

Papercourt Sailing Club Re-opening Safety Guidance and Rules

We are pleased to announce that following changes made by HMG to the Covid lockdown we are now able to partially re-open as from Saturday 23rd May with the following rules and operating procedures. This guidance is fully in line with HMG and RYA rules and guidance.

The overriding rule is that everyone who attends the club must comply, at all times with all the current rules designed to limit the spread of Covid 19 (ensuring you are 2 metres away from anyone outside your household plus washing hands thoroughly and regularly [taps by each jetty and around the clubhouse]) It is the individual's own decision to attend the club or not. You must not attend if you or anyone in your household has symptoms of Covid 19.

A member will be on duty as the Senior Officer On Duty (SOOD), in a yellow tabard whilst sailing is taking place. Their role is to ensure safety and compliance with these new rules. For safety reasons we will not sail when there are any adverse weather conditions. The SOOD will decide if there are other reasons that we should stop or leave the site.

Access to the club and water

- Prepare for your visit by bringing clean disposable gloves and hand sanitizer. When opening any padlocks, handling keys or operating doors etc. please clean both before and after use.
- For compliance the main clubroom will remain closed.
- The changing rooms remain closed so please come appropriately dressed if you are going sailing and change when you get home.
- The disabled toilets are available but again please wipe down before and after use. They are not available for changing purposes.
- The BBQ is not available for use.

Sailing will either be in single-handed boats or two handed boats where the helm and crew are from the same household. Club boats are available for hire, see the SOOD – payment by credit card, as we are not currently handling cash. All boats being charged at £10 for a session or £15 for a full day.

The security lockers will be out of use so please do not bring anything valuable to the club.

Times and booking

Due to the current restrictions we are offering cruising and social sailing. We will run these in five sessions during the week. Wednesday late afternoon from 5pm to 7pm. Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am to 12 noon and 1.00pm to 3.00pm In order to limit total numbers on the water to ensure safety, a booking system is in place to limit the number to 30 memberships. A membership (household) is asked to only book either an am or a pm slot on any one-day and if you have booked a weekend slot please do not book a second weekend slot in the same weekend until 24 hours

before the day. If you book an AM slot and wish to sail in the afternoon please speak to the SOOD to check if slots are available which you can use. The link to book your sail is below.

Those who book a morning slot are expected to leave the site by 1pm and by 4pm for the afternoon slots.

Racing

Due to the restrictions Club racing is not taking place but classes may organise their own competitions. If they do so then the Racing Rules of Sailing have been amended so that when boats are competing then any craft that is cruising is to be treated as an obstruction. This means the competing boats are the “give way” boats and the cruiser is the “stand on” vessel. The cruiser has primacy.

Launch and recovery of dinghies

When launching and recovering please ensure social distancing guidelines are complied with – you may need to wait for others to launch or recover before going on the jetty. Please clear the jetty as soon as practice to enable others to launch and recover promptly. You may consider adding a long rope to your trolley with knots at 2 meters intervals. This will enable others to assist recovery and comply with distancing. The manual winch is available on the west pontoon – gate code for winch handle; the east pontoon has much shallower slopes.

Safety Boats

- When sailing is taking place there will be two safety boats available but for social distancing compliance will not be double crewed unless the crew is from the same household.
- The SBO (and crew) will wear face coverings when dealing with an event requiring their attention – supply of masks in the safety boat locker on board.
- As a single crewed boat may not be able to carry out the normal range of recovery options the safety boats will be equipped with horse-shoe buoys that can be given to anyone in the water to aid flotation and recovery. We will also have a de-rigged Feva (very low transom) on the water that can be used to assist.
- Safety boat officers will wash safety boats before and after use with the detergent and water supplied or pressure washer. When handling padlocks and keys please sanitise before and after use.
- Please use safety boat winch for launch and recovery and wipe down the controller after use.

If you are able to help to volunteer with safety boat cover during this period please contact Jill and Michaela via the duties email duties@papercourt-sc.org.uk The normal duty roster remains suspended whilst we are in this transition period.

We will be reviewing the above rules and guidelines on a weekly basis in order that we can amend and improve further as necessary, especially as and when HMG and RYA guidelines and rules change.

Above all – enjoy your sail and stay safe.