

EXE SAILING CLUB

SAILING SAFETY RULES

These rules have the object of ensuring that dinghy and yacht racing at the club takes place in a safe and sensible fashion allowing for the hazards existing on the Exe.

DINGHY RACING.

- a) Helms and crew should wear adequate personal buoyancy at all times. (Wetsuits are not buoyancy aids.)
- b) All dinghy owners are to ensure that their boat will not sink after capsizing. If in doubt owners, especially of older boats, are to test their boats and have witnesses to testify that it was successful.
- c) All dinghies are to have current Third party liability insurance for at least £2,000,000.
- d) All dinghies should carry a painter and if possible a paddle.
- e) **End of race procedure;** All competitors will sign off within an hour of returning to shore. Those intending to sail independently and not return to the club after racing are to inform the committee boat of their intentions. On retiring, helms are to notify the race officer or safety boat of their intention to leave the race area. Safety cover will not normally be given to those retiring unless circumstances dictate that it is necessary.
- f)
 - i) The decision to race is the sole responsibility of the helm.
 - ii) The decision for minors is to be made by their parents/guardians.
- g) Parents/guardians of children under 18 are responsible for ensuring that they have appropriate clothing and equipment prior to racing.

YACHT RACING.

- h) All members using tenders should wear adequate personal buoyancy and carry a light.
- i) All yachts should have appropriate safety equipment for the nature of the race being run.
- j) If using the club RIB as transport on race nights the loads is limited to the helm and 1 crew for each yacht. All are to wear lifejackets or buoyancy aids.

SAFETY BOATS.

- a) Safety boats are to be manned by a Safety boat qualified driver and competent crew, see Safety Boat Procedures 2011.
- b) Each boat is to have a handheld VHF, first aid kit, inshore flare pack, and thermal blanket.
- c) Basic boat equipment is to be; tow line, anchor, paddles, bucket, compass,
- d) The radio is to be set to the Committee Boat frequency (usually Ch 8) at all times. The race officer is to be advised of boats retiring or wishing to sail independently.
- e) Engine hours and defects are to be recorded on the whiteboard in the boatshed at the end of the day.
- f) It is the helms responsibility to ensure that all equipment is checked as present and in good condition, before setting out.

RACE OFFICER.

- a) The decision as to whether a race goes ahead is the responsibility of the Race Officer. The decision whether to participate is for the helms or their parents (see above).
- b) If racing is cancelled this will be signalled by flag and voice and safety boats will advise helms as to the procedure for returning to shore.
- c) Races are not to be started unless the safety boat(s) are on station.
- d) Safety boats should be provided in the ratio of 1 to 15 dinghies. The race officer is to consider himself/herself as part of the Safety Boat cover, if running races from afloat.
- e) Apart from simple capsize, all accidents or incidents are to be reported by the Race Officer to the Sailing Sec. within 24hrs.

Feb. 2011.