

BOAT RULES



1. Only those members authorised to Cox the club boat may take the boat out. The Cox will be in command of the boat and the expedition at sea. The boat may only be used for club dives and training purposes unless specifically authorised by the Diving Officer (D.O.).
2. The D.O. will maintain a list of those members authorised to Cox the boat. The requirements for inclusion on the list depend partly on formal qualification and partly on seamanship experience.
3. The Boat Officer or his deputy (B.O.) will keep the boat keys, and will only release them to an approved Cox on receipt of an acceptable dive plan.
4. On a club dive the Cox must always be a club member or under exceptional circumstances, have prior approval from the D.O. and B.O. Of the balance of divers at least 50% must always be club members. It will not be permitted for the club boat to be utilised without the minimum 50% of divers being members without specific exemption being given by the diving officer and then only in extenuating circumstances. Non-members will pay double the members boat fees
5. The rules relating to boat petrol are that the boat must be filled up after all dives and the spare tank empty. This way, members only have to fill the spare tank before diving. If the tank is found to be empty the previous users will be responsible for paying for any shortfall in fuel.
6. All damage sustained by the boat and its equipment shall be the responsibility of all the members of the boat party including the Cox. If the party includes non-members then the members inviting them shall be responsible for underwriting their share of the costs of any repairs.
7. The B.O. shall sign out and back the club boat and its equipment and shall adjudicate as to whether the boat has been returned in acceptable condition. The fact that the B.O. may not notice some damage or incorrectly confirm that the boat is in good condition shall not remove the requirement of the users to make good damage if it is discovered at a later date.
8. To ensure safety the boat should not be used more than 10 miles offshore unless accompanied by another similarly equipped boat operating as reciprocal cover.
9. At all times there shall be at least one person licensed by the radio authorities to operate the club VHF radio. When members are diving the boat cover persons should always include at least one person proficient in the use of the radio.
10. The club's insurance specifically prohibits the use of club boats for water-skiing or any other form of towing.
11. Upon return the boat must be cleaned and washed out and fresh water be run through the engine.
12. The final authority in the use of the boat shall be the B.O. Nothing herein contained shall exempt any member of a boat party from taking all appropriate precautions for the prevailing conditions.