

# ROYAL TORBAY YACHT CLUB



## **Policy and Procedures for the use of TYST Dinghies during the Coronavirus (Covid19) pandemic and consequent restrictions.**

### **Scope**

This document sets out the club and TYST policy, procedures, and guidance to be followed whilst operating under Coronavirus (Covid 19) government restrictions and related guidance. It is limited to the use of TYST RS Tera and RS Quba dinghies for approved Squadron 13 activities. It covers their availability, booking and recording process, and safe operation.

This policy and guidance for other club on water activities will be issued as and when restrictions are further lifted and appropriate government and RYA guidance has been published.

### **Context**

Social Distancing is likely to remain as the main tool for reducing the spread of coronavirus for the immediate future, certainly for the summer sailing season.

Individual sailing (singlehanders) and two-handed or team sailing is now permitted as long as crew members are from the same household, social distancing is maintained between groups and hygiene precautions are observed.

Government advice is that outdoor sports activities such as sailing have an inherently low risk of spreading the virus as long as social distancing measures are maintained.

There is understandably a widespread desire to re-start sailing at RTYC, for all other sailing this is limited for now to individuals and household pairs/teams, participating in informal and self-organised activities.

TYST RS Tera's are now available for use by Squadron 13 on a restricted and controlled basis, and subject to a specific risk assessment. RS Quba's are available for single handed use.

Mary Gurine remains unavailable for use for social distancing reasons.

Club building. The club is not yet open for general use.

### **Local facilities.**

Harbourside WCs are now accessible but only by card payment, there are no other hand washing facilities on the harbour. Harbour office is now open but with staffing still reduced

### **Rib Authorisation**

Requests for Rib use to support Squadron 13 activities must be made to and authorised by Bob Penfold – Sailing Secretary and operated in accordance with the current version of the "Policy and Procedures for use of club RIBs for Recreational and Social Sailing during Coronavirus (Covid 19) pandemic" This can be found on the club website at <https://rtyc.org/management-and-safety/> .

## **Availability and Use of RS Tera's and RS Quba's**

The six RS Tera's and two RS Quba's (sailed single handed) will be available for use by Squadron 13 for use during designated Saturday training sessions.

The allocation of boats will be the responsibility of the Senior Instructor or Coach, this allocation should be recorded, and records maintained for each session.

Boats should not be used in wind conditions greater than 12 knots. All boats may be fitted with masthead flotation to minimise the risk of inversion and facilitate the righting of capsized boats from the mast head. The Senior Instructor will assess use of these based on experience and age of sailors, wind direction/strength and sea state.

Broken or missing items from boats to be reported to the Steve Huish immediately after each session so that repairs/replacements can be undertaken.

All Covid19 personal hygiene practices shall be undertaken by the user i.e. handwashing, use of hand gel, social distancing. Face coverings or masks to be worn by all sailors, instructors and volunteers.

All boats, booms, rudders, tillers etc should be washed down and sanitised after use and prior to stowing.

When it is not practical to wash/sanitise all parts of a boat after use a 72 hour quarantine period between the use of each boat is advised to minimise the risk of Covid19 surface transfer. This is the RYA recommended period for shared equipment.

First Aid Kit, Sanitiser, hand gel and PPE can be found in the RTYC Harbour store in a Blue box marked Covid 19.

Please ensure you dispose of used materials in a safe and responsible manner.

The Senior Instructor should make the First Aid Kit and Blue Box available on the Harbourside and ensure that it is returned to the Harbour Store on each occasion after use.

## **Policy Review**

This policy, the associated risk assessment and guidance are additional to the RTYC 2020 Risk assessment and Safety Management Plan and should be read in conjunction with them. It will be reviewed and updated in line with current and future GOV.UK and RYA advice and guidance.

## **Incident reporting**

The details of all incidents involving recovery of persons and assistance given should be reported without exception to Bob Penfold –Sailing Secretary as soon as possible. [sailingsecretary@rtyc.org](mailto:sailingsecretary@rtyc.org)  
Mobile 07970353660

If a driver or crew feels they may have been in too close contact with a sailor in the course of assisting them they should also advise the sailor or a parent (if under 18). If either subsequently think they may have developed Covid 19 symptoms either/both should seek medical advice and advise the Sailing Secretary