

BOUGH BEECH SAILING CLUB BYELAWS (W.E.F 18TH JANUARY 2026)

ADMINISTRATION

A 1. An official membership card may be issued to each member and, if so issued, must be produced on request to an officer of the Club or a representative of the landlord. Members' details will be held in a register (Rule 18(b)).

A.2. For the convenience of members with families, children under 18 are admitted to the Club premises at the risk of their parents or guardians. Parents or guardians shall be responsible for ensuring children in their charge obey the Rules and Byelaws of the Club. Children and Youth Members under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult at the Club at all times. Children and Youth Members aged 16 and over inclusive may use the Club unaccompanied, subject to their parent or guardian signing the appropriate section of the membership application or annual renewal form. Children and Youth Members who are not sailing are not allowed on the slipway or onto the pontoon.

A 3. Members' boats/boards will be admitted to the reservoir and boat park only after receipt by the Club of the appropriate registration fee. Boats/boards shall at all times display the current mark(s) or sticker(s) issued by the Membership Secretary or their nominee. Places in the boat park will be allocated by the Estates Officer on an annual basis and a chart of these allocations may be displayed in the clubhouse. It is the member's individual responsibility to secure their boats against movement which could damage nearby boats. Where, as far as the GC can determine, a member has not used their boat for sailing at Bough Beech - either in the week or at the weekend - for the previous year, that member would be at the bottom of the list for boat space allocation in the current year.

A 4. The GC will appoint an Officer of the Day (OOD) at weekends, on public holidays and at other appropriate times. The OOD will wear a high visibility vest (or similar) for identification and have the delegated authority of the GC to take charge of sailing, to be responsible for the opening and closing of the clubhouse and running all aspects of Club activities in accordance with the Rules and Bye laws during their day of duty. Members and visitors shall obey their directions in these respects at all times.

A 5. The Club shall not be held responsible for any damage or loss to any article or property (including in particular, motor vehicles and their contents) deposited or left on the Club premises.

A 6. The Club, through its members, is responsible at all times for maintaining the Club's premises in a state of tenable repair. Any member wilfully or accidentally destroying or damaging any article or property of the Club or for which the Club is responsible shall on request pay the cost of repairing or replacing the same.

A 7. No member shall remove from the Club premises any article which is the property of the Club or for which the Club is responsible without the prior permission of an Officer of the Club, being a Flag Officer, Hon Secretary or Hon Treasurer. In the event of such permission being given, the member shall return such article immediately on being requested to do so by a Club officer.

A 8. Members undertake to use the premises so that no nuisance or disturbance is caused to SESW, other permitted water users or the owners and occupiers of neighbouring property.

A 9. Members shall conform with, perform and observe the requirements of the Licensing Authority (as advised from time to time by the GC) in every respect to ensure that the Club's licence or registration certificate is not forfeited, suspended or cancelled.

A 10. Members shall not use the Club premises or facilities for the purpose of furthering their business interests except with the written permission of the Hon. Secretary. Such permission shall be available for inspection by the OOD or an Officer of the Club.

THE RESERVOIR

B 1. Members shall do nothing whereby their actions may cause the reservoir or the water flowing into to be fouled, causing a deleterious effect on the quality of the water. They undertake to keep their boats and launching trolleys clean with this objective in mind.

B 2. In order to minimise the risks of contamination of the water and damage to other craft, road trailers shall not be used for launching dinghies. The General Committee may authorise the use of road trailers, in use as trollies, for its powered craft. The Sailing Committee may in exceptional circumstances and at its discretion authorise the use of a road trailer for launching a dinghy provided it is satisfied as to its state of cleanliness, and in the case of a dinghy road trailer, that it is kept in the boat park.

B 2 A. Attention is drawn to the danger of introducing invasive species to the reservoir and specifically the RYA guidance on Check Clean Dry for dinghies and trollies returning from other sailing venues, inland or at sea. Under no circumstances may dinghies or trollies, on returning from other venues, be washed down on the slipway.

B 3. Members are not permitted to fish from any place on the reservoir at any time. Members must also keep clear of any fishermen engaged in fishing or related operations at all times.

B 4. Under no circumstances shall a boat be deliberately capsized except for the purposes of training, bona-fide practice or other tests, and then only with the permission of the OOD or the Training Principal.

B 5. No swimming or paddling is permitted in the reservoir except in the event of a capsize or testing, or when launching or beaching boats. The Club cannot permit any 3rd party access to the reservoir for swimming or paddling.

B 6. Except in an emergency, landing is permitted only on or near the slipway in the Club's leased area at the south-eastern corner of the reservoir. No boat shall be moored or anchored on the reservoir save for the purpose of race management or training or to facilitate launching, landing or other safety purposes, except with the permission of the Hon. Secretary in writing.

B 7. No boat/sailboard/SUP shall pass to the north of the line marking the north eastern boundary of the sailing area shown on the plan of the reservoir. This plan is posted in the clubhouse and the area is indicated by a transit between white posts with triangular top marks on either shore and one or more marker buoys in the reservoir.

B 8. Members must clear away immediately any litter, wreckage or obstruction, floating, submerged or partially submerged, resulting from their activities. Any difficulties in fulfilling such obligations shall be reported to the OOD and their assistance sought. Any flotsam likely to be a hazard to water users must be reported immediately to the OOD who will notify Safety Boat crews who may be tasked to remove the hazard.

PREMISES

C 1. Since, under the terms of the Club's lease with SES Water, there are no rights of way or access to the dam wall, the fishermen's car park or the lands contingent with the reservoir beyond the Club premises (nor any for the general public or visitors). Members shall at all times observe the boundary limits of the Club's leased area and access route. Members of the public trespassing may be politely advised by the OOD but they must take no other action other than to record it in their daily log.

C 2. While access to the car and boat parks is allowed at all times during the sailing season use of the clubhouse may be restricted midweek.

C 3. No dogs, pets or other animals shall be allowed on the Club premises, including the reservoir, or in vehicles on Club premises.

C 4. Members shall be responsible for keeping the Club premises, including the Clubhouse and ancillary buildings, grassland and woods, boat and car parks, clean and tidy.

C 5. Members shall neither shoot nor cause disturbance to ground game or birds or to their eggs and nests. Members are obliged to maintain their boat space free of weeds and brambles but no hedges, trees, bushes or overgrown areas may be cut during bird nesting season which is nominally between the months of March and August inclusive. Any requests to cut trees must be sought from the Estates Officer or a Flag Officer.

C 6. No trees plants bushes or hedges shall be cut down or injured, nor may any digging or soil removal take place on the premises, except with the prior approval of the Club Estates Officer or a Flag Officer and subject to Byelaw C 5.

C 7. Radios (including car radios), gramophones, tape recorders and other similar instruments shall not be played out-of-doors on Club premises, except with the express permission of a Flag Officer.

C 8. No tent shall be erected, nor may any motorhome be parked, nor may any person sleep overnight on the premises, except on occasions for which the GC has arranged permission. Such occurrences will be recorded by the OOD in their daily log.

C 9. Cars shall not be parked in the boat park, the hardstanding around the clubhouse, nor the slipway area and Safety Boat ramp but shall be parked only in the car park. Board sailors may approach in their cars as far as the top of the slipway ONLY for as long as it takes to off load (or reload) their boards. Utmost care must be taken when driving vehicles on the premises due to the presence of adults and children, including other water users. Permission must be sought from the OOD if members need access beyond the limits of the car park area for any reason whatsoever. The Estates Officer will advise on the parking of road trailers.

C 10. Other than properly registered boats and trailers in the boat park, property shall only be left on the Club premises during the sailing season with the permission of the Clubhouse or Estates Officers.

C 11. Smoking, including electronic vape devices, is not permitted anywhere in the clubhouse building.

SAILING

D 1. Times of sailing will normally be from dawn until sunset, 12 months of the year. Any adjustments to these times will be posted by the Sailing Committee on the notice board in the clubhouse and notified to all members. Safety Boat cover is normally reserved for weekend sailing, including bank holidays, but not mid-week. When safety boat cover is not available at weekends members will be notified by electronic mail. When available, the OOD may fly the Club burgee from the flagpole to indicate the Safety Boat availability (top of mast) and non-availability, even temporary, (at cross trees) in accordance with OOD instructions.

D 2. Members should note that access to the reservoir is shared with fishermen, using the banks and in their boats, who have different priorities and fishing access times during the year, including major competitions. Members shall ensure therefore, that they sail only at times permitted, and always observe the minimum distance of 50 metres from any fisherman, ashore or afloat, although a greater distance is recommended.

D 3. Centre-board monohull sailing dinghies of overall length not exceeding 20 feet (6.1metres) and sailboards may be used on the reservoir. The GC may also permit temporary access to specific classes of drop keel boats. Fully foiling dinghies and catamarans are not permitted. The GC, on the advice of the Sailing Committee, may at its discretion exclude any specific class or craft which it regards as being unsuitable to be launched or used on the reservoir. (See Important Safety Notes).

D 4. Powerboats, petrol or electric driven, may not be launched or used on the reservoir except for the purposes of safety cover, race management, coaching and training, without the prior written authority of the Hon. Secretary, in accordance with the lease.

D 5. All boats must be adequately insured for third party risks. Guidance on what is adequate may be obtained from bona fide marine insurers and the RYA. Members must assert on joining and renewing their membership that their craft are adequately insured. If requested by the Sailing Committee or a Flag Officer, the Member shall produce evidence of adequate 3rd party risks insurance. Collisions and accidents involving boats or people sailing on the reservoir shall be the sole responsibility of the boat owners or sailors concerned. It is the relevant member's or members' responsibility to report such incidents to the OOD, who will record any incidents in the log for that day. Under no circumstances shall the Club, its Trustees, Officers, Committee Members or the OOD be liable for any damage or injury arising from such incidents, nor for any loss or damage caused by safety boats and/or their crews to the boats and gear of members during rescue or assistance operations.

D 6. Dinghies and sailboards vessel not taking part in an organised race must not fly racing flags and must keep clear of those that are racing. The SC may notify racers of special considerations to be given to hearing impaired or partially sighted crews, and may identify such on the vessel concerned.

SAFETY ON AND OFF THE WATER

E 1. Notwithstanding the authorised sailing times or authorisation by an OOD, the decision to go afloat as helm or crew in their own or someone else's boat shall at all times be the sole responsibility of the individual member. It is for each member to decide whether their competence and experience, and that of their crew, are sufficient for the prevailing weather conditions, and it is for each skipper to be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear, and that they are complying with Club safety requirements. In making such decisions, each member, crew and visitor must also take into account their own personal state of health and fitness to go afloat.

E 2. Every member shall give all possible assistance to any person sailing or windsurfing or SUPing and who is, or appears to be, in distress or requiring assistance.

E 3. No racing shall take place without a safety boat on standby duty. A committee boat on station to manage racing shall not count as a safety boat.

E 3 A. No RYA training or coaching may take place without support boats in the Instructor/Pupil ratios specified by that organisation.

E 4. There are no restrictions on members over the age of 18 years sailing or windsurfing or SUPing, in accordance with Byelaw D 1. Members are reminded however, that safety boat cover is unlikely to be provided other than at Club racing times and additional periods during weekends. Non availability of Safety Boat cover will normally be notified to all Members by electronic mail. Members and others shall take this into account in making any decision to go afloat at other times, which such action shall be entirely at their own risk and responsibility (See Byelaw E 1).

E 5. As is well known, sailing has its inherent risks. At times when no safety boat cover is available, the Club strongly advises that a minimum of two boats should be on the water at all times (aka 'Buddy Sailing'). In addition, Children aged under 16 must always be accompanied by a responsible and competent adult on the water in their boat. For children and youths, the two- boat minimum rule is mandatory and the second boat must at all times be in close enough attendance to offer assistance if necessary.

E 6. Young persons (under the age of 18 years) shall not act as Skipper of any Club power boat, except when under training in a course having the approval of the Club's Training Principal unless the young person is engaged in instruction as a qualified Dinghy Instructor on an approved training course

E 7. All dinghies and boards are required to have positive buoyancy appropriate to their class and usage, sufficient to support both craft and crew in accordance with relevant class rules where applicable. Owners and skippers must, on request, satisfy the Sailing Committee that the Club's requirements for safety have been met. The Sailing Committee may subject any dinghy or board to a buoyancy test at its discretion.

E8 Adequate personal buoyancy must be worn by all persons when they are afloat or on or near the pontoon/jetty. This must be appropriate to the size/weight of the individual and the activity in which they are engaged. It is the responsibility of each individual, or in the case of a child their parent/ guardian, to ensure this. Guidance on appropriate buoyancy is amended from time to time and is generally available from suppliers, the RYA or Club Officers.

E 9. Members must ensure that they and their crew wear appropriate footwear for their on-water activity, including safety boat and other duties afloat. It should be noted that wellington boots (including yachting types) are considered inappropriate footwear for dinghy sailing and safety boat duty due to the problems of re-entering the boat after a capsize. Members are strongly advised to wear suitable footwear when ashore on Club premises owing to the varied surfaces.

E 10. All sailors and safety boat crews shall wear wetsuits or drysuits when on the water between the 1st November and the 30th April. The OOD has the discretion to relax this rule for the months of November and April with regard to weather and temperature.

E.11 No catamarans, nor fully foiling dinghies, will be admitted to the Club.

Important Safety Notes On Hypothermia

(A) During cold weather, there is a very real danger of hypothermia when wet. Wind chill can accelerate the onset of the condition. The importance of wearing a wetsuit or drysuit cannot be over-emphasised. If not wearing either, clothing must be changed as soon as possible, especially after an immersion following a capsize.

(B) While waiting for rescue or assistance, keep as still as possible. Vigorous activity in cold water dissipates body heat more quickly than it can be generated. If you are in the water and a safety boat is not close at hand, it is important that you get out of the water as soon as possible, even if you only sit on top of the upturned craft. On no account allow yourself to become separated from the craft; stay with it and its buoyancy until assistance arrives. Members are strongly advised to carry a means of attracting the attention of the Safety Boat, the OOD or other dinghies, specifically, a whistle. Members may also wish to consider a means of self-help afloat, such as a safety knife for cases of entanglements.

(C) Members are reminded that it is imperative that persons receiving assistance from a safety boat obey the instructions of the Safety Boat Skipper immediately and without question. There will be times (e.g., other persons needing urgent assistance at the same time) when Safety Boat crews must leave their craft temporarily unattended and board the safety boat. It is Club policy that safety of persons has absolute priority over the recovery of property.

END

Honorary Secretary, 19th February 2026

NOTE: These Byelaws have been prepared by the General Committee (GC) under the authority of Rule 18(a) of the Bough Beech Sailing Club (BBSC – the Club). They have regard to the objective of the Club, Rule 2, the financial policy of the Club, Rule 29, and the covenants the Club has entered into in its lease from the landlord, SES Water (SESW), now under ownership of South West Water.

Prior to this review, the byelaws were reviewed in 2010 and last reviewed and amended on 12th December 2016. This latest review was agreed by the General Committee on 18th January 2026.