



HAYLING ISLAND SAILING CLUB SAFETY AFLOAT POLICY

1. Introduction

1.1 Scope

This policy applies to all activity afloat undertaken from HISC by members, their guests and visitors. This does not form part of the HISC Health and Safety policy statement.

1.2 Policy on activities afloat

HISC policy is that members, their guests and visitors may go afloat from the club at any time at their own risk. This policy is significant in that HISC only undertakes to provide *Safety Support* under the circumstances defined in this policy.

1.3 Definitions

1. *Organised Sailing Event*. Any sailing event run under the HISC Burgee or using club facilities that is in the club calendar of events at the time of the event.
2. *Race Officer*. The person responsible for running an *Organised Sailing Event*. A *Race Officer* is vested with the responsibility for the event on behalf of the club.
Note that when several *Organised Sailing Events* are being run concurrently, each event may have its own *Race Officer*.
3. *Safety Support*. An appropriate system for ensuring adequate safety cover during an *Organised Sailing Event*.
4. *Safety Support Infrastructure*. The physical items available to provide adequate *Safety Support* during an *Organised Sailing Event*. These will be generally in accordance with the National and International guidelines for the types of boats involved.
5. *Safety Support Operations*. The service provided during an *Organised Sailing Event* offering *Safety Support*. It will be generally in accordance with the National and International guidelines for the types of boats involved.
6. *Casualty*. A person and / or their boat that is in difficulty on the water.



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2. Responsibilities for Safety Afloat

2.1 Responsibilities of the Individual

It is the responsibility of each individual:-

1. To give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger
2. To wear clothing and personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions and type of activity (including *Safety Support*) being undertaken
3. To ensure the seaworthiness of their craft for the prevailing conditions
4. To decide whether or not to go afloat or to remain afloat
5. During an *Organised Sailing Event*, to make every reasonable attempt to communicate with the Race Officer any intention to leave the area of the *Organised Sailing Event*
6. When racing, to comply with the HISC Racing Policy.

2.2 Responsibilities of the Race Officer

1. To manage *Safety Support* in accordance with this policy.
2. To plan the *Organised Sailing Event* taking into account:
 - the Chichester Harbour Federation's Code of Conduct for Racing,
 - the prevailing conditions,
 - the types of boats involved,so as to avoid undue risk to participants and other harbour users.
These plans are to cover during:
 - the *Organised Sailing Event*
 - launching and recovery
 - transit to and from the *Organised Sailing Event* area
3. To conduct the *Organised Sailing Event* in accordance with these plans.

2.3 Responsibilities of the Marine Manager

The Marine Manager or their delegated representatives are responsible for:-

1. The procurement of all elements of the *Safety Support Infrastructure*
2. The definition of the required elements of *Safety Support Infrastructure* for each *Organised Sailing Event*
3. Managing the programme of training events provided by the club for:-
 - a) Race Officer
 - b) Patrol boat crew for Hard and Rubber boats
 - c) Racing skills

2.4 Responsibilities of the General Manager

The integrity, operability and availability of the *Safety Support Infrastructure* are the responsibility of the HISC General Manager delegated through their crew.



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3. Provision of *Safety Support*

It is policy to provide *Safety Support* for the following types of *Organised Sailing Event* :-

1. Racing for Dinghies, Open Keelboats and Sailboards
2. Organised cruises for Dinghies, Open Keelboats and Sailboards
3. Training for Dinghies, Open Keelboats and Sailboards

The Club sailing programme, entry form, notice of race / event and/or sailing instructions will define the type of a given *Organised Sailing Event*.

The club also organises various forms of sailing-related events, in which the participants may arrive by boat or otherwise, to jointly undertake recreational activities at a pre-arranged venue. Where such events do not attempt to organise the sailing activity, they do not constitute *Organised Sailing Events*.

The decision to run an *Organised Sailing Event* and the type of *Safety Support* will follow recognised national and international guidelines appropriate to the type of event taking into account:-

1. the type and seaworthiness of the boats involved
2. the experience and age of the participants
3. the scale of the event
4. the weather and sea conditions

Additional specific policy on each of the four types of event is stated in the subsections following.

3.1 *During Racing for Dinghies, Open Keelboats and Sailboards*

Safety Support will be provided in the following places and times:-

1. Places:-
 - a) on the event sailing area
 - b) on the proper course(s) between the launching / beaching area and the event sailing area
 - c) on an ad-hoc basis only in other waters
2. Times:-
 - a) from the time participants might reasonably go afloat for the event until they might reasonably have returned ashore via the proper course or until all *casualties* are ashore.

3.2 *During Racing for Cruisers*

1. Competitors boats are expected to conform to Offshore Racing Council (ORC) Category 4
2. No specific additional safety support is provided.

3.3 *During Organised Cruises for Dinghies, Open Keelboats and Sailboards*

The provision is the same as for Racing in the corresponding types of boat except that

- the absence of the competitive element,
- the potential presence of novices, and that participants may become strung out over a large area, will additionally be taken into consideration.



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3.4 During Training for Dinghies, Open Keelboats and Sailboards

The provision is the same as for Racing in the corresponding types of boat except that the impact of the manoeuvres and boat handling being taught will additionally be taken into consideration.

4. Policy on Insurance with Respect to Safety Afloat

1. Members, visitors and guests are required to have third party insurance up to £2,000,000 to include racing riskcover.
2. The club insurance covers legal liability in respect of bodily injury to third parties and damage to third party property to a limit of indemnity of £5,000,000. Cover includes damage or injury due to negligent acts by flag officers or officials.

6. Effective Date of this Policy

This document is HISC Policy from **DATE**. It will be subject to review 1 year from this date if not before, whereupon an amended version may be issued.