

Yeadon Sailing Club Safety Policy

Yeadon Sailing Club wishes to promote the highest possible levels of safety in all its activities both on and off and water.

To achieve this members are requested to make themselves familiar with the Constitution of the Club and also the corresponding Operating Rules. This Safety Policy is written in conjunction with the above and also runs alongside the Child Protection Policy and Guidelines. Copies of all these documents can be found in the Clubhouse and on the Yeadon Sailing Club website.

Other points of importance regarding safety are:

A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

It shall be the sole responsibility of each sailor to decide whether to sail, commence a race or continue in a race. In the case of junior sailors (under the age of 16) the decision to sail shall be made jointly with their parent or guardian.

It should be noted that all boats must be capable of self rescue and that the safety boat may not be able to respond immediately to individual needs if several problems occur at once. Priority will be given to people first then boats.

First Aid equipment and a land-line telephone are available in the clubhouse along with an emergency contact telephone list. Safety equipment is stored in the safety boat and also with the first aid box which is by the OOD office. A knife for emergency use is kept in the safety boat.

All boats must have sufficient buoyancy to enable self recovery without the need for outside assistance and all buoyancy must be tested at least once a year. It is the individual owner's responsibility to ensure boats meet this requirement.

There is an accident book for the reporting and recording of accidents

Safety is not just the responsibility of the Committee but of all members. Experienced sailors should feel they can offer advice to less experienced members especially if they feel their advice could prevent a difficult situation from arising.

Operating Rules relating specifically to safety are re-written below. For ease of reference and accurate future updating the numbering of the rules has not been altered.

- 2.1 Personal Buoyancy Aids must be worn at all times when on the water or on the jetties adjacent to the water.
- 2.2 If you are sailing and see a person in the water always offer assistance in such a way that does not endanger yourself.
- 2.3 Take care on the jetties and slipway. Both are potentially dangerous.
- 2.4 The Club will not be responsible for injury to any member or visitor or for damage to or loss of their property
- 2.5 The Club Safety Boat should be on the water and ready for use for all organized "on the water events".
- 3.2 Juniors under the age of 16 while at the Club must be accompanied by a parent or an adult delegated by the parent, who must be able to contact the parent by phone in case of an emergency. Parents must not ask the instructor his assistants the OOD or AOOD to be the delegated person.
- 3.3 No juniors are allowed to sail alone or with other juniors without the Club safety boat being on the water unless express permission is granted by the Sailing Coach or an officer of the committee.
- 4.1 Whilst the Club takes safety matters seriously it cannot take responsibility for the safety of members.
- 4.2 If members choose to sail when the Club safety boat is not on the water they should check first with the Sailing School that it will not interfere with the activities of the Sailing School, however the Sailing School cannot be held responsible for their safety. They should also keep well clear of other users of the Tarn including the anglers and the Leeds & Bradford Model Boat Club.
- 4.3 Members should be capable of self rescue in the prevailing conditions or make their own rescue arrangements e.g. by a 'Buddy System'.

Whilst this policy is in place to safeguard members it is important to realise members are responsible for their own safety and sail entirely at their own risk. Members are expected to behave in a safe and responsible manner at all times when on the club premises and ensure that they do not put either themselves or others in a dangerous situation.