

LOCH TUMMEL SAILING CLUB (LTSC)

Foss, By Pitlochry, Perthshire, UK, PH16 9NQ

Safety Boat Policy

(Issued under the authority of the committee¹)

The following policy applies to all LTSC members and their guests without exception and has been approved by the General Committee of the LTSC.

1. Primary use of the safety boats

The safety boats are provided for safety cover of sailing boats and club water-based activities held on Loch Tummel. They are not to be used as leisure craft.

Safety boats are deployed on club activities principally to safeguard life and secondly to safeguard property. In the event of multiple incidents requiring rescue assistance the safety boats' crews will focus on recovering anyone on or in the water and only then assist with the recovery of equipment and property.

2. Personal Buoyancy Aids

Club safety boats are to be crewed by 2 club members: a driver and a crew member. Both **MUST** wear a serviceable buoyancy aid or life jacket which conforms to BS EN 393 1994 and carry the CE mark of approval. Buoyancy aids are to be worn whenever people are in the boats and in accordance with club byelaws. They must also be worn by any passengers carried in the boat. It is good practise that buoyancy aids rather than bulkier life jackets are worn by safety crew whilst deployed on race duties as they allow more freedom of movement.

¹ Updated: 11 April 2018

3. Kill Cord Usage

The safety boat driver **MUST** have the engine kill cord attached to themselves at all times while the engine is running – with **NO** exceptions.

4. Driver Responsibility

The safety boat drivers will be responsible for the safety of the crew and all other passengers carried within the boat.

5. Activities for which the safety boats may be used

There are four main areas for which safety boats may be used:

- a. Standard Club Activities (i.e. Day Racing, Family Days, Regatta, Tummel Week).
- b. Individual sailing, out with normal club activities (e.g. an evening sail activity).
- c. Official club sail training and coaching events
- d. Powerboat training activities and courses.

6. Age restrictions for use of Safety boats

- a. There must be a club member over the age of 17 present in any boat at all times the engine is running. The only exception to this is when the prior permission of the club's safety boat co-ordinator has been given.
- b. Club members under the age of 15 may not crew the safety boats until they hold a valid Powerboat Level 2 certificate and they have the approval the club's safety boat co-ordinator.
- c. Club members under the age of 12 may only be present in a safety boat for the purpose of being rescued or for club approved training.

Summary Table

Age Group	Standard Club Activities	Individual Sailing out with Normal Club Activities	Official Club Sail Training Activities and Coaching Events	Powerboat and Safety Boat Training
17+ years old	Can drive and crew safety boats*	Can drive and crew safety boats*	Can drive and crew safety boats*	Only committee appointed Powerboat Instructors or club members are allowed to run powerboat: courses, training and challenge events. Once an activity is underway then it is then up to the powerboat instructor to decide what activities the various age activities can do.
15 to 17 years old	15+ can drive and crew safety boats as long as a 17+ is also present*	15+ can drive and crew safety boats as long as a 17+ is also present*	15+ can drive and crew safety boats as long as a 17+ is also present*	
Under 15 years old	Not allowed to be in the boats unless being rescued or returned to shore unless they hold a Powerboat Level 2 certificate and have the permission of the club Safety Boat Co-ordinator.	Not allowed to be in the boats unless being rescued or returned to shore unless they hold a Powerboat Level 2 certificate and have the permission of the club Safety Boat Co-ordinator. Must have a 17+ member present in the boat at all times.	Not allowed to be in the boats unless being rescued or returned to shore unless they hold a Powerboat Level 2 certificate and have the permission of the club Safety Boat Co-ordinator.	
Under 12 years old	Not allowed to be in the safety boats unless being rescued or returned to shore.	Not allowed to be in the safety boats unless being rescued or returned to shore.	Allowed on the boats but only as part of an organised sail training or coaching activity.	Powerboat training will not be offered to any club member under 12 at the club.
Boats Available	All safety boats However, there must be a second safety boat moored alongside the powerboat jetty ready to be deployed.	All safety boats	All safety boats.	All safety boats.

7. Accident and Emergency Procedures for the duty race and safety team

The following procedures must be followed in the event of an accident/incident leading to injury or the need for first aid or emergency medical treatment to be given.

- a. Initial first aid treatment will be given onboard the safety boat by the safety crew as appropriate.
- b. The safety boat will communicate by radio with the race box to prepare them to arrange appropriate shore reception for the casualty.
- c. The safety boat driver will stay with the injured person until another first aider or emergency services take over.
- d. If the injury is more serious and an ambulance/first responder is required the safety boat driver will inform the race box who will call the emergency services.
- e. The race box personnel will co-ordinate the following:
 - I. Arrange appropriate shore reception to facilitate the transfer of the casualty from the safety boat to the shore.
 - II. Arrange a first aider to relieve the safety boat driver.
 - III. Arrange an ambulance/first responder to be called if required.
 - IV. Arrange for a person to go to the top of the club drive at the junction of the main road in order to meet the ambulance/first responder and guide them to the casualty.

8. Major Incident Procedure

Priority should be given to the casualty at all times but please implement the Emergency Action Plan as quickly as possible. A copy of this can be found on the Official Notice board in the link corridor.

The accident book should be updated. This can be found in the drawer above the first aid cupboard in the kitchen.

9. Visiting Safety and Coaching boats

From time to time the club will be required to bring in power boats to use as safety or coaching platforms. If the club rents or leases boats for this reason the club itself will arrange, through the club's insurer, insurance cover for these boats including third liability while the boats are at the club.

If boats are brought in by club members, other sailing clubs or sailing class associations/members, these boats must carry their own insurance for this purpose. This insurance must also cover anyone who drives them. The insurance policy must cover bodily injury or death to any person onboard the vessel and hold a minimum of £2,000,000 third party liability.

The Event Co-ordination Team may ask to inspect these documents at any time.

10. Boat Safety Equipment

Whenever the boats at the club are deployed on safety boat duty the following equipment **MUST** be carried aboard. It is the driver's responsibility that this equipment is complete and carried whilst on safety duty².

Fuel (petrol only – sufficient for the day's activity)	Throw line
Bailing bucket	First aid kit*
Towline	Whistle*
Thermal blanket*	Club UHF radio
Engine tool kit*	Paddles
Spare kill cord*	Anchor and line
Kill cord and engine key	Fire extinguisher
Serrated knife	

¹The safety equipment is to be placed inside a grab bag and placed inside a bailing bucket carried in the safety boat.
