



Racing and organized leisure sailing and COVID 10

Introduction

This document sets out the arrangements put in place to enable racing and organized leisure sailing to commence whilst COVID-19 requirements are in place. The document forms part of Deben Yacht Club's Health and Safety Policy and Arrangements.

Rules of the Deben Yacht Club

Rules 10 and 12 should be read in conjunction with this document. Rule 10 reminds members of the hazards of sailing, that they are responsible for their actions and the way in which they may affect others and also that members participating in club organized activities must carry the minimum insurance of £2,000,000. Rule 12 requires that participants in club organized activities must wear a buoyancy aid or life jacket.

General requirements for sporting activities

Relaxations to lockdown requirements now enable members to take part in sporting activities. The chief requirements are that: -

1. Anyone who exhibits the symptoms of the Covid virus must not take part in any sporting activity. They should isolate themselves for 14 days.
2. A social distance of two metres must be maintained at all times unless other control measures are in place
3. sport may be played outdoors in groups of:-
 - a. Up to 6 people from different households
 - b. Up to 2 households¹.
4. On land no gathering may consist of more than 30 people unless organized the the club².
5. There is no limit on the number of boats on the water

Planning a race or organized leisure sailing

When planning a race, the organisers should.

1. Always follow government advice.
2. Consider the impact of the race upon other water users and the emergency services.
3. Take a conservative approach to the choice of course, the weather conditions in which the race is to be undertaken and the availability of safety support.
4. Try to choose a course which will not result in participants congregating around a particular mark.
5. Establish the arrangements for entering, briefing participants and signing off.

Wind limits

Sailing must not take place if the forecast is for gusts greater than 25mph.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-people-from-outside-your-household-from-4-july>

² (reg 5(1) *The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No 2) (England) Regulations 2020*).



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Safety boats

The organizer and lead safety boat helm will agree details of the course, the number of dinghies allowed to take part and arrangements for shortening course etc.

The social distance has been reduced to 1m with control measures, the seating on the RIBs results in helm and crew sitting within 1m of each other, thus RIBs may be crewed by a single person or members of the same family.

If there is safety boat support maximum ratio is 1 safety boat to 6 dinghies. Safety boats may sail with other boats from the DYC. Nimbus is large enough to allow 2 non householders to work together, helm and crew areas have been marked and there is a gap of 1m between the two areas. Helms and crew must wear a face covering in order to comply with the '1m plus mitigations' requirement. Packs of face masks and hand gel may be found within the key cupboard in the Crow's Nest.

The DYC document "Operation of DYC safety boats during the COVID recovery period" provides advice to safety boat crews.

Manning the Crow's Nest

Anyone using the Crow's Nest should clean work surfaces and other touch points before and after their duty.

The Crows Nest may only be manned by:-

- 2 people from different households providing social distance is maintained
- Two members of the same household

Requirements whilst preparing, launching or recovering a dinghy

Members should ensure that they maintain a two metre social distance from others preparing, launching or recovering a dinghy. Reducing this distance will require mitigation to be in place.

- Dinghies should be prepared in the dinghy yard prior to taking them to the launching ramp so that there is minimal work needed before launching the boat.
- People bringing their boats ashore should make the boat safe and then complete the rest of the dismantling whilst in the dinghy yard.
- Members wishing to take their dinghy ashore should give way to those ready to launch. This will help ensure that there is adequate space on the launching ramp.

If a Beachmaster is available, they should attempt to keep 2 m from other members launching or recovering dinghies. The Beachmaster's task is to limit numbers on the launching ramp and assist with trolleys.

Participation in a race

No more than six people may take part in any race commencing from the club house starting lines, the numbers be can be made up of six solo sailors or a combination of



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solo sailors and boats manned by a household e.g. four solo sailors and one boat crewed by two people from the same household.

Races where individual dinghies start at timed intervals should also be grouped in pods of six, with a longer start interval between each group

All dinghies taking part in a race should have a form of mast head buoyancy. This requirement is in place just while COVID restrictions are in place.

Organized leisure sailing

Pods of up to 6 boats will be allocated an area in which to sail. The number of boats able to launch is dependent upon safety boat availability. The ratio is 1 safety boat to 6 dinghies. Safety boats are cruising independently and do not form part of a pod.

Launching will be organized pod by pod

Starting/finishing a race

Races may start from:-

- Starting marks at the club house
- If there is an OOD then normal starting signals will be used e.g. 5,4,1 minute then start.

Launch/race sequence

Each group of six boats may be allowed on the water up to 15 minutes before their start time. Subsequent groups may be allowed on the water once the 5 minute warning of the previous group has sounded, the start time of the second group will sound 10 minutes after that of the previous group.

For individually timed races dinghies will launch and start at 5 minute intervals with a 10 minute gap between each group of six.

Recording results

The OOD will be based in the Crow's Nest:-

- The OOD will record the details of dinghies starting a race or organized leisure sailing, this will consist of a record of the start time and count as the sign on by the participant.
- Record the finishing time, this will count as the sign off by the participant.

Club boats

Club boats will be available, subject to maintenance being completed.

The range of dinghies available will be restricted

- No wayfarers
- Argos discretionary – familiarization on land prior to use.

All club boats will be fitted with mast head buoyancy.

Club boats should be

- Cleaned after each use, or
- Left for 72hrs between use

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All boats will be booked and paid for online prior to the event.

