

DURLEIGH SAILING CLUB CONSTITUTION

1. The Club shall be called Durleigh Sailing Club.
2. The objects of the Club shall be to encourage and foster the art of sailing and windsurfing in the Sedgemoor and Taunton Deane community and to allow participation in the same.
3. Membership:
 - a. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested and windsurfing on application, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
 - b. The Club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating. A member need not be a boat owner.
 - c. The Club Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal made be made to the members.
 - d. There will be Corporate Membership of the Club for the Somerset Youth and Community Sailing Association (SYCSA). This would give SYCSA two seats on the Management Committee. The fee for the membership of DSC by SYCSA will be based on a formula agreed by DSC and SYCSA.
4. The Club burgee shall be – a field vert, a hawk volant or within a border of the same.
5. The annual subscription, sailing licence and berthing fee shall be as determined by the Management Committee.
6. The Officers of the Club shall be:-
 - Commodore
 - Vice Commodore
 - Rear Commodore
 - Hon. Secretary
 - Hon. Membership Secretary
 - Hon. Treasurer
 - Hon. Sailing Secretary
 - Hon. Windsurfing Secretary
 - Hon. Bosun
 - Hon. Safety Officer

Hon. Social Secretary

In addition, two Corporate Members elected by SYCSA.

7. The Committee shall be called the Management Committee and shall:
 - a. Consist of the Officers above, of whom the Commodore shall be the Chair and the Vice Commodore shall be the Vice Chair. The Management shall have the authority to decide the size of the Committee, with powers to co-opt.
 - b. The Officers and Committee Members shall be elected annually. Flag Officers – ie Commodore, Vice Commodore and Rear Commodore – shall not remain in the same office for more than three successive years.
 - c. A quorum for a Committee shall be five. The Management Committee shall have the power to appoint such sub-committees as it deems fit to further the aims and objectives of the Club.
8. The affairs and finance of the Club shall be vested in the Management Committee subject to the control of any General Meeting.
9. The Commodore, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Sailing Secretary shall be ex officio members of all committees and sub committees.
10. The Club year shall end on 30th November. An Annual General Meeting shall:
 - a. Be held not later than 31st January in each year, when a financial statement, duly audited, shall be submitted
 - b. The Hon. Secretary shall, not later than 21 days before the Annual General meeting, issue to each member an agenda and a list of retiring officers, committee members and auditors, and invite members to send nominations which shall be made in writing to the Hon. Secretary to be received not later than 7 days before the Annual General Meeting.
11. If a member is nominated as an Officer but is not elected, that member is automatically nominated for the Management Committee.
12. The Management Committee shall at any time call a Special General meeting and the Hon. Secretary shall call one when required to do so by any two Officers or on receipt of a request signed by not less than six members. Such a request shall state the object of the meeting.
13. At least 7 days notice shall be given of any Special General Meeting.
14. The power to accept or reject any application for membership shall be vested in the Management Committee who shall decide admittance by a simple majority vote in favour.
15. The Entrance Fee and the first Annual Subscription shall be due as soon as:

- a. A member is admitted. Subscription shall be due on the 30th March each year and the permit to enter the reservoir shall not be issued until the subscription has been paid.
 - b. The subscription, sailing licence and berthing fee shall be payable no later than 30th March provided that the member has indicated their commitment to join by returning the completed membership renewal forms by 30th November. If the relevant fees have not been paid by 30th March membership shall have deemed to have ceased and a rental shall be charged thereafter on any boat or board owned by the Management Committee. Membership may be reinstated on payment of all arrears of fees and subscriptions, and an entrance fee. The Management Committee shall have the power to remit all or part of such fees and subscriptions and entrance fee as they see fit. If there is a waiting list for membership, the ex-member's name shall be placed on the bottom of the list.
 - c. Members joining the Club during the subscription year shall pay fees as follows:
 - i. Before 31st July, full annual fees for membership to 31st December in the year of joining.
 - ii. After 31st July and before 30th September, half annual fees for membership to 31st December in the year of joining.
 - iii. After 30th September, full membership fees for membership to 31st December in the year after the year of joining.
 - iv. Members joining the Club under condition (iii) shall pay or receive the difference if any, between the subscription rates in the year of joining and the year following,
16. All cheques in respect of payments made on behalf of the Club shall be signed by any two members of the Management Committee.
17. Any Club funds shall be paid into the Club's bank account as soon as reasonably practicable. No Club funds shall be expended or any financial commitments undertaken on behalf of the Club, without the sanction of the Management Committee, except by the Commodore, the Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Treasurer acting jointly in the case of emergency.
18. All surplus income or profits shall be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets may be distributed to members.
19. No member shall carry on business in or on the Club premises nor make use of the name or facilities of the Club for advertising or publicity.

20. These rules may be altered, amended or added to at any Special General Meeting or Annual General Meeting.
21. A majority of at least two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at a Special General meeting shall be required in order to carry out such a motion under Rule 20.
22. Boats and gear are stored on the premises administered by the Club entirely at the owners' risk. Members are required to take out at least Third Party Insurance for a minimum of £1 million.
23. The use of the reservoir or any part of it shall be entirely at the risk of the member or visitor using it.
24. No member shall sail or keep a boat or board within any part of the reservoir unless:
 - a. The appropriate fees and sailing licence have been paid and
 - b. The licence is displayed on the craft.
 - c. The same applies to trailers in the trailer park.
25. Subject to discretion of the Officer of the Day:
 - a. Full members may introduce visitors to the Club at no charge whether or not the visitor sails. No member may introduce the same visitor on more than four occasions in a membership year, or a visitor whose membership has been refused.
 - b. Visitors must be signed in the Visitor's Book and shall comply with these rules and the Reservoir Authority' conditions. The member introducing the visitor will be responsible these rules are complied with.
26. Any member of the Management Committee shall be empowered to request any visitor to leave the reservoir if it is thought to be in the interest of the Club to do so.
27. Members shall strictly observe and comply with the current regulations governing the use of the reservoir for sailing as shall from time to time be imposed by the Reservoir Authority.
28. The Management Committee shall be empowered to take such action as it deems necessary in the event of the conduct of any member being, in its opinion, detrimental to the interest of the Club. There is a disciplinary procedure whereby the Management Committee can discipline a member when he has been found guilty of an unacceptable standard of behaviour by the Club or the Reservoir Authority. The full disciplinary procedure is available on request from the Honorary Secretary.
29. The Management Committee shall have the power to expel any member and shall do so when directed by the Reservoir Authority.
30. The number of members and/or boats shall be as from time to time decided by the Management Committee in agreement with the Reservoir Authority.

31. All children under the age of 12 shall wear personal buoyancy on the reservoir foreshore, jetties and landing stages.
32. Each member (that is adults over 16 years of age and named on the application/renewal form) shall have one vote. Any organisations in personal membership of the club, as distinct from hirers of Club premises, shall have two votes.
33. Members shall not bring any animal on to the reservoir premises.
34. Club equipment shall not be removed from the Club premises without the permission of the Hon. Bosun.
35. Members of the Club, their guests and visitors may use the Club premises and any other facilities of the Club entirely at their own risk and impliedly accept that:-
 - a. The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to and loss of property belonging to members, their guests or visitors to the Club.
 - b. The Club will not accept any liability for any personal injury arising out of the use of the Club premises and any other facilities of the Club or out of participation in any race organised by the Club, whether sustained by members, their guests or visitors, or caused by the said members, guests or visitors, whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to or occasioned by the neglect, default or negligence of any of the Officers, Management Committee or servant of the Club.
 - c. Before inviting any guests or visitors onto the premises or to participate in events organised by the Club, members should draw their attention to this rule.
36. All organisations, whether personal members of the Club or hirers of the Club using Club facilities on non-Club sailing days shall leave the Club premises clean and tidy, shall ensure equipment is locked away, that the gas is turned off in the galley and that the premises are securely locked before leaving.
37. In the event of the winding up of the Club before the expiry of the current lease, the Management Committee shall have the first call on any Club funds or the value of any Club property in the Club's ownership in the extent required to pay any outstanding rental charges properly owed to the Lessee (Wessex Water or their legal successors). Upon dissolution of the Club any remaining assets shall be given to the Somerset Youth and Community Sailing Association or to the Royal Yachting Association.
38. Not used.
39. Not used.

SAILING RULES

40. Sailing is not permitted unless a safety boat or boats appropriate to the prevailing weather condition is/are launched and ready for use and an experienced person or persons is/are on hand to operate the boat(s) and effect a rescue. Any additional safety requirements for windsurfer and/or dinghy sailors set out in the Safety Policy and current Sailing Instructions shall be observed as part of this rule.
41. Persons on the water during the months of December to March inclusive shall wear wet suits or dry suits and be suitably equipped for cold conditions.
42. The Officer of the Day is the Management Committee's representative and:
 - a. Shall have complete control over members at the reservoir and may order sailing to cease or restrict a certain member from sailing. The OOD may delegate his or her duties (but not the responsibilities that go with them) and require the assistance of others.
 - b. Shall be responsible for ensuring that the Club buildings are left secure, clean and tidy and that all rubbish is removed
 - c. Is responsible for ensuring the safety boat is returned to its berth and the outboard motors locked up. These tasks may be delegated to others who are available to assist.
43. All members shall co-operate with the duty officer and give all reasonable help to enable the officer's duties to be carried out
44. In the event of the Duty Officer or any other member reporting to any other Officer of the Club that members failed to co-operate with or accede to the reasonable requests of the Duty Officer, the circumstances shall be reported to the Hon. Secretary who shall call a Management Committee Meeting immediately for the purpose of deciding what action shall be taken.
45. Buoyancy
 - a. Adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn at all times when afloat and boats should be sound in all respects and conform to the buoyancy rules of their class.
 - b. An Officer of the Club or the Officer of the Day may order that any boat not conforming to its class buoyancy rules or otherwise considered unsafe shall not be sailed until such time as the faults and/or omissions complained of have been rectified and approved by an Officer of the Club.
 - c. Neither the establishment of these conditions, their use by the race organisers nor the inspection of the boat under these conditions in any way limits the absolute responsibilities of the owner/competitor. The crew are nevertheless advised to satisfy themselves as to the experience of the

skipper and the adequacy of all safety equipment and insurance arrangements.

46. The methods of scoring in races shall be as determined by the Hon. Sailing Secretary, provided that they are approved by the Management Committee.
47. The race organisers shall not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, his skipper or his crew, as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover every owner/competitor warrants the suitability of his boat for the race or races.
48. Parents and guardians are warned that the Club is only able to provide rescue facilities during the hours of Club sailing. Parents and guardians have sole responsibility for their children and ward and must appreciate that the Club cannot expect to exercise supervision or control. During Club racing or sailing the Club cannot accept responsibility for children or any other persons not engaged in racing or windsurfing.
49. All members should accept and abide by the Safety Policy of the Club.
50. Not used.
51. Not used.
52. Not used.
53. Not used.
54. Not used.

RULES FOR ADMISSION AND STORAGE OF BOATS

55. All members must comply with the rules laid down from time to time by the Water Authority for sterilising and movements of boats and boards within the Reservoir area.
56. Members will be responsible for their boat space and for keeping it tidy whether the boat is there or not.
57. Disputes over boat spaces must be referred to the Management Committee.
58. Boats are to be stored in an orderly manner in such positions as shall be decided by the Management Committee.
59. When boats are berthed they should be lashed down and fully secured to prevent damage to them and other members' boats and equipment. The Management Committee accepts no responsibility for any damage caused rectifying the positions of boats and equipment stored ashore.

60. Members last to leave the premises must close the gate to the boat park and lock it and all doors to the Club premises. This instruction does not apply to the Fishing Lodge which is under the control of Wessex Water officials.
61. Members resigning membership shall remove boats in their ownership from the dinghy park within one month of their resignation. If boats are not so removed the Club reserves the right to charge a rental, such rental being set from time to time by the Management Committee, and to impound and to remove the boat or board if such rental is not paid.
62. The procedure for dealing with boats and boards "abandoned on the premises" shall be as set out in the relevant guidance notes issued by the RYA. The same procedure shall be applied if at any time any berthing fee payable to the Club by any member or former member shall be three months or more in arrears. Further, the Club shall at all times have a lien over members' boats and boards or former members' boats and boards on Club premises in respect of money due to the Club by a member.
63. The minimum PY for dinghies sailing at Durleigh is 924 and the maximum length 16ft. unless an exception is made by the Management Committee. Only monohulls to be sailed.