

Stewartby Water Sports Club: Sailing Section Rules & Regulations

Sailing Section Rules

1 Objects

- 1.1 The name of the Section shall be Stewartby Water Sports Club - Sailing Section and the burgee of the Section shall be an insignia of a Pliosaur on a gold shield with blue and red horizontal background.
- 1.2 The objects of the Section are to promote and facilitate the sport of dinghy sailing in general and social activities in connection therewith.
- 1.3 The Section shall be affiliated to the Royal Yachting Association.

2 Membership

- 2.1 The Section shall consist of Junior members aged 14 to 18 years; Student members aged 18 to 21 years and receiving full time education, Ordinary members and Family members. Family membership consisting of husband and/or wife and their children under 18 years. Junior members must be sponsored by an adult.
- 2.2 The number of members shall be limited by the Management Committee of Stewartby Water Sports Club.
- 2.3 Application for membership shall be in accordance with Rule 2 of Stewartby Water Sports Club.
- 2.4 Members shall be issued with membership cards on payment of full subscriptions due and are required to show their card when using Club premises on demand of a Management Committee member or any person authorised by that Committee.
- 2.5 Annual Section subscription payable on election to membership and by 14th February in each year. Such subscription to be as determined by the Section Committee.
- 2.6 Failure to pay this subscription by 14th February assumes resignation in accordance with Rule 22 of Stewartby Water Sports Club.
- 2.7 Every member on joining the Section undertakes to comply with these Rules and any refusal or neglect to do so or any conduct which in the opinion of the Committee is either unworthy of a member or otherwise injurious to the interests of the Section shall render a member liable to suspension or expulsion in accordance with the Rules of Stewartby Water Sports Club.
- 2.8 The performance of Support boat duties for non-racing members and Race Officer Duties for racing members as detailed by the Committee from time to time is a responsibility of every member of the Section.

3 Officers

- 3.1 The Officers of the section shall comprise Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Treasurer, Secretary. Each shall be elected annually by the Section members at the Annual General Meeting. The positions of Commodore and Vice-Commodore shall normally be limited to a maximum term of office of three years and the retiring Commodore shall be made Ex-Officio Committee member during the year following retirement. The Vice-Commodore shall normally be considered Commodore designate.
- 3.2 No candidate for election to any office (other than retiring Officers) shall be proposed unless the name of such candidate and the proposed shall have been sent to the Secretary to arrive 14 days before the Annual General meeting.
- 3.3 In the event of an Officer retiring during the term of office, the Section Committee shall have the power to co-opt and fill this office until the next Annual General Meeting.

4 Committee

- 4.1 The Section Committee shall comprise the Officers and a minimum of 5 members and a maximum of 7 members elected each year by the Section members at the Annual General Meeting providing always that two-thirds of the Section Committee shall comprise boat owners or part boat owners.

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- 4.2 At its first meeting after the AGM the Section Committee shall assign responsibility for portfolios. The following portfolios shall be undertaken by a committee member: Bosun, Racing, Leisure Sailing, Shore Management and Training. The following portfolios may be undertaken by a committee member or other member of the club: Membership Secretary, Dinghy Park Manger. Additional portfolios may be established by the committee which assist in the management of the section.
- 4.3 Candidates for election to the Committee shall be those members of the retiring Committee who shall offer themselves for re-election and such other members of the Section whose nominations duly proposed and seconded by members of the Section in writing shall have been sent to the Secretary to arrive 14 days before the Annual General Meeting.
- 4.4 If a casual vacancy occurs for any reason, the Committee shall co-opt a member to fill the vacancy.
- 4.5 If the number of candidates for election exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled the election shall be by ballot.
- 4.6 A quorum for business at a Committee meeting shall consist of six Committee members.
- 4.7 The Committee shall have the power to co-opt and appoint such sub-committees as it thinks necessary.

5 Organisation

- 5.1 The Section Committee shall manage the affairs of the Section according to the Rules and shall apply the funds and other assets of the Section for the benefit of the Section.
- 5.2 All properties purchased by the Section become the property of Stewartby Water Sports Club and cannot be the subject of a claim by the Section or any of its members.
- 5.3 At all Committee meetings the chair shall be taken by the senior flag Officer present who in the event of equality of votes shall have second and casting vote.
- 5.4 The Committee shall make such byelaws and regulations as it thinks fit for the safe and proper conduct of the Section activities.
- 5.5 If at any time any dinghy park or mooring fees payable to the club by any member or former member shall be three months or more in arrears or a boat on club premises is not displaying a current membership sticker:
 - (a) The Committee shall be entitled to move the boat to any other part of the premises without being liable for any loss or damage to the boat howsoever caused.
 - (b) The Committee shall be entitled upon giving one month's notice in writing to the member or former member, at his last known address shown in the register of members, to sell the boat and to deduct any monies due to the club (whether by way of arrears of subscription, dinghy park fees, mooring fees or otherwise) from the net proceeds of sale before accounting for the balance (if any) to the member or former member.
 - (c) Further the club shall, at all times, have a lien over members' or former members' boats parked or moored on the club 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 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 the sale (less any indebtedness by the member or former member of the section) shall be placed upon bank deposit account and retained against the eventuality of a claim by the owner (whether by the said member or former member or otherwise) for a period of 6 years.

6 Finances

- 6.1 It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer to control and keep a complete account of the Section's finances and to supervise all expenditure made and liabilities entered into by and on behalf of the Section and authorised by the Committee.
- 6.2 At the Annual General Meeting in each year an Honorary Auditor shall be appointed who shall audit the accounts of the Section for the then preceding year.

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7 General Meetings

- 7.1 An Annual General Meeting shall normally be held during the month of February and the date, time and place shall be fixed by the Commodore. The Secretary shall notify all members of the meeting at least 28 days before such meeting.
- 7.2 No business other than the passing of accounts and the election of Officers, Section Committee, Honorary Auditor and any business the Section Committee may order to be inserted in the notice convening the meeting shall be considered at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof is given to the Secretary in writing 14 days prior to such a meeting.
- 7.3 The Committee may on giving 14 days notice call a general meeting of the Section for any specific business the nature of which shall be stated in the notice convening the meeting and the discussion at such a meeting shall be confined to that business only.
- 7.4 The Section Committee shall call a general meeting on the written request of 25 voting members. Such a meeting shall be held within six weeks of a written request being received by the Secretary.
- 7.5 At a general meeting of the Section, each ordinary member is entitled to one vote and adult family members present are entitled to one vote each. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second and casting vote. Junior members and Student members have no voting powers.

8 New Rules, Amendments and Alterations

- 8.1 Notice of any alteration or addition to the Rules intended to be proposed by a member of the Section shall be given to the Secretary in writing at least 28 days before the meeting at which the same is to be brought forward and full particulars of any such proposed alteration or additions shall be sent out in the notice convening the meeting.
- 8.2 All proposed alterations or additions and any amendments to them which may be proposed and seconded shall be put to the vote of the meeting and provided that on a show of hands or if demanded a poll, a majority of two-thirds of the votes of these members present and voting shall be cast in favour of any proposed alterations or additions or amendments then the same shall be deemed to be carried subject to authorisation by the Management Committee of Stewartby Water Sports Club.

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Sailing Section Regulations

Under Rule 5.4 the Sailing Section Committee is responsible for the Sailing Section Regulations to ensure the safe and proper conduct of the Section activities.

1. The safety of a boat and her entire management including insurance shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/helmsman sailing the boat who must ensure that the crew and boat are adequate to face the conditions that may arise during sailing. Neither the establishment of these regulations nor the inspection of the boat under these regulations in any way limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/helmsman for the crew, his boat and the management thereof.
2. Stewartby Water Sports Club - Sailing Section or Stewartby Water Sports Club Limited shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/helmsman, his skipper or crew, as a result of taking part in sailing. Moreover, every owner/helmsman warrants the suitability of his boat for sailing.
3. Members are reminded that section support boat cover is unlikely to be provided other than at club racing times or during organised events and members going afloat at other times do so entirely at their own risk.
4. On racing days or during organised events International Code Flag 'H' will normally be flown when a section support boat is not available.
5. Members' boats using Stewartby Lake must carry a current licence authorised by the Section Committee. This self-adhesive licence is to be fixed to the outside of the boat's stern transom, or a prominent place on sailboards.
 - a) All boats must be covered by Third Party and Passenger Risks AT ALL TIMES to a minimum value £2,000,000.
 - b) Every boat must have sufficient buoyancy when swamped to support its occupants for a minimum of 20 minutes

The sailing section committee may ask members to demonstrate that their boat complies with these standards a and b. Members failing to do so within a reasonable time may lose the licence.

6. Members of the Sailing Committee and other members approved by the Sailing Committee shall be nominated as Officer of the Day and, as such, to be in charge of all sailing activities and to be responsible to the Sailing Committee and to the Club for ensuring that rules and regulations are strictly adhered to.
7. It is Members'/Sponsors' responsibility to ensure that adequate buoyancy is worn at all times when they, or their charges, are on the water (except when sailing a windsurfer and wearing a harness). Wet suits or dry suits alone do not constitute adequate buoyancy.
8. A wet suit or dry suit must be worn when afloat from 1st November to 31st March inclusive.
9. No boat shall cross the dividing line buoys while racing or when power craft are using the lake. It is an "obstruction."
10. Should the Office of the Day consider conditions to be unsuitable for sailing, the following flag signals from the shore gantry will apply:
RED FLAG – NO SAILING. Boats on the water when red flag is hoisted (accompanied by three sound signals) must return to shore with minimum delay.
RED FLAG plus YELLOW FLAG – LIMITED SAILING. Individual helms may apply to the OOD for permission to sail. The OOD's DECISION ON FLAGS AND HELMS IS FINAL.
11. No sailing is permitted after sunset unless duly authorised by the Section Committee.
12. No power-driven boat of any kind is to be used unless authorised by the Section Committee.

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13. Boats that have been in contact with pollution at other waters must be decontaminated, prior to launching, to the satisfaction of the Section Committee.
14. Boats and other tackle and apparatus to be stored or left only in such places and at such times as the Section Committee allow. Members must comply with dinghy park regulations.
15. The Section Committee reserves the right to prohibit the use of any item or type of boat and tackle.
16. The ISAF. fundamental rule 1.1 shall be known and acted upon by all on pain of suspension. "A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.
17. Dogs must be kept on leads and under control at all times, and not allowed to foul areas frequented by members. Dogs may not be taken afloat.
18. Cars shall use only such areas of the Club premises as authorised. Cars are permitted on dinghy park approach road for loading and unloading only.
19. No craft shall beach (except in an emergency) other than on the bank adjacent to the dinghy park.
20. Members shall be responsible for keeping the facilities clean and tidy. All litter (especially cans and bottles), must be removed from the Club premises.
21. Shooting and bathing are forbidden.
22. There shall be no interference with the wild birds, their nests, or other wildlife.
23. Members entering races must comply with the Racing Instructions.
24. No boat may be removed from the premises unless the owner is present or has given written permission.
25. Barbecues must not be used in the dinghy park or the Sailing Section car park.
26. All boats must be securely tied down.

Members Under the Age of 18

27. Parents and guardians are warned that the club is only able to provide section support boat cover during organised events. Outside these hours, parents and guardians have sole responsibility for their children and wards and must appreciate that the club cannot be expected to exercise supervision or control.
28. Members under the age of 14 may only go afloat at times when a section support boat cover is not available under the following conditions:
 - a) Members under the age of 14 should be able to swim, in order to show that they will be confident in the water, wearing sailing clothing and personal buoyancy (Statement to be signed by the parent or guardian of the member).
 - b) A qualification to at least RYA National Dinghy Certificate Level 3 or Windsurfing Level 2 has been achieved.
 - c) Another craft shall be available on the water to give assistance as necessary.

Craft Storage

29. The term 'Craft' will include all boats with the exception of sailing dinghies, rescue boats and craft registered by the fishing section.

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30. All applicants for craft storage must apply each year to the section committee. Applicants will be required to sign an application form stating that they will abide by the regulations for craft storage.
31. All craft in storage must have a craft storage sticker applied.
32. All craft are to be kept in a seamanlike condition
33. A maximum of 10 (ten) small craft will be allowed for winter storage
34. New applicants must be full members of sailing section and have been full members for at least 3 years
35. The maximum length of boat permitted under the craft storage regulations will be 24ft in length
36. All craft will be required to have third party marine insurance to a minimum of 3 million pounds
37. Craft may only be stored during the winter months i.e. 1st October through to May 15th.
38. Any member's whose boats are found to be breaking any of the regulations, will be asked to remove their craft from the site. If not removed the standard club/ RYA boat removal system will be enforced.