



To all Winsford Flash Sailing Club Members

As per our previous communication, our (Corvid) CV Action Group has now put measures in place to allow us to move towards a phased opening of our grounds, clubhouse and facilities.

This will take place over a period of time, in line with our understanding of the current Government guidelines and advice given by the RYA.

We hope this meets with your approval and expectations as a member of Winsford Flash Sailing Club.

Our phased 'Route Map' to re-opening (Issue 1) is attached to this email for your information. This is in 5 steps linked to the Government announcements and associated caveats communicated to us all earlier in May, where:

Step 1: - Initial start of Government un-locking in England. Manufacturing and Construction back to work. Meet one person in open air. Drive to beauty spot. Play Golf, Tennis and Sailing/Boating. Unlimited exercise but no sporting events. Other Sailing Clubs starting to allow 'recreational' Sailing.

Step 2: - Year 1 and 6 back to school. Other pupils have 4 weeks before Summer break. Go shopping non-essential shops. Behind closed doors sporting events. Sailing Clubs open for maintenance and 'recreational' sailing.

Step 3: - Start to go to pubs, restaurants and cinemas. Get haircut. Sailing Clubs start racing with Club facilities starting to open with Social distancing measures in place.

Step 4: - Vaccine available for over 70's and vulnerable people ... or significant reduction in 'R' reproduction rate. Sailing Clubs allowed to open facilities to vulnerable people and those who were self-isolating.

Step 5: - England is now in a steady state of a new 'norm'. Covid-19 under complete control.

Since the Government announcement to start easing the lock-down measures we have been in regular attendance at on-line RYA Workshops with other Sailing Clubs based in the North West, where we have been able to seek advice and learn from other Club's experiences.

With Government announcements anticipated for 1st June, we appreciate that Step 1 is almost over, and we will be moving into Step 2. However, it has taken the RYA, NW Clubs and ultimately ourselves 10 days to put together this re-opening route map.

Our phased re-opening will therefore commence from Monday 25th May (Step 1) where there will be limited accessibility to the grounds of the Club for essential maintenance and 'recreational' Sailing only.

From this date Members who do not have their boats at Dave Tomlinson's farm can start to bring them down to the Club using the same berths as last season. Members who have their dinghies stored at Dave's farm, ALL boats will be taken down to the Club by a small group on Sunday 31st May, putting them into same berths as last season (this will be done with communication with respective owners to enable necessary security measures to be made accordingly).

With reference to the attached route map we will then quickly move into Step 2 from Monday 1st June, at this point our Groups: Police; Sea Cadets; and Scouts will be able to bring their boats down using the same berths as last season.

Small working groups will be organised on Wednesdays (1600-1900hrs) and Sundays (1000-1430hrs) to continue where we left off in March, as well as prepare our Club facilities and Boats to be Covid-19 compliant for Steps 2 and 3. This will involve, but not limited to grass cutting, jetty repairs and berthing-rail repairs (activity led by James Blackford and Andy Cush), safety boats (activity led by Jon Close) and Club dinghies (activity led by Rosemarie Benson and Ian Foulkes). The first small facilities working group will commence on Wednesday 27th May.

From immediate effect, 'Recreational' Sailing will be allowed for members' own boat: either single-handers or single-household double-handers. People MUST only sail in conditions in line with their capability and do so, at their own risk. No Safety Boat or Club dinghies or Club clothing/equipment must be used.

Any 'recreational' sailing MUST be done in strict adherence to, and understanding of our revised Covid-19-amended Sailing Instructions 21.6 and 21.7:

21.6 - Members sailing when safety facilities are not available should take special care in all conditions. It is advisable not to sail, even in calm conditions, if there are no other boats within hailing distance. No 'recreational' Sailing above 15mph. Sailors to consider NOT launching if the wind speed is greater than 12mph from a WNW, Westerly or WSW direction.

21.7 - The Club is only able to provide safety facilities during Club Calendar events (racing, training and other planned events).

This means that in both Steps 1 and 2 there will be no safety boat facilities provided by the Club, as no Racing or Training will be taking place

Attendance to 'recreational' sailing will be limited to 10 boats on any one day. This will be on a first come first served basis, to ensure we can comply with social distancing, cleanliness and not to 'over-crowd' our grounds.

Members are required to come down changed ready for sailing, or get changed in their cars.

We MUST instruct all members who are planning to visit the club in any capacity to register their attendance by emailing steve.vandersteen@btinternet.com. This is so we can keep a log of who has visited the site, in the event that we are required to provide this information. If the limit of 10 boats has been reached Steve will inform you by reply to your email that you cannot sail on that day. This information will be managed in accordance with our club rules and the Data Protection Act 2018.

When in attendance at the Club you will have no access to the Clubhouse unless for essential, and later, routine maintenance. The exception to this Members will have access to the Disabled Toilet only on Wednesdays (1600-1900hrs) and Sundays (1000-1430hrs).

The Female and Male changing rooms and toilets must not be used; and the upper floor and facilities must not be used.

There will also be no access to the garage, workshop, Training Office, OOD Box or any storage container unless permission has been given by the associated 'activity lead'.

We will be setting up a duty rota, to allow the Clubhouse to be opened on the lower floor for use of the disabled toilets. This will be our registered key holders.

Outside of these times the clubhouse will remain closed, and will be 'double-locked'.

The use of the toilets will be under a one person in, one person out system. Where we will be expected Members to self-manage their hygiene and comply with social-distancing ... with strict adherence to the current Government guidelines. Members will be expected to use the hand sanitizer when using the disabled toilet, which will be made available from Wednesday 27th May.

Fishing from our club grounds and adjacent grounds is still suspended. Our CV action group will continue to liaise with Dave Tomlinson on this matter and will update our Members with any changes to this decision.

The security of our Club is still paramount. Therefore, please ensure your boat and trailer are locked up and the last person leaving the grounds, closes and locks the main gate.

If you or any members of your household are either: self-isolating for health reasons; or experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, you should not come to the Club for any reasons until you have complied with all the relevant Government guidelines.

If you have attend the Club and subsequently you have any COVID-19 symptoms/diagnosis please report immediately to jonathanlatham.wfsc@gmail.com and steve.vandersteen@btinternet.com

Government guidelines have been heavily caveated, linked to continual, positive trends with key measures, so everything (including our Route Map) could still be subject to change.

Our CV Action group will continue to meet on a weekly basis and react accordingly, whether: to changes issued by the Government; or to any advice given by the RYA; or to any issues identified by any of our Members as to the workability of our Plan.

A video of this communication has also been made available on both our Facebook Group and Website ... the link is: <https://youtu.be/JpCQBNQ0BQ8>

Any questions or issues with this communication can be address through either Steve Vandersteen or myself.

We hope to see you soon.

Jonathan Latham
Commodore

Steve Vandersteen
Vice Commodore Sailing

Sent on behalf of the WFSC CV Action Group