



Avon Sailing Club

Covid-19 OOD & AOD Briefing – To be read by all Race officers

Thank you

Thank you for agreeing to undertake OOD duties whilst we are managing racing under the temporary Covid-19 guidance.

I am sure that much contained here is common sense, however, the club is required by the RYA to ensure that all those involved in managing club activities are briefed regarding Covid-19 measures. Therefore, please read this information carefully.

Key additional responsibilities

When you arrive please open all the windows in the toilets and changing rooms and the external door to the changing rooms to help maximise ventilation. Please check that they are closed at the end of the day.

Please ensure you are familiar with the 'Covid-19 Temporary racing instructions V5.0'

To limit sharing of pens etc, please sign participants on when they advise you that they are racing.

By signing on, participants agree to comply with the 'Covid-19 Temporary racing instructions'. A copy of the instructions are available on the club website and on the side of the clubhouse if anyone is unsure. Please try and monitor compliance during the day and call out any issues.

A few Important things are:

1. Boats racing must have a min 5m painter attached as this is a key risk mitigation for operation of the safety boats. Participants should not be allowed to race without one. There are a few spares with the race officer kit that can be loaned on the day. Please make sure you get them back.
2. Participants should space themselves in the rigging area and not blocking the route to the slipway. Encourage them to spread out if necessary.
3. When setting the course ensure there is ample room around the marks so that competitors can maintain a safe distance from each other.
4. Only one person should handle the race marks when laying and recovering the course.
5. Under Government rules two people from different households can be inside together. However to help minimise any risk you should try and limit the length of time that both the OOD & AOD are in the race box together.

Use of safety boats

Safety boats can only be used on the day with your authority.

If additional cover is required, please identify an experienced crew in the normal way. If necessary, asking one of the participants to cover for the day.

Single handed safety boat or 2 crew from same household is the preference. Different household crewing can take place with the crew maintaining 2m separation by sitting at either end of the boat.

Once a boat has been allocated to a helm it should only be used by that helm for the whole day. If the helm needs to change then all touch points on the engine must be cleaned using the cleaner stored on the boat. Alternatively another boat can be put on the water. (emergency life safety overrides this requirement)

When launching and recovering, maintain social distancing around the boat. Rope can be used if needed. (Hand sanitiser is available). Only designated helm / crew to handle the boat on the water.

The following measures are to be adopted to reduce the requirement for safety boat assistance, help maintain 2m distancing where assistance is required and to enable single crew operation by reducing the risk.

1. The Safety boat should maintain distance from participants and only approach within 2m if no other options are available.
2. All competing boats must have a minimum 5m painter pre attached to the boat. Tow a boat if possible rather than breast-up.

3. Safety boat operators should be experienced and appointed by the OOD.

4. OOD to make conservative judgement on sailing conditions based on wind strength and river flows together with experience of sailors.

5. Face coverings (stored in a blue dry bag in the front locker of the boat) must be worn if a person is recovered into the safety boat (This includes safety boat crew and recovered person).

If face masks are used during the day please dispose of all remaining masks in the bag and replace with 4 new masks. Replacement masks are on top of the male changing room cubicles. Please use hand sanitizer before doing this.

Radios should be allocated to a single user for the day. Radios should be cleaned by the OOD before and after use using the wipes in the white race basket.

Use of club boats by members

Club boats can be borrowed by members (for racing or recreational sailing) and allocated by you on a 'first come first served' basis to a single crew for the whole day. If boats have been used for an Assisted sailing session on the Saturday they should not be used again on the Sunday to allow for 'self-sanitizing' during the week.

Your decision is final

In line with the RYA guidance we are taking a considerate and conservative approach to our racing. We are taking measures to reduce the likelihood that safety boat assistance will be required and where it is then it can be provided safely (i.e. use of 5m painter / face coverings)

As part of these measures we will be conservative, regarding weather and river conditions. Please assess the situation on the day and take any additional precautions you feel necessary. This may well include cancelling racing when in normal times we would have gone ahead.

If you would like support in making a decision, please ask a member of the Committee who is on site. Your decision is final and will be supported by the Committee.