WARGRAVE BOATING CLUB

CLUB RULES

Members must read and adhere to these Club Rules, copies of which are displayed on the General Notice Board in the Clubhouse and in the Duty Member and General Information File.

1. **OPENING TIMES**
    a. Normal Club opening times are 2pm-6pm Saturdays and Bank Holidays, 10am – 6pm Sundays during April to September and 2pm-6pm weekdays during school holidays. The weekday opening times may be extended to 8pm or 9pm during the Wargrave and Shiplake Regatta Practice weeks.
    b. The Duty Member may suspend or cancel boating dependent on the river and/or weather conditions.
    c. General Boating (not under Section supervision) is NOT allowed when Red or Yellow Boards, between Shiplake and Marsh Lock as notified on the Environment Agency's website http://riverconditions.environment-agency.gov.uk/
    d. A committee member will endeavour to notify members by email if the club is closed due to adverse conditions.
    e. The General Boating Map is included as Appendix 1.

2. **DUTY MEMBER BOAT**
    a. The Duty Member must ensure that the Duty Member's boat is prepared as soon as possible after the Club opens and secured/put away when the Club closes.
    b. Detailed instructions for the use of the Duty Member's boat and its equipment can be found in the Duty Member's Handbook and General Information file.

3. **VISITORS**
    a. Members may bring occasional visitors to the Club during normal opening times up to a maximum of 3 times per annum, at the discretion of the Duty Member or a member of the General Committee. A visitor is restricted to a maximum of 3 visits to the Club per annum.
    b. Visitors' names should be noted in the Visitors' Log Book on the day of each visit. Visitors must sign the Log Book to confirm they are aware of the Club's Rules, especially those concerning safety.
    c. All Club Rules apply equally to members and visitors and members are responsible for making their visitors aware of the Club Rules.
    d. Club members are at all times responsible for the conduct of their guests.

e. A £3 fee per guest should be collected and recorded against their names in the Visitors' Log Book.
f. Children under the age of sixteen may not bring visitors without an accompanying adult and all children must be signed into the Visitors' Log Book by an adult

4. ADULTS:

a. Refer to Appendix 2 for rules about using boats and buoyancy aids
b. May take out a Skiff, Punt or Rowing Shell if approved or under instruction and have paid the Fine Boat Supplement.
c. May use a Rowing Virus Boat if instruction has been received.
d. Unless the adult member has specific closed cockpit kayaking (WBC Explore) certification, or is with an instructor, members are not allowed to use (closed cockpit) kayaks
e. Kayakers with WBC Discover / Explore certification can only go out in groups of 3 or more as long as there is a minimum of 2 WBC Explore certified kayakers in the group. The group needs to stay within the boundaries permitted by the club (see Appendix 1).

5. CHILDREN

a. Children are defined as those who have not yet reached their 18th birthday and apply to both members and children who are visitors..
b. While on Club premises, and in Club craft, parents or guardians are responsible at all times for children in their charge.
c. Refer to Appendix 2 for rules about using boats and buoyancy aids.
d. Children over fifteen may use a Skiff or Punt in Club opening times, if they are approved or under instruction from an approved trainer and have paid the Fine Boat Supplement
e. Kayakers over fifteen and with WBC Explore certification can only go out in groups of 3 or more as long as there is a minimum of 2 WBC Explore certified kayakers in the group. The group needs to stay within the boundaries permitted by the club and no spraydecks are allowed

6. SWIMMING TEST

a. This test involves swimming the width of the river and climbing onto the bank unassisted.
b. Swimmer must wear normal clothing e.g. t-shirt, shorts and boat shoes. (No wetsuits allowed.)
c. A Committee member (or an adult member nominated by a Committee member) will supervise each test from an accompanying dinghy.

d. The names of all children who have passed this test will be displayed for reference and listed in the Duty Member's Handbook and General Information file.
e. Swimmers must be in Year 4 (or equivalent) or above.

7. CLUB CRAFT

a. General Club craft can be taken out only during Club opening times.
b. All craft must be signed out, in advance, in the Duty Log Book during Club opening times.
c. Outings in Club craft are nominally for 30 minutes. This period may be extended at the discretion of the Duty Member.
d. To avoid damage, all Club craft must be lifted and not dragged when being moved on land.
e. Club craft are marked 'WBC'.
f. After use, all Club craft and equipment must be left in a clean and tidy condition and replaced in the allocated position inside the boat room. Boats and other equipment should only be left out after use at the specific request of the Duty Member.
g. Members must have received punting tuition before punting in a Racing Canadian canoe.

8. SHOREBASED SAFETY

a. Whilst on Club premises, members must conduct themselves in a responsible manner.
b. Members must not climb on boats, storage racks, building or fences etc. The pontoon must only be used for getting on or off craft.
c. Members must exercise care when moving about the Club to avoid injury by equipment, slippery conditions etc.
d. Suitable footwear must be worn at all times.
e. Members should familiarise themselves with the location of the first aid box and fire extinguishers.

9. WATERBORNE SAFETY

a. Members and their guests must acknowledge and be aware of the inherent dangers of the river and any water-based activity, and conduct themselves accordingly.
b. All members must wear a correctly fitting buoyancy aid in accordance with the guidance included as Appendix 2, regardless of their swimming ability.
c. The Club has the declared aim of promoting safe use of the river by providing equipment and craft of adequate quality, training courses and instructional events.

d. Members must obey any instruction from officers of the River Inspectorate, Environmental Agency or River Police.
e. No member may approach within 100 meters of weirs or go through locks unless under formal instruction or during an organised trip.
f. Any damage to Club equipment must be reported immediately to the Duty Member who will note it in the Duty Log Book and remove the equipment from service.
g. Members must navigate according to the Rules of the River.
h. Members participating in any waterborne activity must be satisfied that they are competent in that activity so as not to cause danger to themselves or others.
i. Members must exercise care in order to avoid personal injury or damage when launching or recovering craft.
j. All members must observe the safety rules and precautions applicable to the activity being undertaken.
k. Accepted navigation rules must be obeyed at all times by those using Club craft.
l. All members and guests must take extra care when in the vicinity of private boats moored or moving in and out of Thameside Marina (John Bushnell Ltd.) and Club craft must not enter Thameside Marina (including entering the marina from upstream).
m. All Club craft must be secured bow and stern while moored at the Club.
n. Members must offer assistance to anyone in difficulty but without endangering themselves

10. KAYAKING/CANOEING SECTION

a. All members must wear a correctly fitting buoyancy aid regardless of their swimming ability.
b. All members must read and comply with the Canoe Section Safety Document displayed on the Section's Notice Board.
c. Any member using a kayak during Club opening times must be on the list of Approved Paddlers.
d. Kayakers with WBC Discover / Explore certification can only go out in groups of 3 or more as long as there is a minimum of 2 WBC Explore certified kayakers in the group. The group needs to stay within the boundaries permitted by the club (see Appendix 1). Unless the adult member has specific closed cockpit kayaking certification (see above), or is or with an instructor, members are not allowed to use (closed cockpit) kayaks.

11. SKIFFING SECTION

a. All members of this Section must read and comply with the Skiff Section Safety Document displayed on the Section's Notice Board.

b. Members must have paid their Fine Boat Supplement and have either been approved or under tuition from an approved trainer.
c. Juniors must be Year 7 or above and be able to reach the stretchers while seated in the boat.

12. ROWING SECTION

a. All section members will adhere to the British Rowing Safety Document. A copy is displayed on the Section's Notice Board.
b. Members must have paid their Fine Boat Supplement and have either been approved or under tuition from an approved trainer.

13. PUNTING SECTION

a. All members of this section must read and comply with the safety document displayed on the Section's Notice board
b. Members must have paid their Fine Boat Supplement and have either been approved or under tuition from an approved trainer.
c. Juniors must be Year 7 or above.

14. STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING SECTION

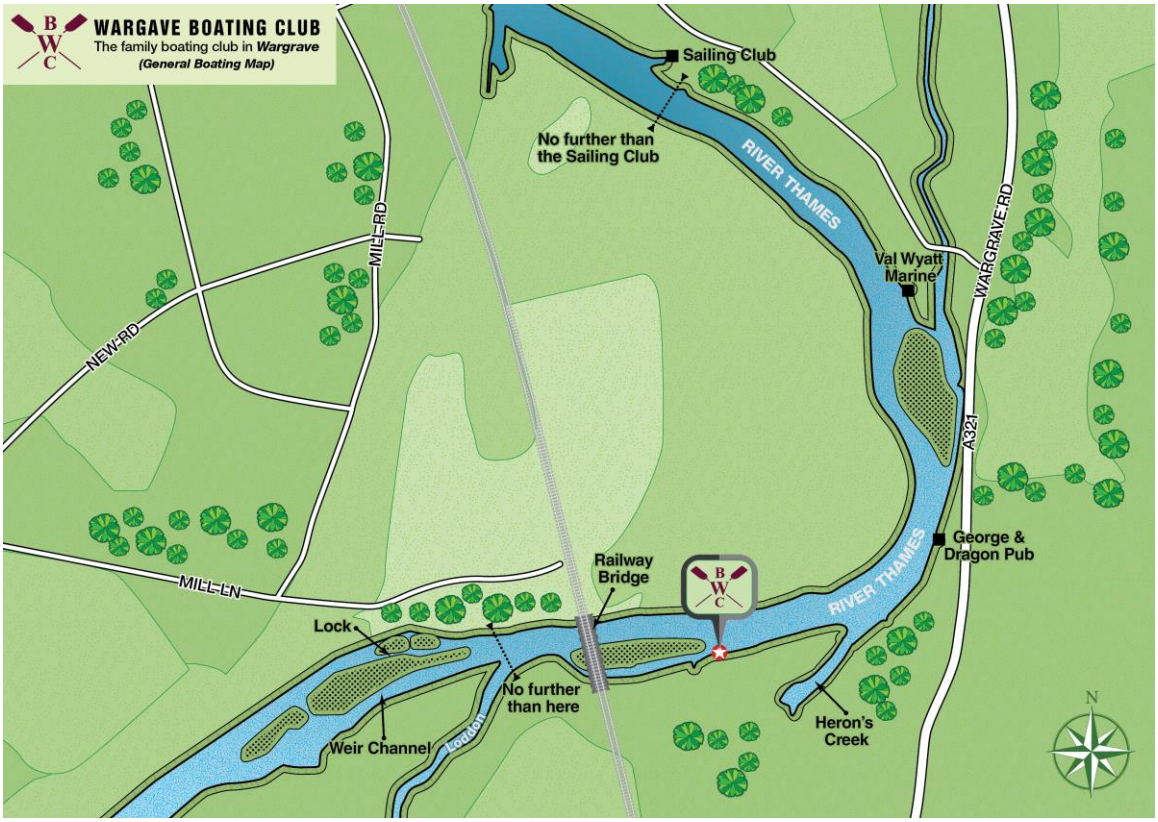
a. All members of this section must read and comply with the safety document displayed on the Section's Notice board.
b. Members must have been approved or under tuition from an approved trainer.
c. Juniors must be Year 7 or above.

15. GENERAL RULES

a. Club membership can be suspended and/or terminated at any time at the discretion of the Committee.
b. Rod fishing from Club craft or on Club premises is not allowed.
c. Swimming to and from Club premises is not allowed (other than if undertaking the Club Swimming Test).
d. The field adjacent to the Club on the downstream side is private land and must not be entered without good reason.
e. All adult members are expected to perform at least one Duty Member per Club season. During their first year of membership, new members should undertake one session in the company of an experienced member.
f. Vehicles can be taken onto Club premises only in an emergency or for the purpose of loading/unloading supplies, in relation to equipment for the Club or for building maintenance. Vehicles may be temporarily prohibited from the Club for operational reasons.
g. Bicycles should be parked tidily using the racks provided so that they do not cause an obstruction.
h. Dogs are not allowed on Club premises

i. No member may purchase or arrange to purchase capital equipment for or on behalf of the Club without the specific permission of the General Committee
j. BBQ equipment can be used after the end of club sessions but must be completed before 10pm.
k. Keys to the Club premises are to be provided at the discretion of the Committee
l. No smoking on Club premises.

Appendix 1 - General Boating Map



APPENDIX 2

Wargrave Boating Club - Boat and buoyancy aid usage

		Under 12 years old		12 years to 18 years		Adults	
		Always accompanied by an adult		Children under 15 must be supervised on club premises by an adult			
		Not passed swim test	Passed swim test	Not passed swim test	Passed swim test (or with parent/guardian consent if over 15)	Non Swimmer	Swimmer
Kayak	Activity	✗	✗ see below	✗ see below	✓ see below	✗	✓ see below
	Buoyancy Aid						
Sit on kayak	Activity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
	Buoyancy Aid						
Canadian Canoe	Activity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
	Buoyancy Aid						
Stand Up Paddle Board	Activity	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓
	Buoyancy Aid				see below		see below
Dinghy	Activity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	PFDs						
River bank	Activity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	PFDs						

Kayaks	Kayaking is not permitted outside of courses other than kayakers with WBC Explore certification who can only go out in groups of 3 or more as long as there is a minimum of 2 WBC Explore certified kayakers in the group. The group needs to stay within the boundaries permitted by the club and no spraydecks are allowed.
Buoyancy Aids	A Buoyancy Aid is just that, an Aid to Buoyancy. It assumes the wearer can, to a degree, help themselves to either swim back to the shore or swim enough to get themselves back to a boat. It therefore assumes that help is close at hand, that the conscious wearer can swim or is comfortable enough in the water to wait for assistance. Ensure your buoyancy aid fits well to avoid it restricting your movement when paddling or rowing and also to ensure it does not ride up if you do find yourself in the water.
✘	This activity is not permitted
✔	This activity is permitted