



Club Statement: Return to club organised sailing from the - 7th June 2021

In accordance with the Government's press release - [New public health measures announced: The Path Ahead published on 29th April 2021](#) and following publication of the ISA's [Resilience and Recovery 2021: Plan for Living with COVID-19: Published 4th May 2021](#) (Please familiarise yourselves with these).

The committee is delighted to release the following club statement in anticipation of a 2021 start to the club sailing season with a Wednesday and Sunday series for both Monos and Cats from the 7th June.

We would ask all club members to follow the government and Irish sailing advice at all times, in addition, adhering to local measures we have introduced whilst on club premises and maintain covid protocols including social distancing.

Organised club racing when:-

- The Wednesday series will run from 9th June - 25th August: (1 race) Warning signal Wednesdays = 19:20
- The Sunday series will run from 13th June - 29th August: (2 races) Warning signal Wednesdays = 14:00

If you wish to participate in either series, please complete the following form - '**SSBC 2021 Wednesday Series & Sunday Series**' -

Link: <https://forms.gle/6gSMHu4NvuWYS5V97>

Sail/Race Duties

Support boat, race officer and assistant will be rostered from those entered in the particular series. **There will be no rescue** at this time due to social distancing measures and covid risk. The support boat will be there in case of a real emergency and to set the course.

To facilitate duties we will be rostering the same household, multi-crew boats sailing in 'Pods', individual members and mono sailors who we would like to create their own 'Pod' to help fulfil these duties. (There is a section in this form to facilitate this).

Note: You must have completed the online club membership form <https://swordssailing.ie/membership/> and be a paid up member of the club to participate in racing and carry out duties.



Decision to Sail/Race - Risk Assessment

Decisions to race/sail based on conditions and risks will be made by present committee members and the race officer. Where forecasts look highly likely to considerably exceed our upper wind speed limit, then a message will be sent out the night before via the club WhatsApp group cancelling racing.

Personal responsibility - Taking personal responsibility for your own safety and decision making before making the decision to go afloat.

Sign in/contact tracing sheet

Those participating and on duty will need to sign in. You will be required to have read/completed the clubs 'Personal 2 step Risk assessment & decision to go afloat.'

Link:

<https://swordssailing.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Personal-Risk-Assessment-Final.pdf>

A copy of this document is also attached to this statement.

Capsize recovery drills session (in 'Pod's of 15 max)

From **10th May** organised training activities may resume in Clubs and Training Centres affiliated to Irish Sailing. You are allowed to 'Pod' up or same household for multi crew boats.

In preparation for organised sailing and to confidently answer step 1 B & C of the personal risk assessment the club hope to arrange some capsize recovery drills with a rib on standby to assist, taking it in turns whilst sailing a small triangle course. Covid risk assessments and social distancing will apply.

The session will be ad hoc (No date initially set) and weather dependent. We will hope to set up a WhatsApp group to facilitate arranging a suitable date/time.

If you would like to participate then please complete the following form.

Link: <https://forms.gle/D9Ai5Bj2pbXCnT3V9>

Clubhouse

Club house will remain closed to everyone with the following exceptions.

- From 10th May to 6th June.
 - Clubhouse will remain closed with access to the outside toilet only.
- From the 7th June.
 - Changing rooms and indoor toilets will be available with restricted numbers - Social distancing applicable. Showers closed to everyone; (Note: This will be reviewed with ongoing advice from the Government & ISA)
 - Refreshments will be available and must be consumed outside;
 - Strictly one person at a time.
 - Bring your own drinking vessel.



Club boats

Will be limited and available for hire at the committee's discretion.

- <https://swordssailing.ie/club-boats/>
- Those members wishing to hire club boats, please inform the committee via club email in advance of the sailing. Stating which class of boat? And a conservative estimate of how many times for each series? (This may facilitate the need for collecting cash for hire)
 - info@swordssailing.ie

Social and Junior sailing TBC.

Note: Unorganised sailing - Previous statements and conditions still apply.

- <https://swordssailing.ie/commodore-message-to-all-members-5th-march-2021/>
- Please continue to email the club regarding contact tracing
 - info@swordssailing.ie

The Committee

Swords Sailing & Boating Club



COVID-19 Return to Sailing PERSONAL 2 Step Risk Assessment & Decision to go Afloat

Organised club sailing/racing on Broadmeadow Estuary.				
Safety boat: Support Boat only!.....NOT A RESCUE BOAT!				
<p>Please consider the potential risk for the support boat driver of not being able to maintain social distancing in the advent of a necessary rescue of you, your crew and your children.</p> <p>Therefore, please consider the following 2 step Personal Risk Assessment & Decision to go Afloat.</p>				
Should I risk going afloat to sail/race today?				
Hazard (potential)	Low (Risk)	Medium (Risk)	High (Risk)	Control Measures
Step 1: My Craft, Crew/Children				
A	Is your craft in a seaworthy state?	Yes	Not sure (If you go out be prepared to come in)	No Check your craft - Potential breakage points. Ropes & wires etc.
B	Can you recover a capsized of your craft unaided? Can you Swim?	Yes	Maybe once (Tiring if further capsizes. If you go out be prepared to come in)	No Practice Capsize recovery drills. Return to shore after 1st capsized
C	If you have crew/children on board, can you recover a capsized of your craft and crew/children unaided? Can you/they Swim?	Yes	Maybe once (Tiring if further capsizes. If you go out be prepared to come in)	No Practice Capsize recovery drills. Return to shore after 1st capsized. Reduce crew/children
If you answered No to any of the above, you should consider not going Afloat				
Should I risk going afloat to sail/race today?				
Hazard (potential)	Low (Risk)	Medium (Risk)	High (Risk)	Control Measures

Step 2: My ability/experience in varying wind speed and weather conditions					
Other factors you must take into consideration are temperature, water temperature, wind gust differential, and wind direction. Is it cold? Is the wind blowing off shore? On shore? Cross shore, towards the bridge or towards the motorway? Am I able to recover a capsized in all the conditions below? And return to shore unaided?					
A	Wind speed forecast. Capable to sail in 0 - 10 Knots (Light - Light medium)...Beginner to Intermediate level	Yes	Not sure (If you go out be prepared to come in)	No	Practise and time spent on the water in more manageable conditions. Club coaching sessions if available
B	Wind speed forecast. Capable to sail in 10 - 15 Knots (Light Medium to strong medium)... Intermediate - Advanced level	Yes	Not sure (If you go out be prepared to come in)	No	Practise and time spent on the water in more manageable conditions.
C	Wind speed forecast. Capable to sail in 15 - 20 Knots (Strong medium to strong)...Advanced level	Yes	Not sure (If you go out be prepared to come in)	No	Practise and time spent on the water in more manageable conditions.
If you answered No to any of the above, you should consider not going Afloat					

Core considerations behind risk assessment:

- Minimise risk of spread of COVID-19
 - Reduce risk of contracting COVID-19
- Maintaining best practice social distancing guidelines
 - Consideration for support boat in the advent of necessary rescue
 - Reduce the risk of requiring close contact rescue
- Self help, self rescue
 - Recover a capsized unaided
- Know your limitations and those of your crew & children
- If in doubt, don't go out

Document compiled: 3rd May 2021 : by Patrick Wodhams Vice Commodore



ISA phase 3 general covid risk assessment.



COVID-19
Return to Sailing Risk Assessment Sheet
for Activity Organisers

PHASE 3

Venue:	Date:
Activity:	

Location	Low	Medium	High	Control Measures
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Shore Facilities

Briefing Room	2m+ space pp	N/A	<2m space pp	
Changing Room	2m+ space pp	N/A	<2m space pp	
Boat Park	2m+ space pp	1 – 2m space pp	<1m space pp	

Water Access

Launch Area	2m+ space pp	1m+ space pp	<1m space pp	
Pontoon Access	Private or public 2m+ space pp	Private or Public 1 - 2m space pp	Private or Public <1m Space pp	
Mooring Access	Club Launch 2m+ space pp	Club Launch 1 – 2m space pp	Club Launch <1m space pp	

Participants

Group	1- 50	50 – 200	200+	
Group Profile	Same Household	Mixed Household operating in pods	Mixed Household mixed groups no control measures	
Ability	Experienced or improver	Beginner	N/A	
Special Needs	No physical assistance required	Physical assistance required	Additional underlying health risks	

Activity

Dinghy sailing	Single hander or multi hander same household	Mixed H'sehold "Pod" Crew	Mixed H'sehold varying crew	
Keelboat / Cruiser	Same Household	Mixed H'sehold "Pod" Crew	Mixed H'sehold varying crew	
Powerboating	Single Crew or Same Household	Mixed H'sehold "Pod" Crew	Mixed H'sehold varying crew	
Windsurfing	Improver	Beginner	N/A	
Training	Improver	Beginner	N/A	
Coaching	Improver	Beginner	N/A	
Racing	Single hander or multi hander same household	Mixed H'sehold "Pod" Crew	Mixed H'sehold varying crew	
Equipment	Personal	Daily allocation	Shared	
Safety Cover	Same Household	Mixed H'sehold "Pod" Crew	Mixed H'sehold varying crew	

	Yes	No
Final Decision		
All	Safe with normal COVID-19 protocols observed	
Max 4	Safe with specified enhanced measures	
Any	Only safe with very specific control measures implemented	