

Budworth Sailing Club

BYLAWS

1 Boat Fleets and Boat Places

1.1 Boat Places

In order to fulfil Rule 3, The Club shall provide Fleet Dinghy racing and will restrict such racing to classes of boats which have been adopted by the Club at a General Meeting. Within these classes, restrictions may be imposed by way of numbers or categories of members entitled to sail to maintain the quality of sailing for all. The Committee will award boat places on a non-discriminatory basis, which will entitle the owner to sail on the mere, to participate in organised racing and to store his boat in an allocated space in the boat park.

Categories of boat place are:

A Full boat places entitles the owner to sail in all forms of racing, and at other times at his own risk.

A Junior boat place entitles the owner to sail in races where there is a Junior start, and at other times under full adult supervision.

A Supplementary Boat place entitles the owner to sail where there is an appropriate class start, in organised Handicap racing, and at other times at his own risk.

The adopted classes and respective entitlements to sail are set out below

Full and Supplementary

Fireball

Firefly

GP 14

Laser

RS200

Snipe

Junior

Mirror

Optimist

Topper

Supplementary

Raceboard

Solo

Topper - Sailed by a full member under the age of 21 or by a lady member

Supplementary Boat Places will normally be awarded in the following circumstances:

- a) it is considered that sufficient full boat places have already been allocated to maintain good Main Points racing for the fleet
- b) it is considered that the applicant may not yet have sufficient sailing/racing experience to participate in Main Points racing
- c) The member has failed to justify to the committee that he should retain a full boat place due to his minimal use of the privilege and pressure on full boat place numbers.
- d) if specifically requested by the member
- e) the boat class does not qualify for a full boat place

1.2 Raceboards

A member may sail a raceboard at the Club provided the raceboard has been registered with the fleet captain and is insured as required. He may sail in events sailed by the Club if the raceboard conforms to the requirements of the UK Board Sailing Association.

1.3 Minimum number of Races

To ensure that high standards of racing are maintained Club members are expected to participate in Fleet Dinghy racing on a regular basis. If a member holding a Full Boat Place does not participate regularly and other members have not been able to gain a full boat place due to a limit on numbers the Committee has the right to require the non sailing member to forfeit his full boat place

The Committee may determine a minimum number of races to be sailed and the maximum numbers of full boat places for each class .

Any member who has attained the age of 60 and has been a member of the Club for not less than 10 years may be granted exemption under the provisions of this bylaw

1.4 Transfer of boat places

Boat places cannot be transferred through change of ownership of a boat. A second or joint owner of a boat will have to reapply to the committee for a boat place if the original boat place holder ceases to hold his place.

1.5 Junior Transfer

A Junior member, having been allocated a Junior boat place for a minimum of two years and having reached the age for transfer to Full membership may apply for a sailing place in another fleet. This shall be granted to him even though it may temporarily cause that fleet's numbers to exceed any maximum that might have been set.

1.6 Sailing of Boats of other non recognised classes

Club members are allowed to sail boats owned by them and insured as required, of classes other than those recognised and raced by the Club on weekdays and at times when the Club has organised open handicap racing. On all other Club racing days these boats must be removed immediately after they are sailed and at no time left on the Club premises. If this facility is used on Sunday mornings, any such boats on trailers must be removed from the club premises or located so that they do not cause any interference with others in the car or boat parking area.

1.7 New Classes

The Club may consider the adoption of new classes of boats for dinghy racing provided it can be shown that there are sufficient members and prospective members prepared to adopt that class and sail competitively on a regular basis. Any such proposal must have the support of the Racing Committee, the Club Committee, and approval at a General Meeting, following presentation of the case by a prospective Fleet Captain.

1.8 Removal of Existing Class

The adoption of a new class may necessitate the removal of an existing class. Any such proposal must be made by the Club Committee and approved at a General Meeting. Removal of an approved class does not lead to any liability whatsoever by the Club towards members who own boats of that Class.

1.9 Forfeiture of Boat Place

The Committee shall have power at its discretion to require the removal of any boat from the Club premises and further to order the forfeiture of the boat place by its owner, together with any accompanying boat fees, as a result of non compliance with the Club Rules or Bylaws.

1.10 Part Ownership

No boat shall have more than two part owners at the same time or be owned by any other club or syndicate except in exceptional circumstances and only with the permission of the Committee.

2 Insurance

As part of the membership form and membership renewal every member holding a boat place must provide the Membership Secretary with a signed declaration that his boat is insured for the forthcoming season for at least Third Party Risks with a minimum cover of £2m.

Damage to boats or injury to personnel while at the Club will be the responsibility of the boat owner. In the case of damage or injury while racing the Committee and race officer will fulfil their obligations under the ISAF/RYA Rules.

3 Sailing by Country/Associate Members

Country/Associate members who having previously been full members to whom a sailing place was allocated and who wish to bring and sail a boat of one of the recognised classes at Budworth, may do so for a short period, on application to the Committee, and on payment of such fees as may be agreed.

4 Safety

Members must be aware that no rescue facilities are available at the Club at times other than when there is organised racing. The use of buoyancy aids and suitable protective clothing/wet/dry suits is recommended, and the wearing of buoyancy aids is mandatory for all Juniors who sail.

The Club safety boats are for use only during organised sailing activities and may not be used at any other time or for any other purpose without the express permission of the Committee or Officer of the Day. Safety boats may be driven only by members who are suitably qualified and experienced and must not be driven by Juniors unless they hold the RYA Level 2 power boat qualification or are undergoing training by a suitably qualified person approved by the Club

5 Children

Children of members who wish to sail should become Junior members as soon as they start sailing on a regular basis or reach the age of 11 years, whichever happens first..

Children are NOT ALLOWED on the jetties or in any boat unless wearing a buoyancy aid. Visitors, Parents and Guardians of young children must be aware that this is a Sailing Club and hazards exist. It is their responsibility to ensure that adequate control is maintained commensurate with these hazards while they are on the premises, that children are not left alone unsupervised on the premises and that the Club can accept no responsibility for their behaviour or activities when they are not participating in organised training or racing.

6 Power Boats

No boat with an engine is to be used on Budworth Mere except for rescue or training purposes and with the express permission of the Committee.

7 Club Boats

The Club owns a number of dinghies of recognised classes which can be used for training purposes or for members who do not have a boat but have sufficient sailing experience for their use. A fee is payable for the loan of these boats.. These boats are exempt from Bylaw 1 and are available on request through the appropriate Fleet Captain or the responsible Committee member. The boats are insured by the Club. Any damage must be reported to the loaning officer immediately, and must be paid for.

8 Security

It is the responsibility of the last member leaving the premises to check that all club equipment is put away and secured, including the Containers, and sheds, that windows and doors are closed and locked and the alarms have been set. The gate to the Club should be locked on leaving and kept closed at all times except when organised racing is taking place.

Members should not leave personal property or boat gear in the clubhouse or bosun's store without specific permission from the Committee and must make every effort to keep the premises clean and tidy.

Boat road trailers must not be left on the Club premises as this can facilitate the theft of boats. On Club sailing days trailers should be removed from the car park if the number of cars present is likely to exceed spaces available.

9 Dogs

Dogs brought onto Club property must be kept on a lead at all times, and must not be brought into the Clubhouse, apart from Guide or other helper Dogs. Dog owners are warned that rodent control measures are in place and poisoned bait may have been laid. Any fouling by dogs must be removed immediately by the owner/keeper.

10 Trespassing

Members and visitors must not walk or park their cars on the land adjoining the Club property, nor in the Schools' dinghy park unless permission has been obtained to do so from the landowner.

The reed beds at the Marbury end of the mere are a bird sanctuary and Members are requested not to disturb the birds, especially during the nesting season.

11 Responsibilities for Duties

All Members will be expected to undertake a number of duties which enables the Club to operate in an effective manner. Duties to be undertaken may be chosen at the beginning of each year or be allocated if a preference for duty or date is not specified. Training for duties is available and members undertaking duties are responsible for ensuring that they have adequate training or experience to ensure that these duties can be carried out in a safe and satisfactory manner.

Duties are arranged through the Dutyman system and members must ensure that they acknowledge their duty and if unavailable, obtain a suitable substitute before the due date, whose name shall be entered into the above system.

12 Code of Conduct

Members who fail to comply with bylaw 11 may be suspended by the Committee as prescribed by Rule 7 unless good reason can be given.

Attention is drawn to the Code of Practice for Guardians and Junior members and all members are expected to behave responsibly whilst on the premises.

13 Officer of the Day

The Officer of the Day will normally be a Senior member of the Committee who is present at the Club and is responsible for implementation of the Rules and Bylaws on behalf of the Committee.

The responsibilities of the Officer of the Day shall normally be delegated to the Principal Race Officer for the normal sailing programme.