



## **TEWKESBURY CRUISING AND SAILING CLUB**

### **OPERATING PROCEDURES**

## **SAFETY CODE OF PRACTICE**

In order to maintain a continued high standard of safety, Members and visitors to Tewkesbury Cruising & Sailing Club are required to observe the following guidelines:-

Please ensure BEFORE going afloat that your craft is fully serviceable and fit for the conditions.

If you are alone then you should let someone know your plans and also take a phone with you in a suitable water tight pouch or container.

If you are inexperienced do not go afloat if you are unable to cope with rough conditions.

Be aware of other river users and understand the 'rules of the river. Powered craft have right of way so any unpowered craft should keep clear. Also keep a lookout for fishermen's lines.

Keep a good lookout at all times, and maintain the highest possible standards of Seamanship.

### **PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES – PFD (Lifejackets and buoyancy aids)**

#### **LIFEJACKETS:**

The virtues of Lifejackets are:

It will turn the wearer onto their back in the water even if they are unconscious.

The Lifejacket uses sealed cell foam as the built-in permanent buoyancy. This remains buoyant even if the covering is damaged.

Acceptable life jackets are manufactured to the British Standard 3595/69 and bear the standard Kitemark.

#### **BUOYANCY AIDS:**

There are a wide range of attractive buoyancy aids on the market.

Experienced sailors and strong swimmers racing under Safety Boat supervision may find buoyancy aids adequate. The more efficient buoyancy aids whilst not coming up to the BS3595 standard are approved by the Ship and Boat Builders' National Federation.

Parents are reminded that it is a Club Rule that Junior and Cadet members under the age of 16 must wear personal buoyancy at all times when afloat and around the landing stages.

Other members may use discretion and judgment relating to the prevailing conditions or as directed by the Officer of the Day and/or Race Officer in the sailing instructions posted on the Course Board at the Race Hut, and the flying of the appropriate flags.

**INTERNATIONAL CODE FLAG 'Y'**

If flag 'Y' is being flown from the club and race hut masts then PFD's must be worn.

**INTERNATIONAL CODE FLAG 'N'**

This Flag is flown on the Flagstaff outside the Clubhouse at the discretion of the Officer of the Day and Race/Safety Officer when conditions are considered to unsuitable for novices.

**SWIMMING**

Parents and Members are warned of the dangers of swimming in the river. There is a serious health risk due to sewage discharges, effluent run-off from fields and also natural hazards such as Weil's Disease. Also, with increased powered river traffic, there is a real danger of personal injury.

**SAFETY BOAT COVER**

The site and Clubhouse are open to Members and their guests every day during the recognised sailing season (normally late March to early December). However, Safety Boat cover is only provided on Sundays and racing events as set out in the sailing programme.

If Members go afloat on occasions when Safety Boat cover is not available it is their own responsibility to take appropriate safety measures according to the prevailing conditions.

Third Party Insurance cover to comply with Rule 29 is a condition of membership and must be available for inspection if requested.