



Club Boat Hire Policy

Somers Yacht Club

This document establishes a policy for managing the use of the Club's fleet of boats, which includes: 6 Pacer training dinghies, 2 Open Skiffs, 2 Hobie Catamarans and an X3.

Introduction

Following a successful fundraising campaign, the Club has purchased 6 new Pacer dinghies. The fundraising campaign foreshadowed that the Pacers would be used to:

- support the success of the sailing school in bringing new sailors into the club
- provide a steppingstone for families and adults to continue sailing beyond sailing school until they purchase their own boat
- promote fun in sailing through teams racing events within the club and with other clubs.

Intent Policy

It is intended that the Club Boats be available for casual use by members when not required either by the sailing school or for club events such as teams racing. The boats are only available for casual use while a club event or social sailing is in progress and a club patrol boat is on the water or on standby. It is intended that this casual use will provide for members who are transitioning to the purchase of their own boat, or who have an occasional requirement for a two-handed dinghy; for example, to introduce visitors or relatives to sailing. The boats are not intended to be used as a long-term substitute for members owning their own boat. The boats are not intended for use by non-members except in the company of a member, where the members is in control.

Responsibility

1. This policy is administered by the Rear Commodore on behalf of the General Committee.

Priority

2. The boats are to be available for use in the following order of priority
- i) Scheduled Sailing School and Sailing School Events
 - ii) Scheduled club and interclub teams racing events
 - iii) Other casual use during club events with priority based on time of reservation

Online Reservations

3. Members may reserve a boat for their casual use during club events by an online booking site available through the club website.
4. Reservations are made in half day blocks.
5. A non-refundable fee of \$20 (2-person boat) or \$10 (1-person boat) applies to each half day online reservation.

Casual use

6. A boat may not be used unless it has been booked and paid for through the online booking system. There are no exceptions to this rule.
7. Unless otherwise authorised by the Rear Commodore, a member may only reserve a boat up to a total of 12 times in any two consecutive seasons.

Non-Members

8. Non-members cannot reserve a boat for use.
9. A non-member can only sail in a boat in the company of a member, where the member is in charge.

Return

10. After use, boats must be washed well and returned to their designated place in the yard. A short video on pack up is posted online on the Club Boat Hire page.
11. All sails and gear must be stowed in accordance with the instructions online.

Damage

12. A member must report any damage or defect in the boat by informing the Rear Commodore immediately on return of the boat. Phone Number found on Club Boat Hire page.
13. A member is responsible for the cost of the repair of any damage that occurs to the boat during the period of the member's booking.

Restrictions

14. The Rear Commodore may restrict a member's access to casual use of a boat. The member may ask the General Committee for a review of any such decision.