

Covid 19 - Risk Mitigation Measures for Practical Courses – Customer Information V6. (15 July 2021)

In accord with the Government roadmap Step 4 effective from 19 July we will resume full residential sailing for all standard [practical courses from that date. If the Government changes the policy and re-introduces some restrictions we will review this and may suspend residential sailing again.

Conduct of Courses Starting before 19 July

- a. Day sailing (Non-residential). We cannot run residential sailing courses with crews and skipper living together aboard. The yachts will return to the marina at the end of each day so customers can return home at night.
- b. We will not be able to use the yachts' galley facilities during courses. Instead, customers will be asked to bring a packed lunch.
- c. Wet Weather Clothing. See separate paragraph below.
- d. We will not apply a general requirement to wear masks in the open air. We will ask crews to wear masks when an activity requires working in close proximity or with more than one household group below deck. Customers will be asked to bring their own masks although we will offer disposable (non-medical) grade masks. Customers may choose to wear masks at any time at their individual discretion.
- e. There will be a strict regime of boat cleaning and hand-washing by staff and customers.
- f. We will ask customers to self declare their health status prior to a course and to repeat this on arrival on day 1.
- g. We will take customers' temperatures on arrival with an infrared thermometer.

Conduct of Courses Starting on or later than 19 July

- a. Courses will start at 0900 on Day 1 (normally Monday for 5 day courses and Saturday for weekends) and finish at 1600 on the last day. At the instructor's discretion yachts may remain away from the home marina overnight. This will be the case for some or all the nights.
- b. Courses will be live-aboard as they were before Covid and cabins may be shared.
- c. Provisions will be supplied for all meals to be taken aboard from lunch on Day 1 to lunch on the last day.
- d. We will not apply a general requirement to wear masks but customers may choose to wear masks at any time at their individual discretion. We may ask for masks to be worn in situations where 2 or more individuals may have to work in close proximity – eg when studying a chart.
- e. There will be a strict regime of boat cleaning and hand-washing by staff and customers.
- f. Customers will be asked to provide evidence of a negative result of a Covid Lateral Flow test made within 72 hours of the start time of the course. If a lateral flow test has a positive result customers are advised to get a PCR test and if this is negative they can join the course.
- g. We will ask customers to self declare their health status prior to a course and to repeat this on arrival on day 1.

Elite Sailing Staff and Facilities

Staff are briefed to maintain highest standards of compliance with social distancing on and off duty, to report any symptoms of infection or possible contact with an infected person and to withdraw from work and self-isolate immediately as required by regulations. Facilities are maintained in a hygienic condition with all areas, surfaces and equipment that customers may contact cleaned regularly.

Customer Health Declarations

A few days before each course or event the instructor and every customer will be sent an email asking for a personal health declaration. You will be asked to declare, by email, that:

‘To the best of my knowledge I (and all members of my party attending with me) do not currently have symptoms of Coronavirus and in the last 14 days have not had contact with an infected person or been asked to self-isolate due to reported contact. If before or during the course I develop symptoms or suspect contact with an infected person I will inform Elite Sailing immediately.’

You will be asked to repeat this declaration on arrival for a course.

Waterproof Clothing. Wet weather clothing hire is possible but while covid measures are in force availability can be limited and should be booked in advance. You can do that as part of the online booking process. The price is £7 per day capped at £21 per hire (so £14 for a 2-day weekend or £21 for 3, 4 or 5 days). The reserved and sized sets will be placed aboard yachts. Customers may not be able routinely to collect sets from the barge on arrival.

What to Bring with You

Refer to the appropriate packing list for non-residential sailing or residential sailing. The latter will include sleeping bags and an undersheet.

Masks. (We will supply disposable masks but best to bring your own).

Personal hand sanitiser

Packed Lunch and drinks for all courses starting prior to 19 July. (Note: fresh water suitable for drinking is available in the yacht’s galley but bring your own cup or mug.)

Waterproof clothing to suit the weather forecast. **NB This is very important. In colder weather unless you have suitable clothing with you or have pre-booked wet weather clothing with us you may not be allowed to sail.** See the section above on wet weather clothing.

Arrival Procedure

The marina car park and pontoon gate keypads are disabled and entry is only by card. At the car park use the intercom, saying that you are for Elite Sailing. At the pontoon gate, if you arrive on time +/- 30 mins you will be met by an Elite Sailing staff member. If you are early or late or there is no one at the gate call the Elite Office on 01634890512 and we will send someone to let you in.

Immediately and before proceeding further: Clean your hands using the hand sanitiser provided by the marina just inside the entrance gate. You will be asked to re-confirm your covid status and we may take your temperature.

We will then direct or escort you to your boat or admit you below deck on the barge (classroom courses only).

On Boats

Current regulations applicable prior to 19 July do not allow overnight stays on boats so we will return to the marina at the end of each day so you can return home and come back the next day.

Prior to 19 July: The instructor will welcome you and explain safety procedures including the following measures:

1. Careful social distancing between other people not in your household group.
2. Wear masks when training in close proximity to others.
3. Only one person below deck at one time with strictly limited exceptions (eg specific parts of safety briefings or 1 to 1 coaching when usually masks should be worn).
4. Stow personal items in your allocated space below deck as directed.

5. Frequent hand-washing using soap and water in the galley and/or sanitiser.
6. Cleanliness of the yacht with special emphasis on the communal areas including cockpit, toilet facilities and galley with disinfectant wiping of contact surfaces after every use.

From 19 July: The instructor will welcome you, allocate berths and cabins, and explain safety procedures including the following measures:

1. Maintenance of social distancing as far as is possible given the space aboard the yacht.
2. Frequent hand-washing using soap and water in the galley and/or sanitiser.
3. Cleanliness of the yacht with special emphasis on the communal areas including cockpit, toilet facilities and galley with disinfectant wiping of contact surfaces after every use.

What if you are unable to attend due to a Covid-19 event or become unwell during the course with Covid 19 symptoms?

You should inform Elite Sailing or your instructor immediately, withdraw from the course, return home and comply with Government or NHS instructions.

New terms and conditions allow for this event and we will allow postponement of all or part of a course to a mutually agreeable date with no penalty.

What if Someone Else aboard the boat Becomes ill with suspect Covid 19?

You instructor will report this immediately to the Elite Sailing Office Manager or Chief Instructor. A decision may be taken to suspend the course and ask all customers to return home and consider self-isolation. Terms and conditions allow for this event and subsequent postponement of all or part of everyone's courses to mutually agreeable dates with no penalty to any party.

A Detailed Risk assessment and mitigation measures is available via the Elite Sailing website Covid 19 page.

This policy and all measures will be reviewed continuously in the light of government policy and updated as necessary.

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