

Nottingham Sailing Club Safety Boat Launching and Use

Instructions for Duty Officers and Assistants V2

The following instructions cover use of the safety boats following the Club resumption of racing.

- The safety boat used for racing **will only be crewed and launched by the two assistants to the Race Officer (OOD)**. If the assistants are not from the same household they should maintain the Government's social distancing requirement whenever possible.
- **The safety boat (No.2 boat) in the small boat shed should be used on Sunday.**
- **The safety boat (No.1 boat) in the big boat shed should be used on Saturday.**
- Only in *exceptional circumstances* and following instruction from the Race Officer (OOD) should the other safety boat be launched. When making a decision to use the second boat the level of risk associated with doing so needs to be fully factored into the decision (e.g. does the benefit of launching outweigh the cost of possibly compromising social distancing rules).
- The key to the big boat shed is attached to the No.2 (blue) safety boat key which is on the No.2 key hook under the start box.
- **Preparation:** Antibacterial cleaning wipes are stored in the rescue boat shed. Use these to clean your hands before you handle the boat. Wipe down the boat's key, steering wheel and controls if you are in any doubt that the boat has not been unused for 72 hours or more. Dispose of the wipes in the dustbin provided.
- Nitrile gloves and three-ply face masks are also provided in the boat shed and/or safety boat and are for use by the race assistants while they are on duty. Masks and gloves should be disposed of in the bin in the boat shed after use.
- Check that you have buoys 2 and 4 in No 2 safety boat (Sunday). These are the only two buoys you require.

- **Launching:** The safety boat should be wheeled out of the boat shed and launched by the two race assistants only.
- The trailer handles at the bow, and upright bars (toward the stern of the rescue boat trailer) are NOT recommended for pushing the safety boat around as the boat can move around on the trailer during launching and recovery and this can be a danger to hands/fingers.
- As the boat is lowered down the slipway one person should hold the boat's painter – to guide the boat clear of the trolley once it's in the water – and the other person should hold onto the long rope attached to the trailer. If the race assistants are struggling to launch the boat (e.g. if the ground is soft and wet) they should only call on the Race Officer for assistance.
- **During the race:** Under normal conditions the safety boat should be tied at the upstream landing stage ready for use. However, it can be taken onto the river for monitoring a race (e.g. if it looks likely that there will be a lot of boats close together when a race is finishing). – in which case it is recommended that only one person use the boat.
- For a rescue both safety boat crew will be required.
- Following any rescue, return to the Club to change any PPE if required, and use the hand washes provided in the toilets or wipes in the boat shed as a priority.
- **Safety boat recovery:** It is not possible to move the safety boat up the slipway with only two people. Race assistants should therefore recruit two or three people from amongst the helms (not spectators or other volunteers) who have raced to help haul the boat to the top of the slipway.
- Use the extra-long rope attached to the trailer to put suitable space between the people pulling the boat up the slipway to maintain social distancing.
- After the boat has been stowed in the boat shed use antibacterial wipes to clean your hands and any other surfaces that you think require attention.
- Lock the boat shed and return the rescue boat key with the attached boat shed key to the No.2 key hook under the start box.

9th October 2020