



Shearwater Sailing Club Risk Assessment – Organised racing

**APPENDIX A**

Hazard	Potential severity and risk	Who is at risk	Control Measures	Further measures as appropriate	Residual risk
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Standing risk assessments prepared on behalf of the Committee of Shearwater sailing Club  
 These assessments will be subject to ongoing review and amendment as required.

**All members please be advised - S.S.C. is run by the members for the benefit of the members. We all have a responsibility for our own health and safety and the safety of others, particularly our junior members. It is the member's responsibility to please follow the advice and guidance laid down in this risk assessment and not to engage in any activity that puts you or others at risk of injury.**

Medical emergency Such as heart attack / stroke or similar life threatening event.	Death / permanent disability  Low	Sailors and duty team / safety boat crew.	Safety boats and the OOD should be in radio contact. OOD to have club mobile phone or another to contact emergency services if required.	First aid / CPR to be given as necessary.	Low
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Drowning from capsize or falling overboard.	Death / brain damage  Low.	Sailors	It is strongly advised that personal buoyancy is worn. OOD may require P.B to be worn. Juniors to wear P.B at all times. OOD / Person in charge to ensure adequate safety boat cover. Crew of safety boat prepared to enter water. Safety boats / OOD to be in radio contact. OOD to have club mobile phone or another to contact emergency services if required.	Sailors to ensure that their personal buoyancy is fit for purpose  First aid / CPR to be administered as necessary	Low
Capsize resulting in crew entangled or trapped under boat	Death / brain damage  Low	Sailors	Safety boat to carry rescue knife. Adequate crew on safety boat and prepared to enter water.	Sailors advised to carry personal rescue knives and ensure proper clothing worn and boat equipment and fittings do not present a hazard.	Low



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Injury through collision with other watercraft.	Concussion, cuts, bruises  Medium	Sailors / safety boat crews	The Racing Rules of sailing are mandatory and will be obeyed by all sailors. These are designed to reduce the risk of collision. First Aid equipment on safety boat and in club house	Helms and crews to ensure that they are competent to take avoiding action and do not present a hazard to other craft. Third party insurance must be held.	Low
Injury through being struck on the head by boom.	Concussion, cuts, bruising.  High for inexperienced sailors. Low for experienced sailors.	Mainly although not confined to less experienced sailors.	Club boats only available to helms who have demonstrated the appropriate sailing skills. First Aid equipment on safety boat and in club house	Inexperienced sailors or those with medical condition to wear head protection at their discretion	Low



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Hypothermia resulting from immersion or exposure.	Loss of consciousness, death  Medium	Sailors	Appropriate clothing / hat / gloves / dry suit or wetsuit to be worn. Safety boat in attendance. 'Space blankets' available on safety boat and at clubhouse	Sailors to ensure own welfare and to retire if affected to a degree that would hinder their recovery from capsized or impair safety.	Low
Illness due to water contamination	Death / disability  Low	Sailors and all those in contact with water and surrounding banks etc.	Sailors to cover cuts with waterproof plasters. Refer members and visitors to 'RYA Guidance on Blue Green Algae' and 'RYA Guidance on Weil's disease' posted on clubhouse Health and safety notice board.	Club members to be aware of potential hazard and need to state they have been in contact with lake water area if seeking medical advice.	Low



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Injuries from equipment on boat or slipping on surfaces.	<p>Concussion, cuts, bruises.</p> <p>Low rising to medium in strong winds</p>	Sailors	<p>OOD to decide if conditions are suitable for event</p> <p>First Aid equipment on safety boat and in club house</p>	<p>Owners to ensure equipment on boats does not present a hazard and non-slip surfaces fitted where appropriate.</p> <p>Appropriate clothing to be worn.</p>	Low
Injuries from boat to jetty contact.	<p>Crushed hands/legs. Bruising.</p> <p>Low</p>	Sailors, people on jetty	<p>Club boats only available to helms who have demonstrated sufficient skills.</p> <p>Rules of sailing to be observed and care taken on approach to jetty.</p> <p>First Aid equipment on safety boat and in club house</p>	Assess level of risk for conditions	Low



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<p>Injuries from contact with booms, flapping sails or mast whilst boats alongside jetty.</p>	<p>Head, eye or other injuries  Medium if windy, low if not</p>	<p>Sailors and those on the jetty</p>	<p>The boat helms to keep a good look out. Ensure boats are unattended for minimum time unless secured so as not to present a hazard</p>	<p>Assess level of risk for conditions</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Injuries from slipping / tripping on or falling from jetty</p>	<p>Head injuries, fractures, bruising drowning.  Drowning low, other medium</p>	<p>People who use the jetty</p>	<p>Non-slip surfacing installed. Gate to be kept shut, signage in place warning no access to members of the public. Buoyancy aid to be worn on jetty. OOD to ensure jetty cleared of slipping hazards prior to races. First Aid equipment on safety boat and in club house</p>	<p>Users to remove any unnecessary slipping or tripping hazards. Appropriate footwear to be worn.</p>	<p>Low</p>



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Capsize resulting in inability to right or stranding of dinghy (e.g. mast stuck in the mud when inverted)	<p>Crew in water for substantial time. See risk assessments ante. for drowning and hypothermia.</p> <p>High to Low depending on type of dinghy, strength and ability of crew</p>	Dinghy owners and sailors	Safety boat on standby to assist crew with recovery. Owners /sailors to ensure sufficient buoyancy carried or built in to ensure dinghy floatation in all reasonable circumstances.	<p>Crews to ensure they are familiar with capsize recovery procedures for the craft sailed.</p> <p>Novices recommended to use masthead buoyancy to reduce risk of inversion.</p>	Low
Dinghy gear failure resulting in inability to maneuver	<p>Capsize, stranding or presenting a hazard to other craft resulting in personal injury.</p> <p>Low</p>	Sailors	Owners / users to ensure craft in proper condition to sail. Safety boat in attendance. Paddle to be carried.	Crew to check operation of gear before launch	Low
Collision with other dinghies	<p>Personal injury and damage to boats</p> <p>High to Medium for inexperienced sailors, Low for experienced</p>	Sailors	Observation of the rules of Sailing is mandatory and must be obeyed by all crews. Third party insurance must be held.	Crews to take all reasonable precautions to avoid contact with other boats	Low



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Unsuitable weather conditions including deterioration of weather and lightning strikes	Numbers of dinghies in difficulties with crews unable to self-recover  Medium to high in severe conditions	Sailors	OOD to cancel / abandon or shorten events as dictated by the weather conditions. Abandonment mandatory if risk of lightening	Helms are responsible for ensuring that they, their crew and boat are suited to the conditions at the time and should retire if in doubt	Low
High temperatures and strong sunshine	Heatstroke / sunburn / Eye damage  Medium	Sailors / safety boat crews / spectators	High SPF sunscreen / hats / sunglasses with high UV rating to be worn. Exposed skin to be covered and sufficient fluid intake	Individual to assess level of risk for conditions.	Low