

Covid Measures: Milebuilder Sailing (Update October 2020):

The conduct of milebuilder sailing trips is compliant with government regulations and with covid-secure guidelines. These measures seek to minimize risk of infection for all customers, staff and third parties. No single measure can eliminate all risk of infection. But a systematic combination of measures targeting all possible channels of infection and transmission will minimise overall risk.

The principal effects of the safety measures on the conduct of milebuilders from 30 Oct 2020 are:

- a. Reduced maximum number of persons on Tonic of 6 crew plus instructor. This number is reduced from the pre-covid number of 8 crew and permissible within the exemption from the 'rule of 6' for organised outdoor sport.
- b. No sharing of cabins except by consent. Sharing of aft cabins will only be requested if both occupants are in the same household. Sharing of forward cabins with separate twin bunks will only be requested if both occupants agree. Milebuilder sailing is conducted in watches and shared cabin occupants will sail on opposite watches.
- c. Crews should bring their own bedding to include a sleeping bag or duvet and an under-sheet and pillow. Although mattress covers will normally be fitted it is essential that customers cover them with their own under-sheets.
- d. Lifejackets to be issued to individuals on arrival and retained by each person until the end of the trip when they will be quarantined for at least 2 days before re-use.
- e. There will be a strict regime of daily boat cleaning and frequent hand-washing by skipper and crew. Hand sanitiser will be made available at the yacht boarding point (see below).
- f. Removable berth covers will be washed prior to each sailing. (NB this does not remove the requirement for customers to bring and use an undersheet)
- g. Customers will be asked to bring a sleeping bag, lower sheet and pillow case.
- h. We will ask customers to self declare their health status prior to a course and to repeat this on arrival on day 1.
- i. We will take customers' temperatures on arrival at Chatham Marina using an infrared thermometer.
- j. Crew will be briefed and supervised so as to avoid situations where more than 2 household groups are present in the saloon and galley at any one time.
- k. Meals will be taken either on deck or, if below deck, in shifts of up to 2 households at one time. Meal ingredients and preparation methods will be adjusted to minimise handling and maximise hygiene. Meals may be prepared either by each individual for his or her own consumption or, if a collective meal is prepared, this is done by one person at a time with strict attention to hygiene. Detailed hygiene instructions will be published, made readily available in laminated form and briefed to crew on joining.
- l. Crews will be briefed to practice maximum social distancing by sailing in watches, keeping household groups together, splitting shared twin bunk cabin occupants across watches, maintaining maximum spacing on deck, avoiding passing each other in restricted areas such as below the companionway, in the galley etc.
- m. Shared facilities such as the galley and the heads (toilets) will be sanitised daily and all surfaces touched (including door and locker handles, door edges, worktops, taps) wiped with disinfectant after each and every use.
- n. Lifejackets and safety lines will be issued to individuals and not mixed. On change of crew lifejackets will be quarantined for at least 48 hours.
- o. Each person to make their own drinks and keep their own container separate – to minimise transmission by surface contact.
- p. Crews and skipper will wear face coverings (inc masks) in any situation that requires close consultation of charts and navigation equipment. Masks will be provided aboard but customers will be encouraged to bring their own and a spare.

Conduct of Adventure Sailing Ashore

The Skipper and customers will adhere to strict social distancing at all times when ashore. Visits to crowded indoor places should be avoided. On returning to the vessel from any shore visit everyone must wash their

hands with hand sanitiser every time and before boarding. All articles purchased ashore including food packaging is to be either discarded before boarding the yacht or if brought aboard disinfected by washing or surface wiping. All items of personal kit are to be kept in personal bags or personal cabin spaces.

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.

What to Bring with You

Face Coverings (including masks). (We will supply disposable masks but its always best to bring your own that you may be used to wearing)

Personal hand sanitiser

Waterproof clothing to suit the weather forecast.

Supplementary personal drinks and snacks. Note that these cannot be kept in the fridge.

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. If you arrive between 30 minutes before the start time and the start time someone will meet you at the pontoon gate. If there is no one there use the Elite Sailing intercom or call the 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.

We will show you a printed card and ask you to sign accepting the health declarations.

We will take your temperature using a laser thermometer. We will then direct or escort you to the boat.

The instructor will welcome you, assign cabins and explain safety procedures including the following measures:

1. Careful social distancing wherever possible between other people not in your household group.
2. Wearing of face coverings when social distancing isn't possible – especially below decks.
3. Only one person below deck at one time.
4. Stow personal items in your allocated berth/cabin only.
5. Frequent hand-washing using soap and water in the galley and/or sanitiser.
6. Cleanliness of toilet facilities and 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 milebuilder, return to Chatham or another port 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 is available via the Elite Sailing website Covid 19 page.

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