

KWSC Byelaws

1 Water Safety

- a. Personal flotation devices (buoyancy aids or life jackets) must be worn when accessing the jetty.
- b. Personal flotation devices (buoyancy aids or life jackets) must be worn at all times on the water.
- c. Swimming or entering the water is not allowed unless it is in relation to a core activity and/or training. Jumping from rocks or structures around the reservoir (also known as tombstoning, coasteering, canyoning) is strictly forbidden and does not form part of our club core activities.
- d. Members must also comply with the Northumbrian Water Rules & Regulations, a copy of which will be displayed on the Club Notice Board.
- e. Members under the age of 18 must be supervised at all times. The club can only provide safety cover during organised events, however even during these times the club can not accept responsibility for children. Refer to item 27 within the club constitution.
- f. Any member who is found not to comply with rules and regulations of the club and NWL will be subject to sanctions of misconduct. Please refer to item:12.

2 Control of Dogs

- a. No dogs, other than guide dogs or dogs trained to assist an impaired person, may be brought into the club house.
- b. All dogs must be always kept under control and all fouling must be cleared up by the owners.

3 Control of Vehicle Parking

- a. Vehicles may only be parked in areas designated for such parking so as not to cause an obstruction to other vehicles, members boats, or to the approaches to the club premises. Designated parking is defined as:
 - i. The Tower Knowe lower car park to the southwest of the club house. When the club is busy, and particularly at Open Meetings, Members are asked park in the Tower Knowe lower car park to ease congestion for launching and recovering dinghies and rescue craft.
 - ii. Your boat park space when your boat is in use and where the space is big enough to allow your car to be parked safely.
 - iii. When accessible, the foreshore area immediately in front of the club house lawn to the North of the club house.
 - iv. The concreted and hogged area near the foreshore. However, the foreshore immediately close to the water must be kept clear to allow boats to be launched and trolleys to be parked. This area may also be designated out of bounds for Open events.
- b. Vehicles must be kept clear of slipways and passageways except when launching and retrieving.

4 Opening of club premises

- a. The club premises shall be open to members at such times as the Committee shall direct. The present hours of opening are currently unlimited.

5 Trailers

- a. All boat trailers shall either be removed by Members and taken home, or, where possible, left under the boat and trolley in the boat park. They should not impede road or pedestrian access in the boat park.
- b. With the agreement of the Boat Park Manager, a trailer may be left in the designated Trailer Park where it must be left in a tidy manner and clearly marked with the owner's name and contact details.
- c. Any trailer left in any other position may be removed by the Committee to dispose of as they see fit.

6 Boat Park

- a. Boats may only be left in Boat Park spaces as designated by the Boat Park Manager at the beginning of each year.
- b. Boat Park spaces are designated on an annual basis and are not perpetual.
- c. A member may be asked to move their boat if parked in a space for which it is not designated, or it may be moved at the discretion of the Committee.
- d. Your boat should not be positioned so as to interfere with any other boat.
- e. Members should liaise with the boat park manager prior to bringing their boat to the club so that a suitable space may be allocated.
- f. You should not arrange any swapping of positions in the boat park with other members. All boat park spaces are managed by the Boat Park Manager.
- g. Boats must be securely tied down so that damage does not occur to adjacent boats.
- h. Your launching trolley and/or trailer must be kept in a good state of repair, ensuring boats can be moved easily, if required
- i. Members shall be responsible for the upkeep of their allocated boat parking bay, e.g. to cut back long grass and undergrowth. A grass strimmer and PPE is available and located in the small locker by the windsurfing container.

7 Term of Office

- a. The Commodore may not serve in office for more than 3 continuous years.
- b. If the Commodore role can not be filled, then the retiring Commodore may continue for a further year, or until a suitable candidate can be appointed.
- c. The Vice-Commodore may not serve in office for more than 3 continuous years.

8 Membership Categories

- a. There shall be the following categories of membership with power to vote at all meetings of the club as indicated hereunder.
 - i. **FULL MEMBER** - being a person who, at the date of election, shall have attained the age of eighteen years shall have one vote.
 - ii. **FAMILY MEMBER** - which expression shall include one or two co-habiting adults and all children within their guardianship who are under eighteen years of age on the 1st of April of the current year. The family unit shall have two votes, exercisable by either adult.
 - iii. **JOINT MEMBERSHIP** - Two Full members who sail together in one boat and who make a joint application to the Honorary Secretary may pay at the rate of the Family subscription. This class of membership shall have two votes, exercisable by either adult.
 - iv. **JUNIOR MEMBER** - being a person who, at the date of election, is under the age of eighteen shall have no vote. Such a member shall be one who at the commencement of the subscription year joins the club other than as a full member or a family member. A junior member must have a parent or an appointed responsible adult acting '*in loco parentis*' when at the sailing club'. A Junior Member shall have no vote.
 - v. **STUDENT MEMBER** – who are 18 or more years of age on 1st April of the current year and who shall satisfy the committee that they are undergoing full time education or instruction. A Student Member shall have one vote.
 - vi. **HONORARY MEMBER** - who shall have one vote. Honorary Membership may be conferred by the committee and is usually a lifetime nomination.
 - vii. **COUNTRY MEMBER** - Country membership may be conferred by the Committee, on a fully paid-up full member of another RYA affiliated sailing club where dinghies and small non-cabin keelboats are sailed. Country members may use the facilities of the Club for a limited number of days in the year but have no permanent space in the dinghy park. The Committee is reluctant to specify the exact number of days use of the water to which a Country Member is entitled, but there is an expectation that if use were to be above 8-10 days the Country Member would transfer to Full Membership. A Country Member shall have no vote. Applicants will be approved by the Committee.
 - viii. **GROUP MEMBERSHIP** - Available to organised groups by special prior arrangement with the Committee and reviewed annually. Limitations may be placed upon this category of membership,

e.g. a limit to the number of people who may sail or use the facilities of the club. This class of membership shall have no vote.

9 Responsibilities of Officers of the Club

a. Other than as described in the Constitution the responsibilities of Officers of the Club include as detailed below:

Vice-Commodore

- To deputise for the Commodore in his/her absence.
- To be a member of the General Committee and an ex-officio member of all other Committees and working parties.
- Responsibility for initiating development plans and proposals plus possible funding.
- To be responsible for member discipline, including compliance by Members with the Rules and Regulations, and the resolution of disputes between Members.

Rear-Commodore

- To deputise for the Commodore in his/her absence.
- To be a member of the General Committee and an ex-officio member of all other Committees and working parties.
- Responsibility for reviewing development plans and proposals plus possible funding.
- To be responsible for junior and young sailors' development in the club, to chair the Junior Council.

Sailing Secretary

- To formulate the sailing programme.
- To be responsible for the tone and culture of Club organised sailing events, the Club sailing programme and the balance between Club events and Open Meetings or external class, national and international events.
- To liaise with the Social Secretary and Cruising Representative in the planning of the club sailing programme.
- Identification of sponsorship opportunities and their effective development and control.
- To support the promotion of the Club as a venue for sailing.
- To liaise with House Committee Chairperson to ensure appropriate "House" support for sailing events.
- To encourage and support the training and involvement of member volunteers to help with sailing events and to facilitate the co-operation of such volunteers and Club staff.
- Act as a point of contact for members wishing to raise issues relating to sailing events or the Club's support of sailing generally.

10 Non-Committee Roles

a. Other than as described in the Constitution the responsibilities of non-committee roles include as detailed below:

House/Galley Coordinator

- To liaise with the committee on matters regarding catering functions, social programme, including social aspects of sailing events, and the maintenance and development requirements of the Clubhouse in so far as it affects catering and social aspects of the Club.
- To be responsible through the General Committee for the range, quality and pricing, in line with parameters set by the General Committee, of food and drink supplied in the Club, subject to the approval of the General Committee in respect of prices set for alcoholic beverages.

Social Rep

- To be responsible for the tone and culture of Club organised social events and the Club's social programme. To formulate through the Committee the social programme, to book music, venues and arrange associated events.

Boatswain (Bosun)

- To be responsible for the management and maintenance of all club equipment.
- To plan for the adequate provision of equipment in the club in line with its development plans and to seek approval for such provision from the General Committee.

Training Officer

- To be responsible for liaison with the Principal and Training Team where the Training Officer is not the principal.
- To be responsible for the strategic development of formal RYA training at the club subject to the approval of the General Committee.
- To be responsible for the development of non-RYA training.

Cruising Representative

- To represent the cruising members of the Club and to provide adequate activities on the Club programme in conjunction with the Sailing Secretary.

Safeguarding & Welfare Officer

- To be responsible to ensure the safeguarding of children taking part in activities in alignment to the club's policy and procedures.
- To be the point of contact for any members concerns regarding a young person's or participants welfare.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Lead

- To be responsible to represent members of the club and promote our practices of equity, diversity and inclusion.

11 Members of the General Committee - duties include:

- a. To actively participate in meetings of the General Committee and to consider, and if thought fit, approve papers and matters brought to the General Committee, taking account of the needs and interests of all sections of the Club, its ethos and future needs.
- b. To represent the general interests of members on the Committee, rather than any sectional allegiance.
- c. To act as a channel of communication between members generally and the Committee and vice versa, and for this purpose to make themselves available in the Club at reasonable times.
- d. To support the General Committee in ensuring that members, their guests and other visitors comply with the Club's Rules and Regulations, custom and practice.

12 Sanctions for Misconduct of Members

- a. The Commodore, through the agreement of the Committee, may use a range of sanctions should a member be the subject of a misconduct enquiry:
 - i. Temporary suspension (without prejudice and pending investigation).
 - ii. Verbal warnings.
 - iii. Written warnings.
 - iv. Final written warnings.
 - v. Fixed term suspensions and
 - vi. Expulsion from the Club.

13 Camping

- a. Members may camp in the Sailing Club grounds in either the lawned area around the clubhouse or in the small lawned area to the Southwest of the boat park close to Tower Knowe.
- b. Members must not sleep in the club house overnight; this is a condition of the club lease.
- c. Members must not moor and sleep overnight on the reservoir; this is a condition of Northumbrian Water.
- d. Boats should be brought ashore and stored on land overnight.

14 Exhibiting of Notices

- a. A member may exhibit notices on club notice boards or premises without permission. However, the Committee may remove, or move, without notice any notices at the discretion of a member of the General Committee.

15 Sailing Instructions

- a. Only paid-up members of KWSC may sail or race on Kielder Water other than when permitted as guests or visitors.
- b. All boats, sailing or in the boat park, must be covered by third party indemnity insurance of at least £2,000,000.
- c. When racing members of the Club are bound by the KWSC Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions including the RYA Racing Charter.
- d. Members must also comply with the Northumbrian Water Rules & Regulations when on the water.
- e. All craft left at the club must be registered with Northumbrian Water with the appropriate annual registration fees paid.

16 Duties

- a. Membership of the Club requires each adult member to undertake *at least* one duty per year. This includes all adult members of the full and family membership categories.
- b. Duties include Race Officer, Assistant Race Officer, Patrol (driver or crew), Galley. Assisting to deliver trial sails will also count as a duty. Additional duty types may be added throughout the season.
- c. All members are required to assist at the club's annual spring and winter work parties.

17 Abandoned Boats

- a. In addition to the powers given to the Committee under Rule 19, and Rule 46 of the Constitution hereof if, at any time, any fees payable to the club by any member or former member shall be three months or more in arrears and a vessel the property of a member or former member remains upon the club premises, the Committee may:
 - i) Move the vessel to any part of the club premises without being liable for any loss or damage to the vessel howsoever caused.
 - ii) Give one months' notice in writing to the member or former member at his/her last known address as shown in the Club Register and thereafter sell the vessel and deduct any monies due to the club. (Whether by way of arrears of subscription or annual payments, mooring, dinghy park fees or otherwise) from the net proceeds of sale before accounting for the balance (if any) to the member or former member.
 - iii) Alternatively, if the vessel is unsaleable, after giving notice in writing as aforesaid, dispose of the vessel in any manner the Committee may think fit and deem the cost of doing and any arrears as aforesaid to be a debt owing to the club by the member or former member.
 - iv) Further the club shall at all times have a lien over members' or former members' boats parked or moored on the club's premises or club moorings in respect of all monies due to the club, whether in respect of arrears of mooring fees or subscriptions or otherwise.

PROVIDED ALWAYS THAT:

- b. Proper evidence is available to show that all reasonable steps have been taken to trace a member or former member and that when and if the vessel is sold the proceeds of sale (unless any indebtedness by the member or former member to the club) shall be placed upon bank deposit account and retained against the eventuality of a claim by the owner (whether he be the said member or former member or otherwise) for a period of six years.

18 Boat Storage Fee Applicable for Subscription Arrears

- a. Under Rule 35 of the Constitution a boat storage fee may be temporarily levied by the club on a per boat basis. That fee shall be £180 per year or part thereof.

19 Club Security

- d. All members using the Club are required to ensure the premises are properly locked and secured before going onto the water and / or when leaving the club, particularly where they are the last member to leave.
- e. This includes checking that all electric showers and lights are turned off, closing all doors and windows and ensuring they are locked. Ensure that any container that may have been accessed is closed and locked, and all club equipment used by the member is put away. The top access gate to the club must be closed and padlocked.
- f. It is good practice for members visiting the club outside of weekend sailing days to close and lock the gate after they enter the club premises.
- g. If it is late at night, if the NWL 'top gate' has been closed, members must ensure to relock it if they have needed to open it to exit the premises. (Note: NWL tend to leave this gate open for overnight access to their carparks)

20 Others

- a. Trolleys are to be kept clear of immediate foreshore area to allow others to launch and recover without hindrance.
- b. Members may use the jetty to assist with launching and recovery of their craft where a vehicle is required to do so. Care should be taken to avoid impeding the launch or recovery of other vessels, and to leave sufficient space for vessels that are carrying out club duties to come alongside. To this end, trailer sailors should launch and tie up to the jetty only to facilitate boarding once the crew are ready to depart. When finished for the day boats should be removed from the jetty and water as soon as is safely and practically possible. Short stays on the jetty to facilitate toilet breaks and meals are allowable, but crew should remain on site to move their boat if there is a need for access.
- c. Members or their guests are not allowed on the jetty without an appropriate buoyancy aid or life jacket.
- d. Members are required to take all gear home with them at the end of the day; it may otherwise be treated as Lost Property, disposed of or otherwise sold.
- e. The Focsle, main club house room, members' galley and changing rooms should all be left in a clean and tidy state by any members using these facilities.
- f. Members may not use the club house, the garage, the secure containers or the training shed for storage of personal property or boat equipment.