



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!					
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. Therefore, please consider the following 2 step Personal Risk Assessment & Decision to go Afloat.					
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 capsize 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 capsize
C	If you have crew/children on board, can you recover a capsize 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 capsize. 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
 - o Reduce risk of contracting COVID-19
- Maintaining best practice social distancing guidelines
 - o Consideration for support boat in the advent of necessary rescue
 - o Reduce the risk of requiring close contact rescue
- Self help, self rescue
 - o Recover a capsized unaided
- No 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