



Boat and Board Hire Agreement

Boats and windsurfing boards can be hired only by sailing members. Please read this document and sign the declaration at the end.

General instructions applying to all craft, whether racing or not

“Sailing from GWSC is controlled by the Club and is subject to the Club’s Rules and Byelaws, the Byelaws of Anglian Water, and the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.”

Copies of these documents are available for you to read.

Reference: https://www.grafham.org/wp-content/uploads/_pdfs/Club%20Documents/Instructions-for-water-users.pdf

1 Safety

The helm of the craft is responsible for their personal safety and that of any others on the craft. It is the helm’s decision to sail or not. When the hirer is not the helm, the decision to launch rests with the hirer who should agree safety conditions with the helm to be applied when afloat.

2 Competency

The helm must be competent in the prevailing and expected weather conditions. The competence of any crew, and the suitability of the craft for those conditions, should also be considered. The recommended minimum qualification is:

- dinghy: for adults RYA Level 2; for young people, RYA Youth Stage 2
- catamaran: RYA Multihull Level 2
- windsurfers: for adults, RYA Start Windsurfing; for young people, RYA Stage 2

3 GWSC rules—you must

- comply with the requirements of the flag displayed on the flagpole nearest to the Coxswain’s shed (see chart available in the Office)
- comply with requests and advice from a safety boat
- keep clear of a safety boat attending a sailor or craft in difficulty
- do not enter any of the four no-go zones (see map available in the Office)
- do not land anywhere except on the Club’s foreshore unless in an emergency
- keep clear (at least 20 m) of a fishing boat that is actively fishing; 50 m is recommended

4 Personal buoyancy

The helm and any crew (or passengers) must each wear a personal flotation device at all times on the water. Personal buoyancy to ISO 12402-5 is advised. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.

5 Masthead floats

Masthead floats are provided for all Club dinghies and catamarans. They must be used. Only if agreed in writing (see below) with the Office before hiring will this requirement be waived.

6 Pre-inspection

Before and after rigging, inspect your craft for damage. If you find any, please report back immediately to the Office.

7 Damage report

If you damage your craft, report the damage to the Office after hire.

8 Adjusting rigging

You are advised not to adjust the craft's set up. If you do adjust the rigging, restore it to how you found it. Please report any adjustments or issues to the Office after hire.

9 Safety knives

The helm (and crew if a double-handed boat) are advised to carry a suitable safety knife.

10 Trapeze harness

You are advised to use a trapeze harness only if it is fitted with a quick-release hook. You are advised to ensure the harness is CE marked and conforms to ISO 10862.

Declaration

I have read and understood the requirements and advice.

(In the table below, sections in grey are advised but optional.) If the helm or crew are aged under 18 years, the signature should be that of a responsible adult

Medical information

You can leave relevant medical information on the form provided by the Office. This information will be stored confidentially until the hire is over and then destroyed.

Print name (helm)	Signature (helm)
Craft being hired	Fee paid (£)
Date	Morning/afternoon
Print name (crew)	Signature (crew)
Emergency contact name (for helm)	Relationship to the helm
Emergency contact phone (for helm)	..
Emergency contact name (for crew)	Relationship to the crew
Emergency contact phone (for crew)	..
Masthead float exemption: I have agreed with the GWSC Office that I will not use the masthead float because:	Signed: