

British Keelboat League Qualifier, Rhu, 24th & 25th July 2021

EVENT MANAGEMENT PROTOCOLS

Preamble

Since 19th July, we are in Level 0. Covid Restrictions are still in place. RYA Scotland guidance includes:

- **Physical distancing requirements are still in place** - *As far as possible people must stay a minimum distance of 1m apart when meeting others from outside their household.*
- **People can meet in extended groups outside without physical distancing** - *Up to 15 people from up to 15 households at a time.*
- **People can meet indoors with up to three other households with physical distancing** - *Total 4 households at a time and up to 10 people.*
- **Public gatherings beyond the numbers above are not permitted.** *However physical distancing for participants and officials can be suspended during organised activity with a “field of play bubble” which does not include any social activity.*

Covid-19 is clearly still in circulation and we must not forget this. The following protocols are a framework for structuring and running the event.

RNCYC (the Club) and its officers will take all necessary precautions to make the event safe for competitors, race management team, clubhouse staff, staff and visitors to Rhu Marina.

The co-operation of all involved in the event is expected and all participants must act responsibly and in accordance with all Scottish Government advice and requirements. Crews should familiarise themselves with the content of this document and only attend if they are entirely comfortable with the provisions made. The decision to attend rests with the individual.

Please also consult RYA Scotland’s Return to Boating Guidance - <https://www.rya.org.uk/gbni/scotland/info-advice/return-to-boating>

All attendees shall be required to provide full contact details in advance and RNCYC shall hold these for 21 days in compliance with Test and Protect requirements.

Principles

Key to running the event safely will be the establishment of field bubbles as provided for in the guidance and advice published by the Scottish Government and RYA Scotland. The maximum permitted bubble size is 100. For this event, that means that the entire event can be considered a single bubble. The bubble principle applies only to the sailing and marina-based activities.

The organising authority will take a cautious approach and shall do everything in its power to avoid reliance on emergency services. In reality, this shall probably result in a lower high wind threshold for postponement/abandonment than might otherwise be expected.

Individual responsibility

Participants travelling by car should only do so with members of their own household (or extended household).

Anyone showing symptoms of Covid-19 MUST not attend the event. If anyone develops symptoms during the event, they should notify the Race Committee immediately, self-isolate and book a test.

While not required by the RYA Covid guidance, it is recommended that a face covering may be worn when not racing and when less than one metre from a fellow crew member or at all times while on a transfer rib, or downstairs on a hotel boat.

Marina-based activities

On arrival, you will be directed to the holding area, from this point the **event bubble** system is in operation and you must avoid contact with other members of the public.

Briefing will be undertaken on the shore, within the bubble, and without spectators. Access to, and egress from, the pontoons at peak times will be managed by bubble. Follow the instructions of the event officials. At all other times, normal social distancing principles must still be followed.

If sailing is postponed or abandoned, crews **should not congregate in the marina**, they should disperse.

End-of-day will be the reverse of arrival. On Saturday there may be a de-brief; On Sunday there will be a prizegiving.

Preparation

During changeover, antibacterial wipes should be used to wipe down key solid touchpoints, such as tiller extensions.

Sailing

Crews are *encouraged* to leave the confines of the marina at the earliest opportunity and get out into the open sailing area.

If ever there was a time to avoid contact with other boats, this is it. If boats do come into contact, protest or not, the Race Committee must be notified.

Registration, Briefings and Prizegiving

Registration will take place at the RNCYC shed. Please wear face coverings inside.

Briefings and prizegiving will take place outdoors in the marina car park behind the marquee in the coned off area. Due to potential close proximity, face coverings are advised. Such briefings should be limited to the event bubble, and spectators should not be part of briefing or prizegiving.

The Club will set up a communication arrangement using a WhatsApp group.

Protests

Any “off the water” protest meetings will be held via Zoom. Completed protest forms should be photographed/scanned and forwarded to the protest committee chairman by email. Protest forms will be distributed electronically before the event with submission details. It will be the competitors’ responsibility to print and carry forms for their use.

Hotel Boat

The hotel boat should be thoroughly cleaned and sanitised prior at start of each day. Hand gel, antibacterial wipes etc will be available on board, and should be used by teams on entry and exit of the vessel. Time below decks should be minimised, and a face covering should be worn while below decks. When the ‘heads’ is to be used, please use hand sanitiser before and afterwards, and wipedown with antibacterial wipes.

WIPES DO **NOT** GO INTO THE TOILET.

Changeover Rib

The changeover rib should be thoroughly cleaned and sanitised prior at start of each day. Hand gel, antibacterial wipes etc will be available on board.

Mark Laying

The marks will be delivered to the marina and sanitised before loading into the boats. At the end of day 1, fuel tanks should be taken to the marina car park. They will be sanitised and uplifted for refuelling and returned to the boats.

Committee Vessel

The CV should be thoroughly cleaned and sanitised prior to the Race Management Team going aboard. Hand gel, antibacterial wipes etc should be available aboard. Only the designated crew will be permitted aboard. Individuals on the CV will be allocated specific tasks. These should not change, and equipment should not be shared, thus avoiding the potential for cross contamination. There should never be more than one person below decks at any one time and preferably one individual should be assigned to duties that involve going below. On deck, social distancing should be observed between households. All necessary equipment shall be delivered to the CV in the marina and sanitised before putting aboard. Common hard surfaces should be sanitised. VHF radios should not be shared.

Hospitality at the Club

- Each boat must register their attendance with names and phone numbers for each member of the crew for Test & Protect, and we will keep the information for 21 days as required (by NHS Scotland and RYAS) on the RNCYC activity form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScU2b9OI-ozY-TuG2q8yVM0VpSMKbVO7tWCEwKns8_iZCXcug/viewform - QR codes are on the tables.
- Indoors there can only be 4 households per table and the tables should be 1m apart (this is not the same as a boat team, the people must live at the same residence). This may mean you only have one team per table.
- Tables will be outside if the weather allows.
- Face coverings must be worn when entering the building or moving around the building, especially when approaching the bar for service. They may be removed when seated at the tables.

Summary

Covid-19 remains a significant threat. The BKL event has specific concerns, and the Club has sought advice from both RYA and RYA Scotland guidance in drafting these protocols. Whilst these will mitigate risk it is incumbent on everyone to comply with social distancing rules and act responsibly.