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# **COVID 19 - Risk assessment template – Water Based Activities – COMPETITORS, RIB DRIVERS AND CREW, RACE OFFICERS and HELPERS at the Royal Solent Yacht Club as required by The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Steps) (England) Regulations 2021**

**Organisation name: Royal Solent Yacht Club**

**Assessment carried out by: Alan Sheward and Tom Symes**

**Date assessment was carried out: 31st March 2021 Reviewed 6<sup>th</sup>, 13, 21 April 13 May, 09 June, 21 June 2021. Date of next Review – 12 July 2021**

The Royal Solent Yacht Club (the 'Club') has carried out this risk assessment of the Club's sailing activities to satisfy the requirements of Regulation 3 of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999. It has been carried out in direct response to the requirements of organisations to Covid 19 some of which is outlined in law.

The Club's sailing activities involve competitors, RIB drivers and crew, Race Officers, Club staff and helpers. Separate Risk Assessments have been carried out for the particular issues presented on the Committee Boats and in Grants due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Government COVID-19 advice must be followed, particularly with regard to social distancing. This guidance changes and it is the responsibility of each individual to ensure that they are familiar with it, over-riding this risk assessment if necessary. Competitors, rib drivers and crew and helpers must be conservative and be mindful of others. The risk assessment will be reviewed and updated as guidance or requirements change.

Organised sport participation events such as Regattas and Club racing can take place outdoors and are exempt from legal gathering limits. Events run by the Club comply with the 'RYA Guidance on Sailing and Racing with Participants from Different Households during Covid -19 in England'. This RYA Guidance recognises that in some situations whilst afloat it will not be possible to maintain normal social distancing, helps skippers and participants to evaluate the risk and suggests some mitigations that may need to be implemented. Sailors should read this RYA Guidance.

No one may participate in racing unless they have completed fully the Club's Condition of Entry forms and they have read and understood this Risk Assessment. Competitors may have their temperatures taken electronically prior to sailing. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and

therefore inherently involves an element of risk. This activity is for competent people capable of making their own decisions and sailing without support from others. The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in the activity is hers alone.

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing to control the risks?	What further action do you need to take to control the risks?	Who needs to carry out the action?	When is the action needed by?	Date Assurance Provided
<b>Social Distancing difficult to achieve when launching and recovering dinghies</b>	Beach crew and sailors if social distancing not observed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limit overall numbers and allocate sufficient time to avoid crowding.</li> <li>- Allocate space for each class in dinghy park</li> <li>- Move any dinghies not sailing to make as much space available as possible</li> <li>- Sailors to arrive changed ready to sail where practicable</li> <li>- Timed and staggered shifts for launching different classes</li> <li>- Signage</li> <li>- Good communication</li> </ul>	Identify congestion and pinch points providing distance markers or signage requesting social distancing.	Club, Sailors and Helpers Event coordinator.	Immediate	

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<b>Social Distancing difficult to achieve for RIB Drivers and crew</b>	RIB drivers and crew and sailors if social distancing not observed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Driver and crew to be from same household/ bubble where practicable. Where the crew are not from the same household maintain 1m+ social distancing.</li> <li>- Use own or allocated radios, binoculars and other equipment</li> <li>- Follow protocols for communication and race management</li> <li>- Follow existing RSYC protocols for recovery and assistance</li> <li>- Assess competence of sailors for conditions. Maintain hailing distance unless physical support is required. Seek to limit provision of assistance to where absolutely necessary for safety</li> <li>- Avoid face – to – face contact in the RIB as much as possible.</li> <li>- Choose recovery methods that minimise physical contact, e.g. self-rescue, mast tip/use of centre board in dinghies</li> </ul>	Review daily Crew or Sailors on the RIB will maintain 1m+ distancing where practicable	Club, PRO, Rib drivers and crew. Boatman	Immediate	
<b>Social distancing whilst working on Committee Boats.</b>	Race Officer Group if social distancing not observed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- See Risk Assessment for Committee Boats</li> <li>- Use grab handles and carry boarding ladder or other device to assist in self-recovery from water and have spare masks available</li> <li>- Tow astern rather than alongside. Have long towing lines available in RIBs.</li> </ul>		Club, Rear Commodore Sailing/Sailing Secretary Boatman		

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<b>Social Distancing difficult to achieve with members of the public using the beach and slip</b>	Members of the public, sailors, beach team if social distancing not observed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signage</li> <li>- Sailors to request that members of public socially distance.</li> <li>- Ensure sailors are made aware of and have consideration for other users of the beach</li> </ul>	Monitor on day of sailing	Sailors	During launching and recovery	
<b>Sailors may require urgent assistance with their boat and/or assistance getting out of the water</b>	Sailors, RIB crew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Radio communications and protocols to summon external assistance if required</li> <li>- RIBS to carry steps/ladder devices to enable self recovery from water</li> <li>- Follow standard protocols</li> <li>- Buoyancy aids/floatation devices must be worn on the water at all times by dinghy sailors and by keel boat sailors when Y flag is flown.</li> <li>- Race officers to assess adequacy of RIB safety cover given numbers, experience and wind and sea conditions</li> </ul>				

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<b>Competitors may not be able to maintain 1m+ distance walking and waiting in Dinghy Park or on Jetty or Pontoon</b>	Sailors and Beach Team if social distancing not observed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Control access.</li> <li>- Signage outlining National Guidance on Social Distancing.</li> <li>- Sailors to move swiftly on the beach and into dinghies to prevent crowding.</li> <li>- Ensure all trolleys are marked and easily identifiable from a distance</li> <li>- Good communication between RIBs and PRO</li> <li>- Limit numbers on Jetty and Pontoon</li> </ul>	Review daily	Sailors	On day of sailing	
<b>Competitors may wish to access loos, changing rooms and showers</b>	Club Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow Club protocols</li> <li>- Signage</li> <li>- Maintain social distancing</li> </ul>				

<b>Competitor may display signs of Covid 19</b>	All Club attendees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ask competitor to leave area immediately</li> <li>- Follow Government Guidance</li> <li>- Encourage use of facemasks and handwashing</li> <li>- Maintain min 2m distance</li> <li>- If person symptomatic those who come into contact should self-isolate as required by government guidance</li> </ul>		All		
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