



Sailboat Racing - Risk Assessment for Covid 19

The purpose of this risk assessment is to demonstrate the approach taken by RSWSC to enable the safe resumption of sailboat racing within the Covid environment.

The health and safety of all the people involved with the Club's activities remains our number one priority at all times, and this document has been prepared to inform members, visitors, guests, staff and volunteers of the actions that have been put in place to promote safety at the Club.

Decisions are made by the Club's management committee after taking into account the unique considerations in which we operate at Rock. In doing this the Club has prepared a risk assessment to help make the most effective decisions concerning sailing. The eradication of Covid 19 relies on people taking individual and collective responsibility and all participants are reminded that it is their responsibility to make informed choices before deciding to go sailing.

This risk assessment is based on information gathered from several sources; including laws and advice provided by the Government, RYA's guidance notes, PHC guidance and notices to mariners, information provided by DCMS and Public Health England, and also noting the approaches taken by similar sailing clubs. We will continue to review the advice received and as it changes this risk assessment may change.

The risk assessment was based on the HSE Risk Matrix method where hazardous activities or objects are identified and ranked in terms of severity and likelihood. The severity and likelihood factors are multiplied together providing a numerical risk rating.

The coloured table below shows how the risk ratings are ranked (the green corner is good and towards red is bad). If the risk rating is less than 7 then either no action is required or the activity is to be simply monitored. If the risk rating is greater than 7 then some control measures are required to mitigate the risk. This reduces the risk rating to a safer level which is intended to be as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP). The table below illustrates this process and shows how mitigations have been applied to the sailing hazards.

The Government has announced steps where the Covid restrictions are to be lifted progressively:


Step 1 (from 29th March) Minimise travel, no holidays, Club closed

Step 2 (from 12 April) Rule of 6 or 2 households outside, Club open for outside food and drink service

Step 3 (no earlier than 17 May) Groups outside < 30, Rule of 6 or 2 households seated inside, Clubhouse, Hotels and B&Bs open

Step 4 (no earlier than 21 June) No legal limits but advice on social distancing and sanitising remains until further notice

The table below summarises this process and addresses the principal activities associated with sailing and racing.

<p>Rock Sailing and Waterski Club</p> 	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Covid-19 Response Risk Assessment Sailboat Racing</h2>	<p>Assumptions Vaccination offered to all at risk groups (reduces severity to 4) Viral load likely to be less when transmitted outdoors (reduces severity to 3), unless long duration of contact Social distance = 1m plus face mask All involved to self-assess and stay home if unwell</p>
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Severity	Catastrophic	5	5	10	15	20	25
	Significant	4	4	8	12	16	20
	Moderate	3	3	6	9	12	15
	Low	2	2	4	6	8	10
	Negligible	1	1	2	3	4	5
			1	2	3	4	5
		Improbable	Remote	Occasional	Probable	Frequent	
Likelihood							

Stop	Risk is very high – stop activities immediately.
Urgent Action	Risk is high – take immediate action to mitigate risk or stop work if no immediate action practicable
Action	Risk is moderate – take action with a reasonable timescale to mitigate the risk
Monitor	Risk is relatively low – monitor the situation, reviewing if new mitigations become reasonably practicable to further reduce the risk
No Action	There is little or no chance of harm occurring and, if it does, the consequences are minor.

Risk Rating key

Activity	Hazard	Persons at risk	Unmitigated			Control Measure	Action by	Mitigated	
			Likelihood	Severity	Risk rating			Likelihood	Risk rating
Registration (event)	Transfer inside Club premises (including quay, clubhouse)	Competitors visitors Race officials	4	4	16	1. All participants to self certify as being well and not exhibiting any covid symptoms 2. Advance registration and payment, or payment by bank transfer 3. Helm and crew contact details to be provided to enable contact tracing	1. All participants to assess their health each day 2 & 3. All participants to comply at registration	1	4
Event briefing	Transfer inside Club premises (including quay, clubhouse)	Competitors Race officials	4	4	16	1. Briefing to be outside and socially spaced or pre-recorded and available online	1. Race Officer (RO) to choose method for briefing depending on circumstances	1	4
Getting the course	Transfer due to gatherings inside clubhouse to obtain course details	Competitors Race officials	4	4	16	1. Courses to be pre-determined displayed outside on the white board, on committee boat and on website	1. RO to determine course depending on the conditions	1	4
Changing	Transfer whilst using club facilities	Competitors Race officials	4	4	16	1. Keep masks on unless in shower 2. Maintain social distance from other households. Do not enter if already busy 3. Change quickly and leave the changing room when finished 4. Windows to be kept open	1. RO to include in briefing	1	4
Rigging / de-rigging boats	Breach of guidance on size of gatherings on Quay / ferry Point during launch and recovery	Competitors Race officials	3	3	9	1. Competitors to be reminded to limit the size of gatherings 2. All participants to comply with social spacing on quay 3. Event specific rules will be applied for boat storage	1, 2 & 3 RO to include in briefing	2	6

Activity	Hazard	Persons at risk	Unmitigated			Control Measure	Action by	Mitigated	
			Likelihood	Severity	Risk rating			Likelihood	Risk rating
Launching / returning	Transfer due to gatherings on slipway or contact transfer from trolleys	Competitors	2	3	6	1. Competitors to be reminded to maintain social distance 2. Household groups to collect trolleys, or others to wear gloves.	1&2. RO to include in briefing	1	3
On the water	Transfer due to use of Club powerboats and tenders	Rescue team	4	4	16	1. Household groups / bubbles to crew rescue boats with jockey seats 2. If not same bubble, rescue team to wear masks and gloves, and maintain distance whenever possible 3. Frequent hand cleansing 4. Boat controls & equipment to be sanitised before & after each days racing 5. Regular rescue crew to be tested for COVID twice a week	1. Managed by rescue boat crews selection 2 & 3. Provided masks, gloves, hand cleanser and antibacterial wipes to be used by the rescue team 4. Rescue boat crew to sanitise before disembarking	1	4
On the water	Transfer between crews racing together in the same boats. If crew are all from same household, risk is not different to other activities together. So this really concerns crews from more than one household.	Competitors	4	4	16	1. Competitors to be encouraged to have crew from own household/bubble 2. RYA guidance to be followed 3. The RYA has advised it is up to the sailors involved to assess and control this risk by following their guidance	1, 2 & 3 RO to include in briefing	1	4
On the water	Transfer during on-the-water support to racers from Safety Boats	Competitors Rescue team	3	3	9	1. Need for support to be minimised by urging sailors to take a conservative approach to setting sail in more challenging conditions 2. Safety boat crews to be briefed in support and rescue techniques which maintain social distancing	1. Competitors to comply with Sailing Instructions 2. Include in crews briefing	2	6
On the water	Transfer during rescue of person in water	Competitors Rescue team	3	3	9	1. Wear face covering & gloves when recovering casualty 2. Ensure casualty is facing away from safety boat 3. If able casualty to self rescue using strop or ladder 4. If casualty conscious and able they should wear face covering once aboard safety boat	1, 2, 3 & 4 Include in crews briefing	2	6
Committee Boat	Transfer on committee boat	Race officials	4	3	12	1. Set capacity on CB to ensure social distancing >1m can be maintained 2. If not same bubble, race officials to wear masks and gloves, and maintain distance whenever possible. 3. Individuals to remain in dedicated role throughout 4. Hand cleansing before and after racing 5. Controls and equipment to be sanitised before & after each days racing	1, 2, 3 & 4 RO to manage activities on CB 2. RO to ensure each person has dedicated equipment and role to avoid swapping	2	6
Signing on/off	Transfer due to sign-on/sign-off arrangements	Competitors	4	4	16	1. Use of white board outside	1. RO to include in briefing	1	4
After the racing	Transfer during protest hearings	Race officials	4	4	16	1. Protest hearings to be carried out virtually using Teams / Zoom	1. RO to establish zoom participants	1	4
Using the Race Office	Transfer between race officials	Race officials	4	4	16	1. Limit access to one person at a time 2. Wipe down surfaces before you leave	1&2. RO to advise race control team	1	4
Prize-giving	Transfer inside Club premises	Competitors Race officials Rescue Team	4	4	16	1. Observe social spacing, numbers limited by the current restrictions for gatherings	1. RO to include in briefing	1	4

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Date
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17-Apr-21
25-Apr-21