



Shearwater Sailing Club Risk Assessment – Sailing without safety boat cover

APPENDIX D

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.

<p>Overall - Sailing without safety boat cover - This exposes sailors to all of the hazards as listed below as per the ‘Organized racing’ assessment.</p>	<p>Severity as below. Some risks are increased without safety boat cover. See post.</p>	<p>Sailors</p>	<p>Solo (i.e. only one boat on the water) sailing is NOT advised. Sailors should only sail with a minimum of two boats on the water (a ‘buddy’ system) and the crews should remain within sight of each other and be prepared to give assistance if necessary.</p>	<p>In addition there should be a responsible person in possession of a mobile phone on the shore who is able to assist or summon help if required</p>	<p>Low - medium</p>
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<p>Medical emergency such as a heart attack / stroke or similar life threatening event.</p>	<p>Death / permanent disability Low</p>	<p>Sailors</p>	<p>Sailors to render assistance as required. Person with mobile phone available to contact emergency services.</p>	<p>First aid / CPR to be administered as necessary. Assistance from members of the public on shore to be sought if needed (presence cannot be relied upon)</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Drowning from capsize or falling overboard.</p>	<p>Death / brain damage Low.</p>	<p>Sailors</p>	<p>Sailors to ensure that their personal buoyancy is worn at all times and is fit for purpose. Person with mobile phone available to contact emergency services.</p>	<p>First aid / CPR to be administered as necessary</p>	<p>Low</p>



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Capsize resulting in crew entangled or trapped under boat	Death / brain damage Low	Sailors	Sailors to carry personal safety knives and ensure proper clothing worn and boat equipment and fittings do not present a hazard	Novices to use masthead floatation to reduce risk of inversion.	Low
Injury through collision with other watercraft.	Concussion, cuts, bruises Medium	Sailors	The Rules of Sailing are mandatory and will be obeyed by all sailors. These are designed to minimise the risk of collision. First Aid equipment 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 to be held.	Low



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Injury through being struck on the head by boom.	<p>Concussion, cuts, bruises.</p> <p>High for inexperienced sailors. Low for experienced sailors.</p>	Mainly although not confined to inexperienced sailors,	<p>Inexperienced sailors or those with medical condition to wear head protection at their discretion</p> <p>Club boats only available to helm's who have demonstrated the appropriate sailing skills.</p> <p>First Aid equipment in club house</p>		Low
Hypothermia from immersion or exposure.	<p>Loss of limbs, death</p> <p>Medium</p>	Sailors	<p>Appropriate clothing / hat / gloves / dry suit or wetsuit to be worn.</p> <p>'Space blankets' available at clubhouse</p>	Sailors to ensure own welfare and to retire if affected to a degree that would hinder their recovery from capsized etc.	Low



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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 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
Injuries from equipment on boat or slipping on surfaces.	Concussion, cuts, bruises. Low rising to medium in strong winds	Sailors	Sailors to decide if conditions are suitable for sailing Owners to ensure equipment on boats does not present a hazard and non-slip surfaces fitted where appropriate First Aid equipment in club house		Low



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Injuries from boat to jetty contact.	Crushed hands/legs. Bruising. Low	Sailors, people on jetty	Club boats only available to helm's that have demonstrated sufficient skills. Rules of sailing to be observed and care taken on approach to jetty. First Aid equipment in club house	Sailors must assess level of risk depending on conditions and act accordingly	Low
Injuries from contact with booms, flapping sails or mast whilst boats alongside jetty.	Head, eye or other injuries Medium if windy, low if not	Sailors and those on the jetty	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	Sailors must assess level of risk depending on conditions and act accordingly	Low



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Injuries from slipping / tripping on or falling from jetty	<p>Head injuries, fractures, bruising drowning.</p> <p>Drowning low, other medium</p>	People who use the jetty	<p>Gate to be kept shut signage in place warning no access to members of the public. Buoyancy aid to be worn on jetty. Ensure jetty cleared of slipping hazards prior to use. First Aid equipment in club house</p>	Users to remove any unnecessary slipping or tripping hazards. Appropriate footwear to be worn.	Low
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. Re drowning and hypothermia.</p> <p>High to Low depending on type of dinghy, strength and ability of crew</p>	Sailors	<p>Owners /sailors to ensure sufficient buoyancy carried or built in to ensure dinghy floatation in all reasonable circumstances. Crews to ensure they are familiar with capsize recovery procedures for the craft sailed.</p>	Assistance of another craft must be sought with a view to transfer of crew to land. Crew must be prepared to abandon the dinghy until powered boat recovery can be arranged. Crew to swim to shore if necessary. Novices recommended to use masthead floatation.	Medium



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Dinghy gear failure resulting in inability to maneuver	Capsize, stranding or presenting a hazard to other craft resulting in personal injury. Low	Sailors	Owners / users to ensure craft in proper condition to sail. Paddle to be carried. Crew to check operation of gear before launch		Low
Collision with other dinghies	Personal injury and damage to boats High to Medium for inexperienced sailors, Low for experienced	Sailors	Crews to take all reasonable precautions to avoid contact with other boats Observation of the rules of Sailing is mandatory and must be obeyed by all sailors. Third party insurance must be held.		Low
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 Lightning strikes – Death – High in local thunderstorm.	Sailors	Sailors to retire as dictated by the weather conditions. Helms / sailors are responsible for ensuring their safety Abandonment of sailing 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



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High temperatures and strong sunshine	Heatstroke / sunburn / eye damage High	Sailors / spectators	High SPF sunscreen / hats / sunglasses with high UV rating to be worn. Exposed skin to be covered and sufficient fluid intake	Assess level of risk for conditions	Low
Young people / children sailing without appropriate supervision or with improper supervision ratios	See risk assessments ante.	Children / young people	Children / young people are NOT to sail unless accompanied or supervised by a parent or appropriate adult. In the case of groups of young people the parent or person in charge (e.g. school group) will ensure an adequate and proper supervision ratio of adults to children.	In the case of school and similar groups some or all of the adults should hold sailing / first aid qualifications.	Low



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Use of club boats by newer and unskilled sailors	See risk assessments ante.	Those who may take out a club boat lacking the necessary skills or who take out a boat and become overwhelmed by a change in wind / weather conditions.	Club boats are only to be hired / used by persons approved by a member of the club committee	Any person using a club boat who experiences difficulties with the conditions or boat equipment is to return to shore and is not to continue sailing	Low