



Hill Head Open Event. Safety Officer Briefing Competitors Topper Open 2023

COMPLIANCE

By taking part in any of the events covered by the Sailing Safety instructions, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that they are responsible for complying with the Hill Head Sailing Club procedures. Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from an event official. Failure to comply may be misconduct.

COVID Statement.

No-one should attend if exhibiting Covid symptoms or has been given a Covid diagnosis, been told to isolate or if anyone in their household has symptoms or tested positive. There are no specific COVID mitigation procedures in place but everyone should respect peoples space.

A Safety Officer (SO) has been appointed for the Event. The Safety Officer will report to the Race Officer (RO) and assist with all safety related aspects of the event.

1. The Safety Officer will be responsible for ensuring that each Safety Boat is manned with personnel who are properly qualified and skilled in powerboat handling, dinghy and sailor recovery.
2. The Safety Officer will maintain a list in the Race box that will show details of all Competitors and Safety Boat Personnel with their emergency contact details. After considering the number of dinghies taking part and the prevailing weather conditions the Safety Officer will advise the Race Officer how many Safety Boats will be allocated. The RO and SO will determine any restrictions
3. The Safety Officer will conduct a "Safety" briefing with all Safety boat personnel before the events start.
4. The Safety Officer has produced this briefing for competitors which has been published online. The Safety Officer might hold a short briefing on the day if it is considered by the Safety Officer to be necessary.
5.
 - a. Conduct in the dinghy parks. Competitors must take in the dinghy park and be careful of tie-down wires . There must be no running in the dinghy park . Helpers must leave the boats as soon as possible
 - b. The Club has programmed for 4 safety boats and two support boats to be afloat
 - c. **Competitors must tally on and off.** You will be pre-allocated a Tally number.
 - d. **Buoyancy aids must be worn at all times on the water and on the slipways.**
 - e. Be aware of the effects of wind-chill and be aware of the advisability of wearing wetsuits and spray jackets.
 - f. If competitors are believed to be exhibiting signs of hypothermia they will be "advised" to return to shore.
 - g. Be aware of the effects of heat and need to be well hydrated and use sun cream and hats.
 - h. Ensure boats are properly rigged before launching. No preparations are to be made on the slipway
 - i. The order of boat launching and notification for launch will be by two sound signals and Flag D (Blue with yellow top and bottom) dropped.
 - j. Dinghy parking arrangements have been made for trailers on the grass adjacent to the club . Cars need to be removed to the car park. Parking is limited so cars might have to be parked on the road. Boats can be left in the



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dinghy park overnight at the owners risk. **The grassed area is not available overnight.** Boats

should be left so as not cause injury to others.

- k. Keep clear of the start line until appropriate start.
 - l. Those not racing to keep clear of the racing area.
 - m. Those who have finished must keep clear of the Finish Line
 - n. If in Distress or needing assistance wave arms up and down at your side or whistle to attract attention. A safety boat will attend
 - o. Heave to in strong wind gusts or increased winds.
 - p. Remain with the boat if capsized.
 - q. If required, the safety boats will recover sailors ashore and deal with boats accordingly
 - r. If dinghies are with beached shore-based support will attend.
 - s. Competitors are to Obey the instructions of the Safety Boat Cox.
 - t. Arrangements for an orderly return to the dinghy parks will be made by the Lead safety boat.
 - u. All launching trolleys must be easily identifiable. This could be with a Champ number or by Tally number
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6. If an abandoned race is called, the Safety Officer will ensure all sailors afloat are advised and told to return to shore immediately. Competitors **MUST** attend the Tally station as soon as they are ashore. This will ensure all boats and crews are accounted for.