

## COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT

This Risk Assessment summarises the additional measures being taken around COVID-19 Earlswood Lakes Sailing Club in all spaces in and around the Sailing Club.

It sets out measures implemented and required behaviours to be taken to help prevent the spread of Covid-19. This is in addition to other existing Risk Assessments and ELSC Procedures and does not replace them.

### Who does this assessment affect?

- Sailors taking part in Sailing Activities;
- Non-Sailing members;
- Guests and visitors;
- Vulnerable People (people with underlying conditions or vulnerable by age as defined by HMG guidance).

### Background

The Committee of ELSC has taken steps to restrict the spread of Covid-19 by closing the Sailing Club for normal sailing activities from the 18<sup>th</sup> March. Since then there has only been occasional attendance at the club for routine maintenance and checking that the buildings are safe and secure. Committee meetings have been taking place virtually. We want to re-open whilst remaining in full compliance with the government guidance and have therefore implemented the following controls.

### Personal Responsibility

Our primary and over-riding concern is the safety of our members and visitors. The club rule has always been (in accordance with RYA guidance) **the decision to go afloat is the personal responsibility of the sailor**. They must make an assessment of the weather conditions and their ability to cope. If a member gets into difficulty, they must not rely on others to come to their rescue.

### Controls for COVID-19

1. **General:** For the foreseeable future, members should not visit the club unless they are sailing or visiting in an administrative capacity, and guests are prohibited until such time as the government advice changes. Any member who is vulnerable by the government's definition should not attend the sailing club.
2. **General:** Government advice around hand-washing and social distancing must be observed at all times. ELSC is following WHO, PHE and Government advice and is currently not recommending the wearing of face coverings or gloves to protect against coronavirus where social distancing can be maintained. For more information check the latest Government advice published on 11th May.
3. **Cleanliness:** In all cases washing hands is a key component of keeping people safe and should be performed before and after contact activities. Members should take wipes to the club and wipe down locks and handles as they leave. Any issues with wash facilities should be reported to the Committee. Hand sanitizer is

provided at various points in the clubhouse and members should make regular use of it.

4. **Social Distancing:** Within ELSC buildings tape, signage and communications have been placed to indicate the Social Distancing measures. Additionally, access routes have been modified to minimise the risk of compromising social distancing measures. When the club is open the main club door and the balcony door shall be used as a one-way system to minimise crossovers within the club.
5. **Social Distancing:** All members should give thought to the routes they need to take to get from one location to another to avoid passing others unnecessarily and to respect social distancing measures. If excessive numbers increase risk, we will introduce an attendance booking system.
6. **Galley:** The Galley will be closed for the sale of food and drink.
7. **Changing Rooms:** The changing rooms should be used for access to the toilets only. Personal property should not be left in the changing rooms.
8. **OD Hut and Bosun's Hut:** Only one person may be in the OD Hut at any one time. Only one person at a time is allowed in the bosun's hut.
9. **Safety Boat:** The physical contact points of the safety boat must be wiped with antibacterial fluid before and after use. A cleaning bucket with fluids and microfibre cloths will be provided as an addition to normal boat operations. Anti-viral spray will be provided in the fuel locker. This also applies to members using club equipment where allowed.
10. **Capsize:** In addition to wearing buoyancy aids sailors should consider the use of a masthead float. This greatly improves the ability to self-rescue in the event of a capsize as it prevents the mast getting stuck in the mud. Good chandlers sell these for about £30 or a two-litre plastic container may suffice. Longer painters and righting lines also aid recovery.
11. **Rescue:** If called upon to rescue a member using the safety boat then preservation of life takes precedent over Covid19 risks. In this circumstance, as much social distancing as possible should be employed. A common sense approach will be taken here with evaluation of the risk to life.
12. **General:** Tasks that require two or more people to work in close proximity (handling heavy or awkward items) and where close working is unavoidable, requires them to position themselves in non-face to face positions. A third person should observe the activity from a safe distance.
13. **General:** This RA will be revised if and when extra measures are implemented or if required following government advice.