of club boats is not allowed. This is because we feel that it is very difficult to keep them sanitised. This will be reviewed on a weekly basis.

### **6.3 Actions on the Foreshore:**

- Landing/coming ashore, sailors should identify that there is space for them to come-ashore without coming into contact with another members, keeping a minimum distance apart.
- No meeting other members for "social gathering".
- All members must be able to launch and land their craft on their own or with the household member who has been sailing with them (if double handed)
- De-rigging of boats should be conducted in line with social distancing rules.

## **7 Pontoon:**

To avoid social gathering the Pontoon be out of bounds for anyone other than the Safety Officer and Duty Officer

All launching will be undertaken from the foreshore.

## **8. On the water**

### **8.1 General Rules whilst Sailing**

- The Officer of the Day or the Safety Officer shall have the say on whether conditions allow for sailing. The ultimate decision lies with the Officer of the Day.
- In the early stages the number of boats will be limited to 8 boats on the water at the same time.
- Launching/landing – see foreshore
- Notify the safety boat driver if heading into the foreshore
- Only sail at the allotted times that have been pre-booked.
- Follow rules associated to social gatherings
- Sailing areas to be defined by the Sailing Manager.
- Boats to keep 5 m apart on the water
- No intentional capsizing – or swimming

### **8.2 Safety Boat**

- It is the responsibility of the Safety Officer to open the boat house
- Wipe down the contact points on the boat e.g. steering wheel before use.
- Undertake Usual Safety Boat checks e.g. Fuel and Radio.
- The Safety Officer will be equipped with PPE – mask, gloves, face shield etc.
- One person is to man the safety boat, or two if from same household.
- The preferred Safety Boat will be the white Dory with the second one being the blue one.
- It is recommended to have on board the small step. This will the sailors to extract themselves from the water without the need of the Safety Officer.

### **8.3 Actions on dealing with a Capsize**

The following actions are recommended for dealing with a capsized.

- Only have the sailor in the safety boat if rescued and absolutely necessary, preferably keep in their own boat
- If sailor is required to be in the safety boat, use as much distancing as possible, and have them sit in the front facing away from the driver. Prior to bringing the sailor on board the Safety Officer should done PPE.
- If a boat is capsized use righting techniques to help recover the sailor into their own boat

## **9 Use of the Nissan Hut**

The Nissan hut will act as a shelter for the Duty Officer. All tables and chairs should be wiped down regularly using the solution provided.

## **10 Exiting site**

During the Saturday and Sunday sessions it shall be the responsibility of the Duty Officer to secure the site and to ensure that any touch points have been cleaned with the solution provided.

On locking the gate the Officer of the Day should use the Sanitising Gel provide to sterilize hands.

At other times it will be the responsibility of the person attending site to ensure that the gate is locked.

Again it is recommended that the member sanitizing their hands using the Sanitising Gel provided.

## **12 Paper Towel Disposal**

It is the responsibility of the officer of the day to collect all bags of paper towels and double bag them prior to putting them in the bin.

## **13 Training**

Training will remain suspended until government restrictions are reduced or until such a time a solution to keep social distance whilst training is found.