

WELSH HARP SAILING ASSOCIATION: BYE-LAWS: April 2014

1 Constituent Bodies of the Association

These are:

Welsh Harp Sailing Club (WHSC) (incl. University of London Sailing Club)
Wembley Sailing Club (WSC) (including Imperial College Sailing Club)
Sea Cadets

2. Distribution of minutes

Minutes of Council and Executive meetings shall be distributed to the Constituent Bodies and members of the Executive. Minutes of Committee meetings shall be distributed to the Executive. Constituent bodies shall ensure that all members receive a copy of the minutes.

3. Licences

a) Annual boat licences shall be displayed either on masts above cover level or, on boats with unstayed masts, on the transom.

b) The owner of every boat/trailer on site from April 1st of any year shall be liable for an annual licence fee at the current rate. It is the responsibility of each owner to make payment to the relevant Constituent Body on this date and to display a licence(s) on their boat(s)/trailer(s). The owner of any boat/trailer not displaying a licence 14 days after notice in writing (e-mail or letter) to the Constituent Body shall incur an additional charge equal to the current applicable licence fee. The owner of any boat/trailer not complying with the Byelaw shall remove the boat/trailer from site, failing which Byelaw 7 (d) will apply. Where the owner of a boat/trailer cannot be identified Byelaw 7 (d) shall apply without notice. Power boat trailers are exempted.

4 Permitted Boats

Only boats authorised by the WHSA are allowed on site. These are:

a) Sailing Craft:

i) Racing Classes: (Those that have a WHSA start in open or WHSA events)

Fireflies, GP14s, Merlin Rockets, Lasers and RS 200s, RS Fevas, RS Teras, Laser Picos. At the discretion of the Executive Committee they may be granted an open meeting with A-day status and a class start at WHSA internal events.

ii) Club Classes (Those that are used for racing or any other purpose within the constituent body. Where race courses are shared they shall participate only with the agreement of all participating bodies)

Sea Cadets

Topper, Bosun, Trinity 500.

Welsh Harp Sailing Club

GP14, Laser, Firefly, Challenger, RS Feva RS Tera

Wembley Sailing Club

Merlin Rocket, GP14, RS200, MRX, Firefly, Laser, Laser Pico RS Vision, RS Feva, RS Tera

All Clubs

Windsurf boards

iii) Training Classes

(All clubs) Cadet, Mirror, Optimist and look-alikes, Topper, Laser Pico, RS Vision, RS Feva and RS Tera.
(WHSC) Challenger.

(Sea Cadets) Laser Stratos, Laser 2, Laser 2000.

iv) Permission for other craft may be granted, to constituent and non-constituent bodies by application, on a licensed basis, at the discretion of the WHSA. This currently includes the restricted licensed use granted to the Sea Cadets in the use of kayaks paddleboards and pulling boats; Phoenix Canoe Club and Phoenix Outdoor Centre's use of Kayaks, Paddleboards, Laser Pico's, RSFeva, RSTera and RSVision; and WHSC's King Alfred Class boat.

b) Power Boats:

Every power boat shall be individually approved by the WHSA and used only for safety purposes or other official business. Users of WHSA boats shall comply with rules for their operation and with Byelaw 8 (g).

5. Access to premises and vehicles on site.

- a) Owners bring their vehicles on site at their own risk. Owners are responsible for any damage to person or property caused by their vehicles.
- b) Unless otherwise authorised, vehicles shall only be brought in through the Birchen Grove entrance and only for the purpose of transporting boats or delivering or collecting of heavy goods or tools.
- c) The Vehicular gates shall be kept locked except when being used.
- d) Vehicles shall only be parked on the forecourts of Constituent Clubs: three vehicles to park outside the former Seahorse building, three vehicles outside the Sea Cadet Building, two cars outside Wembley Sailing Club, one car outside WHSA boatshed and one car outside the former University of London building, with the permission of the WHSA. No other vehicles are allowed to park on site at any time.

6. Prohibited Area

Members shall not pass the Canals and Rivers Trust boundary gate on the headbank.

7. Use of harbour and berths

- a) Boats shall only be parked on berths allocated to them by club berth masters under the authority of the Harbour Master.
- b) Boats shall be tied down on their berths, and sailboards secured only on the racks provided or stored in their owners' Club premises.
- c) To accommodate site works Trailers maybe temporarily be left on allocated berths subject to the berth space being adequate, the boats being set Stern to the access path, and byelaw 7(e) obeyed. They may also be stored in the trailer park. Both options are on payment of the current fee. A current licence shall be displayed on all trailers on site and the owner clearly identified, failing which 7(d) shall apply). The Executive may move, immobilise, make safe or search any boat, board or trailer without being liable for any loss or damage, howsoever caused.
- d) Constituent bodies shall be responsible for the purchase and display of licences for all boats and boards belonging to themselves and their members. They shall remove boats and boards of ex-members at the earliest opportunity.
- e) Access paths shall be kept clear.
- f) Boats left overnight on trailers shall be parked only on the area near the Birchen Grove gate (accessed through the first gap in the dam wall from the main gate, or as directed by the Harbour Master).
- g) Refits and repairs shall only be done on berths if club premises are not available for this purpose. Tools and boat parts or equipment shall not be left on the ground in the berthing area.
- h) Boats may be careened on the grass provided that others, especially children, are not endangered.

8. Safety

- a) Persons disregarding normal safe practice in watersports shall be deemed to be doing so on their sole responsibility and at their own risk.

Normal safe practice on the Harp includes (without exclusion of other general rules and advice):

- (i) No sailing unless others are willing and able to render assistance are in the vicinity.
 - (ii) Personal buoyancy should be worn when on the water or on a pontoon;
 - (iii) Wet or dry suits should be worn when appropriate
 - (iv) Craft should not pass between any blue or yellow buoy and its nearest shore;(near Buoy No. 6)
 - (v) Craft should not enter the boom area by the dam wall/slucice gate.
- b) Adequate buoyancy should be worn by children under fourteen years old on the water side of the yellow line.
 - c) Boats should have buoyancy as prescribed by their class association, or in the absence of such prescription shall have their design buoyancy correctly maintained.
 - d) Swimming for pleasure is prohibited.
 - e) Pontoons shall be used only for sailing and training and not for spectating.
 - f) All craft shall have third party insurance.
 - g) Kill cords shall be used on ALL outboard engines
 - h) Members shall obey the instructions of rescue boat operators when being given assistance.
 - i) Provision of safety equipment by the WHSA is neither a guarantee of assistance nor an acceptance of responsibility for rescue. Should assistance be given to any person, no liability for any loss, damage or

injury to them, their crew and/or craft and its equipment is accepted by the WHSA or the crew of such rescue craft.

j) All power equipment owned by the WHSA shall be used according to manufacturers' recommendations, and protective clothing used where necessary.

k) All dinghies with deck-or hog-stepped stayed masts shall be fitted with permanent fixed forestays unless an alternative permanent restraining device is fitted to avoid the mast falling.

l) Lowered masts must not overhang pedestrian areas. Lowered mast ends must be made visible by the attachment of a brightly coloured and noticeable marker.

9. General conduct

a) Boats shall leave and approach jetties and pontoons at a speed and in a manner so as to minimise damage to other boats, pontoons or the foreshore.

b) Dinghies left unattended on jetties or pontoons shall have rudder removed, centreplate raised, mainsail lowered and jib rolled or lowered.

c) Boats when launched shall be taken along the pontoons as far as possible.

d) Launching trolleys shall not be left unattended in the water by the beach or on slipways.

e) Dogs are brought onto the site at their owners' risk and at the discretion of the WHSA (with the exception of guide and assistance dogs).

f) Dogs shall be kept on leads and under control. Any fouling shall be cleared up immediately by the person in charge of them.

g) Dog owners are liable for any damage to persons or property caused by their dogs.

h) The WHSA reserves the right to ask any member to remove either their car or dog from the site.

i) Audio equipment shall only be played through headphones or inside clubhouses and at a volume which does not disturb others

j) Cycling on WHSA premises is forbidden.

k) The WHSA reserves the right to ask any member to leave who brings the WHSA or any of its Constituent Bodies into disrepute or who either fails to abide by the bye-laws on a persistent basis or who prejudices the finances and/or safety of other members.

10. Sailing

a) All craft shall observe ISAF/RYA Rules regarding rights of way and the requirements that a boat not racing shall not interfere with a boat that is racing and that any boat shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

b) Members may sail at any time subject to the following:

Category D events are listed for information only.

On category C days the relevant club has the right to organise starts and decide the course, after which all others, if using the same marks, shall round them in the same direction.

On category B days no other racing is allowed.

On category A days no other craft are allowed on the water until racing is finished. On occasion this restriction may be in a designated zoned area of the lake (**AZ**)

Sailboards Use of sailboards on the water is subject to the discretion of the race or training officer of the day.

11. Sailing days (Category C)

Monday	evening	Sea Cadets
Tuesday	evening	WHSC
Wednesday	afternoon	WHSC/WSC (Incorporated University SC's)
	evening	WSC
Thursday	evening	Training for beginners No racing (other than for training)
Friday	evening	Sailboards
Saturday	morning	Training, sailboards, WHSC/WSC (Incorporated University SC's)
	afternoon	WHSC
Sunday	morning	WSC
	afternoon	All Clubs & Organisations Youth Fleet Racing