

Policy & Arrangements for Running Racing at HISC during the Coronavirus Restrictions

Policy:

The purpose of this Policy is to define the basis upon which formal racing at HISC will be provided during the period when Coronavirus Restrictions are active.

The arrangements described below are based on the Guidelines issued by the Department of Culture Media and Sport and interpretations published by the RYA on the 9th July 2020. When those guidelines and interpretations are amended this Policy will be reviewed.

The Policy maintains our position that members must:

- Observe Social Distancing of 2 metres and avoid gatherings.
- Take personal responsibility and plan to be self sufficient, including taking a phone or vhf radio afloat with them with which to contact the club if needing assistance.
- Use common sense and courtesy.
- Not come to the club if they or anyone in their family are displaying symptoms.

All government advice regarding hygiene must be observed.

Responsibility:

Hayling Island Sailing Club will organise racing in a way that maintains the requirements for Social Distancing, avoids gatherings and provides for the health and welfare of race officials and competitors. Where double handed boats are sailed by people from different households, each boat must make their own assessment of the COVID risk and take precautionary measures appropriate to their situation. The assessment will be different for each boat, for example:

- Helm and crew are from different households, both work from home and do not go out for meetings or use public transport. Both in good health. Risk level very low. Control measures not required.
- Helm and crew are from different households, a serving police officer sails with his elderly father in law, who has underlying health conditions, in a Flying Fifteen. Risk level very high. Face coverings may provide some control. Probably shouldn't sail.

All other Social Distancing and gathering requirements ashore apply; if you have any symptoms, don't come to the club; stay at home.

Club members are responsible for determining how they will comply with the regulations.

Health & Welfare:

The safety and welfare of staff and members, including competitors, race team and safety crews is paramount. Safety ribs or the race box may be operated by people from different households, using controls as necessary after assessing their individual risk as described above. If the sailing conditions are such that, in the opinion of the Race Office, the probability of boats requiring high levels of intervention or assistance has become unacceptably high, formal racing will not take place.

Arrangements

Race Officers

General Club Racing will be run from the Race Box, and the start flag sequence will be posted with the course.

It is intended that racing can be run by the minimum of people while maintaining Social Distance. The Race Team should bring and use their own equipment (pens, paper, binoculars etc).

Hand sanitizer will be provided in the Race Box.

Provision of Safety or Patrol Boats:

Where two volunteers can be found to operate a safety or patrol boat, one will be provided. If volunteers cannot be found to do this, racing will not take place. Safety boat crews will be expected to maintain Social Distance in the rib, to use control measures when their risk assessment requires it. They must provide assistance as required by RRS 1.1, using their discretion and judgement to keep themselves safe. Safety crews will be briefed on operating safely with respect to Coronavirus as well as their general duties by the Marine Team.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at the Marine Office.

Means for recovering a person from the water, such as a recovery ladder will be provided, and safety crews trained in its use.

Format of Racing:

Racing is for members only and in order to avoid the risks associated with disinfecting equipment between uses, committee boats and/or moveable inflatable marks or dan buoys may only be used in specific circumstances and when authorised in advance by the Vice Commodore Sailing or the Commodore. Except as above, starting will only be from the fixed club lines, and only fixed harbour racing marks may be used for starting, finishing or as rounding or passing marks.

To avoid gatherings and assist with social distancing, signing on and off will be electronically by Sail Event. This changes SI 15.2). Courses will be published at the club main entrance, on the noticeboard adjacent to the snack bar and at the bottom of the balcony stairs adjacent to the men's toilets.

Briefings and Prize givings:

Briefings and prize givings requiring groups of more than 6 people to gather together shall not take place.