

# Hire of Medway Yacht Club (MYC) Sailing Dinghies and Keelboats

This hire policy shall apply to specified club sailing dinghies and keelboats hired by members when the hiring is not linked to organised training.

## 1. Specified club sailing dinghies and keelboats available for hire:

- Wayfarer, Pickle.
- Laser standard rig (brown hull).
- Squib, Mudlark.
- Sonata, Silver Lining.

## 2. Qualifications and Experience:

MYC club boats are available to hire only by Medway Yacht Club members. Members need to be approved to hire a club boat. The club office will liaise with the member hirer for administration.

To qualify for club boat hire the member shall meet all the following criteria:

- Hold RYA dinghy level 3 or RYA Youth sailing scheme stage 4 or have demonstrated in the current season sailing ability to that qualification skill level.
- Been approved by either the Chief Instructor or relevant Class Captain.

The member hiring the sailing dinghy or keelboat must be able to:

- Rig and de-rig the boat.
- Launch and recover the boat safely and in a seamanlike manner.
- Be familiar with hand signals or communications by radio (as appropriate) to call for assistance.
- Be dinghy winch trained if using dinghy winch.

## 3. Periods of availability and restrictions on use.

- During MYC sailing season.
- Boats shall be made available during club organised on the water activity which includes power boat support.
- To sail in the sail area of the club organised activity of racing or training and to sail within that organised activity timeframe.
- The member hiring the boat must inform the Officer of the Day (if racing activity on the water) or the Chief Instructor of their planned sailing.
- Regardless of member experience, no club boat hire will happen if the weather conditions are force 6 or above, either now or soon. The club office will liaise with the member hirer about re schedule or refund whichever is appropriate.
- The following can end the hiring session if it is deemed to be best in the interest of safety; Chief Instructor or Officer of the Day or Bosun or Flag Officers.
- Number of people aboard should be appropriate to the sailing vessel's design.

## 4. Equipment.

A correctly fitted personal floatation device must be worn by all persons on-board at all times.

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## 5. Losses and Breakages

The member hirer should email that the boat has been returned to where it was moored or parked in dinghy park. All losses and breakages shall be recorded. The member hirer needs to detail how boat was left in an email to the Club Office [office@medwayyachtclub.com](mailto:office@medwayyachtclub.com). Failure to report a loss or breakage will lead to the suspension of club member for hiring club boats.

MYC will make efforts to repair and replace equipment without a charge to the hiring member but, in the event that costs are incurred such costs up to £250 (two hundred and fifty pounds) shall be charged to the member.

## 6. Booking and payment

Club boats available for hire can be booked and paid for through the club office. This must happen in advance of the hire session. The club suggest a minimum of a week in advance to avoid disappointment.

Bookings shall be recorded by the club office.

## 7. Location The boats are stored:

- Sonata, Silver Lining: mooring 500. Hirer will need to arrange getting to mooring.
- Squib, Mudlark: mooring 427. Hirer will need to arrange getting to mooring.
- Wayfarer, Pickle: on club hard in front of clubhouse.
- Laser, brown hull: on club hard in front of clubhouse.

All sails and foils are in the boat.

## 8. Safety and Responsibility

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By hiring a MYC club boat, each hirer agrees and acknowledges that:

- They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst sailing.
- They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, the boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
- They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- They have checked the boat prior to going afloat and are satisfied it is in good order and equipped to sail in the prevailing conditions.
- The provision of any patrol boats by MYC does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
- The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- On keelboats, members are advised to carry a VHF radio, and be suitably trained in SRC radio communications.
- I will notify the Officer or the Day or the Chief Instructor on the day of my boat hire my intended sail area and time of return.