



SHOTWICK LAKE SAILING

A Limited Company Registered in
England & Wales No: 5364039
Registered Charity No. 1110888
www.shotwicksailing.org

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GUIDELINES FOR RACE OFFICERS AND SAFETY BOAT HELMS Rev (A) Feb 2015

Shotwick Lake Sailing depends upon volunteers to run race events and these guidelines have been developed to assist them in the safe, smooth running of the day.

Sailing is a 'risk' sport and these risks are accepted by those taking part as highlighted to all members in the club byelaws and to those taking part in open events. The club however, and race officers / safety boat helms on the day have a higher duty of care to juniors and inexperienced sailors and need to reinforce the advice of the traffic light system related to wind strength where appropriate.

All those with a role on the day including assistants should arrive at least 45 minutes before the scheduled start of the first race. Assistants should make themselves known to the Race Officer / Safety boat helm immediately on arrival. All assistants, including race assistants should come prepared with sailing gear in the event they are needed to help in the safety boat.

Suitable manning of the Safety Boat shall take priority over the Race Officer / assistant duties.

SAFETY BOAT HELMS

All Safety boat helms will hold as a minimum RYA Powerboat L2 and have attended club organised refresher training in the last two years.

The following is an aid memoir check list for Safety boat helms

- Always arrive in good time to meet your assistant and involve them in preparation of the boat(s) so that they gain familiarity with the location and purpose of equipment on board.
- Launch and recover the Safety boat in accordance with the procedure displayed in the safety boat garage.
- Always wear the kill cord and check its operation.
- Only have two people in the Safety boat. At least one and ideally both people should be prepared / equipped to enter the water.
- Check the West Kirby windguru wind forecast and using this information, display the Green, Amber or Red wind day sign. Particularly on 'Red' wind days be aware of junior and inexperienced sailors taking part and provide advice to them as appropriate.
- Obtain and check the operation of the two way radios in conjunction with the race officer.
- Set the race start line in conjunction with the Race Officer.
- Give priority to attending junior and inexperienced sailors.
- Avoid becoming involved in preventing damage to or recovering boats to the detriment of checking the safety of other sailors on the water.
- Stay alert to activities on the water.
- At the end of the day report any defects to a Committee member.

RACE OFFICERS

The Race Officer is responsible for the smooth running of the race and the following is an aid-memoir:

- Discuss proposals for the day with the Safety Boat Helm.
- Make sure you, understand the use and check the operation of the two way radios in conjunction with the safety boat helm.
- Set an appropriate course for the wind strength and direction.
- Record the number of laps and lap times for each boat.
- Record the Race Officer, Safety Boat helm and assistants attendance.
- Ensure race results are posted in results box.