

# **Beaver SC Safety Guidelines**

## **INTRODUCTION**

It is the wish of the Beaver Sailing Club Committee, that all its members enjoy the Club's facilities and equipment, safely and in full. This guide is issued in an effort to highlight the major dangers and risks to the health and safety of its members and employees, and the safety measures to be taken to reduce these risks.

***Above all it is your responsibility to be aware of the risks involved and to take all necessary precautions to enjoy your leisure safely***

## **PERSONAL SAFETY**

1. Buoyancy aids complying with the 'CE 50 Newton' standard and in good condition, should be worn at all times when on the water or jetties. You should ensure that your buoyancy aid is of the correct size for you and is suitable for your weight. This is the minimum standard required by the RYA. Non swimmers and disabled people are particularly at risk and should seek further advice before going onto the water. The floatation standard of your buoyancy aid will be indicated on the label inside.

***If it isn't marked 'CE50 Newton' (or better) it is not to that standard, so please don't use it***

2. Always wear appropriate clothing for the prevailing weather conditions. Wet suits or dry suits are recommended for all but the warmest days. Remember that the conditions on or in the water can often be very different to those on land.
3. Always sail within your capabilities. The 'Club House' and dinghy park are situated in a sheltered area and can sometimes give a false idea of the wind strength.
4. Beaver Sailing Club is situated in an isolated area. It is therefore essential that you do not sail alone.

***Always have someone with you who is capable of rendering assistance if needed***

5. Care should be taken when walking on the jetties and banks.

***The jetties in particular become very slippery when wet: never run on the jetties***

6. Children play on the entrance lane, and in the car park and Dinghy Park.

***Please take extreme care when driving vehicles in these areas and observe the 5 mph speed limit***

## **LAKE HAZARDS**

1. Both lakes are linked to the canal. A line of stones on the large lake and a low bridge on the small lake marks these entrances. It is not possible to enter the canal from the lake. Please keep well clear of these areas. Sailing on the canal is not permitted at any time.

2. The small lake has a submerged hazard, marked by buoys. This area is dangerous; please keep out.
3. The banks are steep and rocky and in places extend for some distance into the lake. They should not be used for mooring or landing. Please use the jetties for mooring and remember this is done head to wind.
4. After launching your boat please return your trolley to its berth. These cause a hazard if left on the grass.

***Swimming is not allowed in either lake and the water is unsuitable for drinking.***

### **FIRE HAZARDS**

1. ***Smoking is not permitted in any part of the Compound, which includes the Clubhouse, on the Veranda, Banks or Jetties, inside the Safety Boat pens or Dinghy Park areas.***
2. The building is equipped with fire extinguishers and a fire blanket in the kitchen. All fire exits are marked. Please accustom and familiarise yourself with the position of this equipment. Full user instructions are printed on each item of equipment.
3. Do not smoke inside the Safety Boat pens, as petrol vapour may collect within the pen when the boats are moored.

### **THE SAFETY OF YOUR BOAT**

***It is the user's responsibility to ensure that the boat or windsurfer being used is maintained in a seaworthy condition.***

1. Generally the Following items should be checked every time before launching your boat onto the water:
  - a. Particular attention should be paid to the condition of buoyancy compartments/bags and the security of compartment hatches and bungs.
  - b. Check the condition of all standing and running rigging.
  - c. Check the general condition of the boat and fittings.
  - d. All dinghies should have a painter and a strong point to attach a towing rope, should rescue be required.

***Do not launch if you are in any doubt as to the seaworthiness of your craft .***

2. All boats stored in the Dinghy Park must be securely tied down to tie-down points anchored in the ground, to prevent damage during high winds.

### **SAFETY BOATS & COMMITTEE BOAT**

- 1 The use of the Safety Boats and Committee Boat is ***strictly limited to persons over the age of sixteen***, who have completed the safety course run by Beaver SC for its

members, or who can satisfy the Committee of their competence to operate these boats safely.

2. The boats must only be used for those purposes as described in the safety course instructions.
3. ***These boats must not be used for joy riding under any circumstances.***
4. The Safety Boats and Committee Boats are all equipped with ***First Aid Kits*** and ***Fire Extinguishers***.
5. The Safety Boats both have ***Kill Cords*** which must be attached to your ankle whenever the engine is running.
6. Although First Aid kits and Fire Extinguishers are checked regularly, it is the responsibility of the driver to double check this for himself. Any problems associated with the boats or their equipment must be reported to a Club officer immediately.

### **ACCIDENTS & FIRST AID**

1. First Aid Kits are situated in the following areas;
  - a. By the shop window in the Club House.
  - b. Under the drivers seat of each Safety Boat.
  - c. Attached to the mast inside the cuddy of the Committee Boat.
2. There is no longer any telephone facility on site (due to repeated theft). Please ensure you have a mobile telephone with you in case of emergency.
3. The exact address of the Club and route to the nearest hospital are displayed on the Club notice-board.
4. Beaver SC operates a check system for all First Aid boxes. If you use any of the contents please notify a member of the Clubhouse Management Committee, so that replacements can be made.
5. Insurance – ***It is a club requirement that all vessels (including windsurfers) carry a minimum of £3,000,000 third party insurance cover.***