

# Dhekelia Services Sailing Club

## The Sailing Rules

### How to read these Rules

These rules are arranged so that members can pick out the parts that apply to them, depending on the activity they want to undertake. All members should read the general instructions contained in sections 1 to 5, then pick out the activity and information leaflets as you need them.

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## 1.0 Foreword

1.0.01. These Rules apply to all users of Dhekelia Services Sailing Club, its water craft and facilities. These Rules apply equally to Members (all types), guests, adventurous training teams and visiting adventurous training expeditions. Derogations from these Rules may only be approved by a DSSC Flag Officer<sup>1</sup>, or by the Principal Instructor<sup>2</sup>.

1.0.02. Sailing is a recognised adventurous activity which contains inherent risks; the purpose of these Rules is to reduce the risk of injury or damage to equipment to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP). However, sailors (and those responsible for sailors) must recognise that in the challenging environment of the sea, there will always be an element of residual danger.

1.0.03. Failure to follow these Rules is a serious issue. They are based on the Constitution of the Club, Service and Civilian Law and therefore failure to adhere to them could result in:

- a. Revocation of Sailing Rights or authority to use DSSC Power Boats.
- b. Cancellation or Non-Renewal of membership.
- c. An individual prosecution, summary charge or warning under Military or SBA law.

1.0.04. Ultimately these Rules are here to aid our enjoyment and freedom to use what is a fantastic facility. They will from time to time need updating to reflect current regulations, so if you have any questions on what is contained here, please don't hesitate to bring it to the attention of a club officer.

1.0.04. These rules will remain in force until reviewed or formally revoked with the authority of the Executive Committee.

*Robert Higham*  
Rear Commodore  
February 2013

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<sup>1</sup> Normally the Rear Commodore.

<sup>2</sup> The Principal Instructors' authority applies to formal RYA training only.

## 1.1 Precedence of Regulations

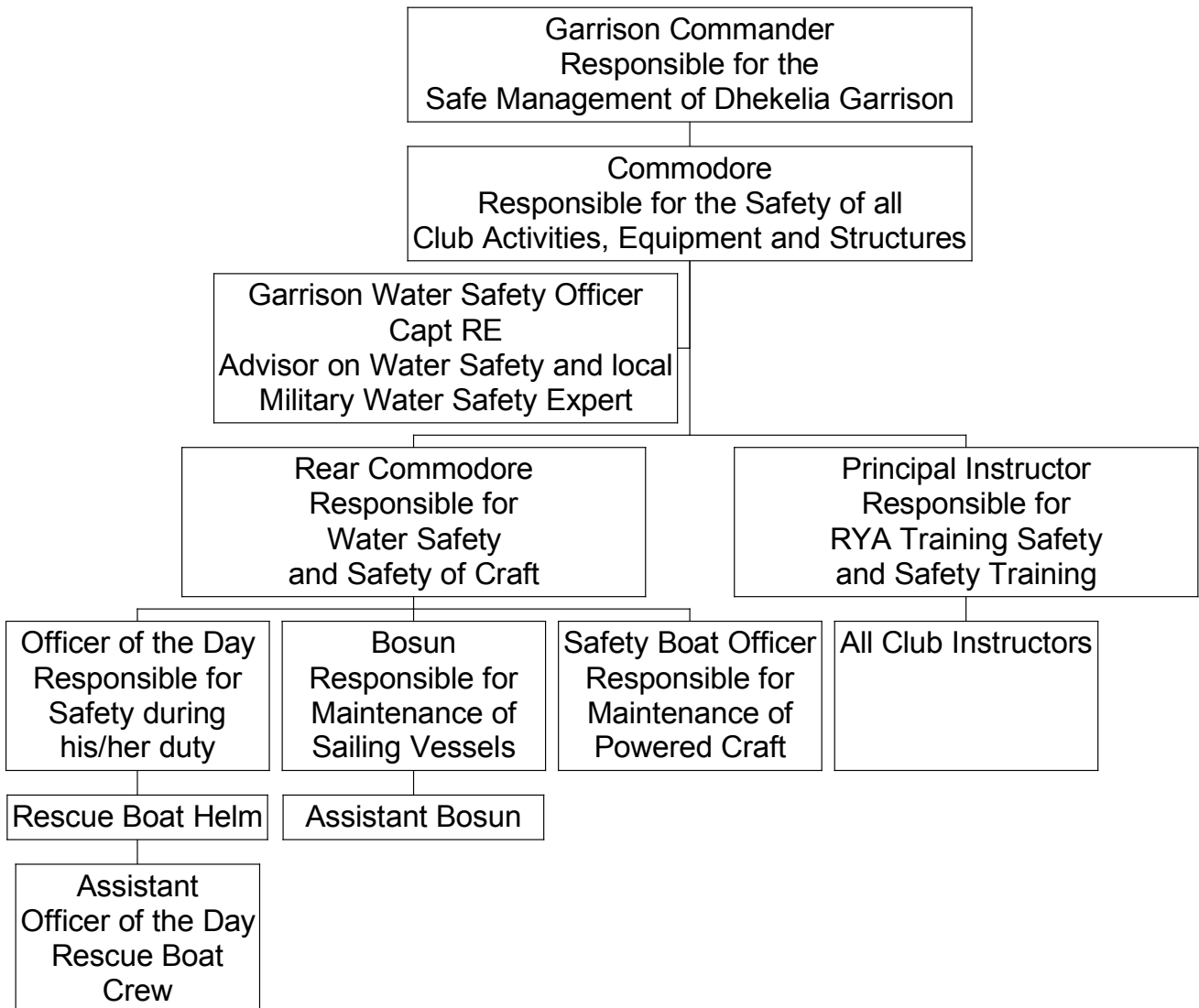
- 1.1.01. In order of precedence, the regulations referred to subsequently in these Rules are listed below:
- a. Joint Service Publication 375, MOD Health And Safety Handbook (JSP 375).
  - b. Army General and Administrative Instructions, Volume 1, Chapter 18, The Hazards of Water (AGAI 18).
  - c. British Forces Cyprus Standard Operating Procedure 225a, Water Sports Safety (SOP 225a).
  - d. RYA Guidance Notes<sup>3</sup>.
- 1.1.02 The following References are also referred to:
- a. DSSC Constitution.
  - b. HQ BFC Water Safety Committee Minutes.

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<sup>3</sup> Mostly subsumed into AGAI 18.

## 1.2 DSSC Water Safety Organisation

1.2.01. The DSSC Water Safety Organisation is illustrated below:



## 2.0 Use of Club Sailing Boats

- 2.0.01. All persons sailing in Club boats must be capable of swimming 50 metres, with buoyancy if necessary.
- 2.0.02. An approved Personal Buoyancy aid is to be worn at all times. It is the responsibility of the user to check this aid for tears, rips or breakages which may affect its performance.
- 2.0.03. Club members may sail in certain wind strengths according to their qualifications<sup>4</sup>:
- a. See Sailing Limitations
  - b. Beyond 25 Knots, Sailing in Club Boats is not permitted unless sailing under instruction by a RYA Instructor.
- 2.0.04. Club members have first call on the use of Club boats; Military Members<sup>5</sup> take precedence over civilian<sup>6</sup>. Casual visitors may be taken out by a Club member with the permission of the OOD. Non Club Members (visiting units, prospective members, etc) may sail club boats if they hold the appropriate qualification at the discretion of a Flag Officer, although temporary membership will normally be required for more than 2 days sailing.
- 2.0.05. Helms and crews who represent the Club in team races are to be selected by the Sailing Sub-Committee. The Sailing Sub-Committee may requisition boats for use by the team and visitors but adequate notice is to be given to the Club members. Minor damage is to be rectified by members of the team.
- 2.0.06. Club boats are to be used as follows:
- a. Cruising/Club Sailing. The oldest dinghies are to be taken first
  - b. Racing. All dinghies are available except that Albacore 7997, Laser 195087, 195088, 195089, 195090, 195091 and 195092, Laser 2000's 22032, 22034 and 22034 and the Hobie16 should only be used by experienced helms and at the discretion of the OOD or Rear Commodore.
- 2.0.07. No private equipment, ie sails, spars etc is to be used on Club boats (personal equipment, ie buoyancy aids, gloves, wetsuits etc are of course allowed). Any defects or deficiencies found must be reported to the Bosun via the Sign Out Log.
- 2.0.08. Boats are not to be beached at any time.

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<sup>4</sup> In the case of experienced sailors who do not hold RYA qualifications, they must satisfy the Principal Instructor as to their corresponding RYA Level.

<sup>5</sup> Including MOD Civil Servants.

<sup>6</sup> This rule is very rarely required.

## 3.0 The Boatswain's Store

- 3.0.01. Access to the Boatswain's Store should be available when ever the club is open. Spares consumed are to be noted on the SPARES CONSUMED REGISTER.
- 3.0.02. Club members requiring the use of club tools, are to acquire them via one of the Boatswain's store key holders and are to sign them out and back in.
- 3.0.03. All helms are responsible for ensuring that any space or facility used is properly tidied up and left "ship shape" on completion of any repairs. All tools used are to be returned to the boat shed and Boatswain's Store.

## 4.0 Basic Safety Information

- 4.0.01. An Officer of the Day (OOD) will be appointed for all Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays and any other days when there is organised racing or sailing. These appointments will be published on a monthly roster by the Sailing Committee. A copy will be displayed on the Club notice board. If the appointed OOD is unable to attend, he is responsible for arranging a substitute and notifying the Sailing Secretary or Rear Commodore(Sailing) of the change.
- 4.0.02. Whenever there is no appointed OOD someone must assume the role of OOD before sailing occurs.
- 4.0.03. Sailing is not permitted unless the following are present on the hard:-
- a. A nominated OOD or Assistant OOD of age 18 years or older.
  - b. A member of the Safety Boat Roster who will agree to act as Safety Boat Coxswain.
- 4.0.04. The Sailing Committee will keep displayed, on a notice board, a full list of members who have the Sailing Committee's approval to drive the rescue boat. These listed members are to have the minimum qualification of RYA Level 2 Powerboat Certificate or an equivalent qualification. The rescue boat is not to be used by anyone not qualified as above.
- 4.0.05. The safety boat is to be launched, fully equipped with tow rope, fuel, paddles, two life jackets and the engine tested and fitted, before sailing commences. The safety boat shall normally be at sea during racing and cruising, at the discretion of the OOD.
- 4.0.06. Personal buoyancy is to be worn at all times on the water, whether in a dinghy or the safety boat.
- 4.0.07. All helms are expected to behave as responsible Club members and are on trust to take care of boats at all times. Any flagrant breach of these safety regulations could result in a sailing ban for the member, administered by the Executive Committee.
- 4.0.08. When at sea it is a requirement of Maritime Law to be aware of other boats or vessels and to offer assistance to anyone thought to be in difficulties.
- 4.0.09. The nearest boat to a capsized, or a man overboard, should stand by until satisfied that they are not in distress and that the rescue boat is on the way. If you capsize and for any reason have difficulty in righting the boat always stay with it.
- 4.0.10. Cruising boats should sail, whenever possible, upwind of the Club.
- 4.0.11. Normal Club sailing will be permitted within the following bounds and always within sight of the Club.

- a. The easterly limit is the power station, in line of sight of DSSC.
  - b. The westerly limit is Dhekelia jetty.
  - c. The southerly limit is 2 mile offshore.
  - d. Sailing is not permitted in the area of Dhekelia jetty and the jetty pierheads when flag A (white/blue swallow tail) is flying from the jetty mast. Flag A indicates diving activity.
  - e. Sailing is not permitted in marked bathing areas.
- 4.0.12. The rescue boat will only be used for rescue, training and the laying of marks. "Joy rides" are not allowed unless authorised by the Commodore and at the Coxswain's discretion.
- 4.0.13. The International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea shall apply at all times except between yachts which are both racing, which will then be regulated by The Racing Rules of Sailing as amended by the Local Racing Instructions published later in these rules.
- 4.0.14. All Club boats shall conform to class rules except for variations approved by JSSB (C) and shall in any case have adequate buoyancy, secured as appropriate to the boat.
- 4.0.15. Single handed sailing in two man boats will take place at the discretion of the OOD, but only in winds up to Force 3.



## 5.0 Privately Owned Boats

- 5.0.01. Helms of privately owned and Regimental boats are requested to conform with the Dhekelia Services Sailing Club (DSSC) Rules whilst at DSSC. These craft may only be used by other than the owner with the specific permission of the owner.
- 5.0.02. Privately owned and Regimental boats (private boats) may be kept at the Club at their owners risk.
- 5.0.03. All private boats are to carry full insurance cover for Third Party and Public Liability risks (min €5,000,000) and the policy must be produced for inspection by the Committee.
- 5.0.04. Owners of private boats will be charged a facilities fee.
- 5.0.05. Rule 5.0.04 can be waived for the benefit of vessels visiting the Club for up to 6 days, ie for Regattas and Club events.
- 5.0.06. Helms of private boats are responsible for the provision of buoyancy aids and safety equipment.
- 5.0.07. The DSSC is not responsible for the welfare of helms and crews of private boats.  
Exceptions may be made in the event of private boats working as committee vessels.
- 5.0.08. Equipment and spares are not provided for use on private boats.
- 5.0.09. Full sailing members' privately owned boats may be entered for Club races.
- 5.0.10. The member must provide a suitable cradle or trolley for their own boat.