

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE SOUTHWATER DABLERS MODEL BOAT CLUB

CONSTITUTION 2023

1. NAME.

1.1 The club name shall be called “The Southwater Dabblers Model Boat Club.”

2. OBJECTIVES.

2.1 The objectives of the club shall be to encourage the building, sailing, and social activities associated with model boats.

3. AFFILIATIONS.

3.1 The club may be affiliated to any recognised association with committee approval.

4. OFFICERS.

4.1 Officers of the club will be: - Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer/Membership Secretary, Committee Member/Race Officer, Committee Member/Information Officer, Committee Members, hereinafter referred to as “the committee.” All officers shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

4.2 The affairs of the club shall be managed by the committee in accordance with the policy and directions of the Annual General Meeting. A quorum of the committee will be five members including Chairman (or nominated representative). Voting shall be one vote per member present. The Chairman a casting vote only.

4.3 The committee has periodic meetings during the year with a minimum of two meetings, not including the Annual General Meeting. The committee may co-opt members for the current club year and appoint sub-committees as required.

4.4 Organisers of events shall prepare fixtures and organise events in a calendar to be published on the club web site.

5. AUDITORS.

5.1 Two auditors shall be appointed by the A.G.M.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

6.1 An Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) shall be held in March when the annual reports and audited statements of accounts for the previous year be presented. Elections of the committee either by a paper ballot or a show of hands according to the wishes of the meeting.

6.2 Not less than twenty-eight days shall be given to all members of the time and place of the (A.G.M.).

6.3 Any motion for the A.G.M. shall be made in writing and sent to the Secretary to be received not less than fourteen days prior to the A.G.M.

6.4 Nominations for the committee shall be made in writing together with a statement that the nominee is willing to stand and sent to the Secretary not less than fourteen days prior to the date of the A.G.M

6.5 A preliminary agenda will be published on the club's web site not less than 28 days prior to the date of the A.G.M.

6.6 Voting on all matters in the agenda shall be restricted to one vote per senior member present. All other matters shall be decided on a show of hands at the discretion of the Chairman. The Chairman may exercise a casting vote.

7. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

7.1 An E.G.M. may be called by the Secretary at the request of one committee member and two senior members. The matter for resolution must be of such extreme urgency and importance that existing rules cannot be applied.

8. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

8.1 All Fees shall be determined at the A.G.M. Annual subscriptions must be paid in advance and become due on 1st May in each year or on acceptance. Membership cards shall be issued together with a copy of the group insurance policy.

8.2 Applications for Membership shall be proposed and seconded by Senior members of the club. The maximum number of members permitted not exceed 175.

8.3 Newly elected members shall pay a one- off joining fee. Members under 18 years old shall pay a reduced fee without a joining fee.

8.4 Members who have not paid by 1st June shall be deemed to have left the club and are liable, at the discretion of the committee, to pay the joining fee together with their subscription on re-joining.

8.5 The distinction of Honorary Life Membership may be conferred for special or long service in connection with the activities of the club. The distinction shall be conferred only at an A.G.M. by the members.

8.6 All monies raised shall be the property of the club and shall be deposited in a bank in the name of the Club. Cheque withdrawals shall be signed by any two of the following: - Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary. All administration costs will be paid from club funds. The Committee is authorised to purchase equipment or facilities for the general benefit of members or required by Legislation, and negotiate terms for licences / permits.

9. ALTERATIONS TO RULES.

9.1 Alterations to the Constitution or Rules can only be made at an A.G.M. or at an E.G.M

9.2 Proposals for alterations must be submitted in writing to reach the Secretary 28 days prior to the A.G.M. or together with the request for an E.G.M. and be circulated by means of the A.G.M. or E.G.M. notice, and call for an E.G.M. on the club web site.

10. EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE.

10.1 Interest in land may be acquired by purchase, lease or licence for the purpose of holding rallies or meetings as permitted by legislation or the Local Planning Authorities or for any other club activities.

11. DISSOLUTION

11.1 On dissolution of the club, an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened to decide the means of disposal of the assets of the club.

RULES 2023

1. GENERAL CLUB RULES.

1.1 Sailing is permitted at times shown on the club web site except when other lake users have priority.

1.1a Duties of Race Officer:- To organise yacht racing within the club.
To arrange a racing calendar for events and published on the clubs web site.
To arrange for results of events as required to be recorded and published on the club web site.

To endeavour to maintain a level of racing rules and behavior that conforms to the Model Yacht Racing Association rules and requirements and that of the Dabblers Club.

To liaise with the Model Yacht Racing Association as lead club member for affiliation membership.

To arrange for club member helpers to assist with the execution of duties as required.

1.2 At Southwater, sailing and the use of the amenities including the parking of vehicles must comply with locally signed regulations and with any instructions given by representatives of H.D.C. and or Southwater Water Sports Centre. Sailing to take place from the jetty / ramp with the gate which should be kept closed. A key is required to gain access to the jetty gates which must not be climbed on. Keys are available from the Country Park Wardens or Southwater Water Sports for a returnable deposit.

1.3 All classes of boat are permitted except boats powered by internal combustion engines.

1.4 Members shall pay due regard to the wild life on and around the lake.

1.5 Members shall at all times conduct themselves with due regard to the general public and other lake users. Unseemly behaviour will render a member liable to a warning or suspension for a period decided by the Committee which will be notified in Writing. Further or subsequent misconduct shall render the Member liable to expulsion by the Members at the next A.G.M. or E.G.M.

1.6 Very fast electric boats liable to interfere with the wildlife or members of the public are not allowed. Moderately fast electric boats are allowed at the discretion of the committee. The committee's decision on the suitability of boats is final.

1.7 Steam powered craft must comply with current regulations regarding boilers and must have an oil separator fitted. An up to date boiler test certificate must be available to view while boiler is in use.

1.8 During organised events at Southwater, members shall operate their boats from the concrete area inside the wooden jetties. Standing on the crowded wooden jetties during events is a safety hazard.

1.9 Frequencies other than 2.4 GHz are allowed from a peg board. Frequency Flags must be displayed on aerials at all times. A frequency- marked peg shall be taken from the peg board and clipped to the transmitter. It shall be replaced on the peg board with a peg showing the name of the member. Members must ensure that their frequency will not interfere with other users before switching on their transmitter.

1.10 Points of aerials (except “stubby “aerials) must be protected by a practice golf ball or similar.

1.11 When club events are run, the participants shall have priority over frequencies. Non-used frequencies are available for general boating. General Boating must not impede any completions taking place.

1.12 Junior members, (under 18 year’s old), must be accompanied, by a parent, guardian, or a nominated responsible adult when partaking in club activities.

1.13 Persons using a rescue boat must wear a buoyancy aid at all times. Waders are not to be worn in the rescue boat. When the boat is being used one person must at all times be in attendance on the jetty with a mobile phone to act as a watcher to call for help in the event of an emergency.

1.14 Members, guests or visitors using the club facilities and equipment do so entirely at their own risk. Any damage to property which is not covered by the club’s insurance the club cannot accept liability for injury, or loss scheme.

1.15 Any rules that may be required specific to locations used by the club may be introduced in the short term by the committee but subject to ratification at the A.G.M. or E.G.M. Rule 1.5 regarding conduct of members shall apply to any events where a member represents the Club or is using the Club Group Insurance Policy.

Constitution 2023 & Rules 2023 re-typed by Vice Chairman 4th March 2023 to reflect changes agreed at AGM 4th March 2023 to Rules 4.1