

Queen Mary Sailing Club Safety Policy (last updated 25/10/08)

MEMBERS AND OTHER USERS OF OUR WATER MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY BOTH AFLOAT AND ASHORE. THE CLUB WILL USE ITS BEST ENDEAVOURS TO PROVIDE ON-WATER SAFETY COVER BUT THAT DOES NOT ALTER THE INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERS AND OTHER USERS OF OUR WATER. ACCEPTANCE OF THIS POLICY IS A CONDITION OF GOING AFLOAT.

THIS STATEMENT IS IMPORTANT AND EXPLAINS HOW THE CLUB SETS OUT TO ASSIST YOU IN RELATION TO ON-WATER ACTIVITIES. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ IT

SAFETY COVER

The Club sets out to provide cover at three levels as follows:

1. When Club or Open Meeting racing is taking place there will be one or more safety boats on the water depending on the conditions at the time and the number of people racing.
2. At other weekend times from 0900 until 1700 there will be a watch kept ashore and safety response as necessary. Response times will be slower during these times.
3. During weekdays and evenings the water will be checked at intervals by the Duty Officer (the person responsible, as per the Daily Information Board). Response times may be slow during these periods.

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

As a Club Member or other water user, you have a duty to both yourself and other Club Members and water users as regards safety. That duty includes acting responsibly whilst on Club premises, for example, in the use of the boat lifts and winch. You can improve your own on-water safety situation by:

- Sailing where you can be easily observed
- Following directions on the sailing areas given on the Daily Information Board
- Not sailing in conditions or in boats or on boards beyond your competence
- Taking and following advice from the Club's professionals if in doubt about anything
- Following the Club's Masthead Flotation Policy and Entrapment advice

Your duty to other Members/water users includes:

- Providing help or seeking help for anyone you see requiring it on the water
- Alerting the Duty Officer to any situation that you observe that may need attention

[*] - Sailing is normally permitted on the West side of the reservoir only. Check the Daily Information Board (in the foyer) for details. Training often takes place on the East Side but this does not mean you can sail there as Instructors or pupils may go ashore and leave you without cover. If you want to launch into the East Side and sail round to the West Side you must clear it with the Duty Officer first.

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