



# GORING THAMES SAILING CLUB

## GENERAL RULES

*(As last amended by the Annual General Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2013)*

### 1 NAME

The name of the Club shall be The Goring Thames Sailing Club.

### 2 OBJECTIVES

The object of the Club is to provide facilities for and promote participation of the whole community in the sport of Sailing and dinghy racing on the Thames in the Cleeve Reach and adjacent reaches and the provision of sailing and social facilities for its members.

### 3 BURGEE

The Club Burgee shall be on a dark blue ground with a light blue wavy stripe from luff to fly a letter 'G' in gold.

### 4 HEADQUARTERS

The Club Headquarters shall be at the Clubhouse, Cleeve Reach, Goring on Thames, or at such other premises as the Committee may decide, but no agreement for sale, purchase, lease or tenancy of any freehold or leasehold property shall be entered into without the approval of the members in General Meeting.

### 5 MEMBERSHIP

- a) The classes of membership are Life, Honorary, Family, Joint, Sailing, Social, Student and Temporary.
- b) Life membership and Honorary membership are only available in special circumstances at the discretion of the Committee and with the approval of a General meeting.
- c) Family membership applies to a family unit consisting of one or two parents and their children aged 5 to 18 years. Children under the age of 18 are not entitled to vote or to hold office in the Club. Children below the age of 5 do not count when considering membership classes.
- d) Joint membership applies to two people living at the same address. One joint member may be under 18 years of age.
- e) Sailing membership applies to one person over the age of 18.
- f) Social membership applies to one person who does not take part in any water-based activities from the clubs premises, including but not limited to sailing and canoeing.
- g) Student membership applies to people aged 16 to 25 in full-time education.
- h) Temporary membership is available on application for classes c to g. Such membership shall not exceed five days unless the people concerned are members of a club affiliated to the RYA. Temporary members shall not introduce guests to the Club, nor be entitled to a boat parking space and shall pay, if required, a membership fee of 15% of the appropriate category. Persons under the age of 16 shall not only be entitled to the benefits of temporary membership, in so far as their parents or guardians join as temporary members.

### 6 ELECTION OF MEMBERS

- a) The election of all new members, other than Honorary members, shall be approved by the Committee, unless on a majority vote, the Committee agree that there are substantial reasons for declining the election of the member.
- b) Each candidate for membership shall complete a proposal form to be prescribed by the Committee and shall indicate the class of membership desired.
- c) Membership of the Club shall be open to all persons irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs; or of age, sex or disability except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of Sailing as a particular sport. The club may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as

conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club's members and decided by a majority vote of the members present at a SGM or AGM.

- d) After election, a candidate shall become a member on payment of his entrance fee and subscription.
- e) Honorary members shall be elected only by a General Meeting.

## 7 OFFICERS

- a) The officers of the Club shall consist of a Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Rear Commodore, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Hon Sailing Secretary and Hon Membership Secretary. The officers shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the succeeding Annual General Meeting when they shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election, except that no member shall serve as Commodore, Vice-Commodore or Rear Commodore, the posts being considered separately, for more than 2 consecutive years, and no member shall serve as Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Hon Sailing Secretary or Hon Membership Secretary, the posts being considered separately, for more than 4 consecutive years, that is, unless no other candidates come forward and the officer is re-elected unopposed.
- b) The Club may also elect a President and up to 3 Vice-Presidents.

## 8 COMMITTEE

- a) The management of the Club shall be vested in the Committee, which shall consist of the Officers and up to 5 other members and may deal with any matter not specifically dealt with in these rules. Five shall form a quorum, at least one of which shall be an Officer.
- b) The Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting when they shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election, except that no member shall serve as an ordinary member of the Committee for more than 6 consecutive years.
- c) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members for special purposes.
- d) The Committee shall meet from time to time as they think necessary and when required to do so by the Commodore or his deputy.
- e) The Committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees of four or more members excluding the Commodore or Vice-Commodore and the Secretary who shall be members of all sub-committees. Junior members may serve on a sub-committee at the discretion of the main committee notwithstanding the provision of general rule no. 5.
- f) No sub-committee shall deal with the purchase or supply of intoxicating liquor.
- g) The Committee shall make, vary and annul such Byelaws and Regulations as it shall from time to time think fit and shall cause the same to be exhibited in the Club premises for 14 days before the date of final approval by the Committee. Such Byelaws and Regulations shall remain in force until set aside by the Committee or by a vote at a General Meeting.
- h) No member of the Committee shall take or hold any interest in any property belonging to the Committee otherwise than as a trustee for the purposes thereof, or receive any remuneration, profits, salary or emoluments from the funds or transactions of the Committee, or be interested in the supply of work or goods at the cost of the Committee.
- i) If at any time the Committee shall decide that the purposes of the Committee cannot in the circumstances continue to be carried on and that the Committee should be dissolved, then the balance of the assets remaining after payment of all debts shall be transferred, as approved by the committee, to another registered CASC (Community Amateur Sports Club) registered charity or the RYA, this being sailings' Governing body, for use by them in community related sports.

- j) The Income and Property of the Club shall be applied solely towards promoting the Club's objectives as set forth in these rules and no surplus Income or Property of the Club shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, to the Members of the Club or to third parties, other than as stated in clause 8(i).
- k) The committee shall have the power to move members' property as approved by the committee to aid in the efficient running of the club.

9 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- a) Any member may resign by notice in writing to the Secretary at any time.
- b) The Committee may terminate the membership of any member whose subscription has not been paid by 31st July in any year.

10 SUBSCRIPTION

- a) The subscription shall be due on 1st March in each year and may be different for different classes of members.
- b) The entrance fee and subscription of new members shall be due on election.
- c) (i) New members joining after the 31<sup>st</sup> August need only pay half the subscription and boat parking fees (if any) for that year unless renewing from the previous year; there is no reduction in the entrance fee;  
(ii) Members bringing boats to the club after 31<sup>st</sup> August need only pay 50% of the annual boat parking fee.
- d) Members paying their subscriptions by 15th March shall be entitled to a discount.
- e) New sailing, family or joint members who are not renewing from the previous year, may delay payment of their entrance fee providing that;
  - (i) in the case of sailing members, the member is registered unemployed, or
  - (ii) in the case of family or joint members, one adult is registered unemployed, and
  - (iii) in either of the situations specified in (1) and (2) above the entrance fee is paid to the club within 6 months of the individual no longer being registered as unemployed.

11 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in November of each year for the purpose of:
  - (i) Receiving the Report of the Committee as to the affairs of the Club for the past year;
  - (ii) Receiving the Report of the Treasurer and the audited accounts of the Club for the financial year last expired;
  - (iii) Electing the Committee;
  - (iv) Fixing the amount of the subscription for each class of member and the entrance fee for the coming year;
  - (v) Considering the election of such persons as the Committee may recommend as President, Vice-President or Honorary members of the Club;
  - (vi) Any other business of which notice has been given to the Secretary not later than 1st October or which has been included in the notice of the Meeting by the Committee.
- b) Notice of the date, time and place of the Meeting and the business to be conducted shall be displayed on the Club notice board for at least 14 days before the Meeting.
- c) Nomination for the Committee shall be in writing supported by a Proposer and a Seconder and must reach the Secretary not less than 3 days before the Meeting. Unsuccessful nominations for Officers shall be included in nominations for the other members of the Committee.

12 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A Special General Meeting shall be called:

- a) Upon a requisition in writing to the Secretary signed by not less than 5 members stating the business to be discussed;
- b) On the resolution of the Committee.
- c) The Meeting shall take place not more than 28 days after the requisition or resolution. Notice of the date, time and place of the Meeting and the business to be discussed shall be displayed on the Club notice board for at least 14 days before the Meeting.

13 TRUSTEES

There shall be not less than 3 Trustees of the Club. Any vacancies shall be forthwith filled by new Trustees to be appointed by the surviving or continuing Trustee or Trustees or, in default of such appointment being made, nominated by the members of the Club at a General Meeting. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination, the Commodore is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new Trustees of the Club within the meaning of Section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925 and he shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons nominated by the General Meeting as the new Trustee or Trustees of the Club and the provisions of the Trustee Act 1925 shall apply to any such appointment. The land belonging to the Club shall be vested in the Trustees to be dealt with by them as the Committee shall from time to time direct.

14 CHANGES

The rules may be amended only by a majority of two-thirds of the members attending and voting at a General Meeting to which proper notice and particulars of the proposed amendments have been given.

15 CONDUCT OF THE BAR

- a) Except as provided in b), c) and d) below, no intoxicating liquor shall be supplied otherwise than to a member who has been a member of the Club for at least 2 days, or whose nomination or application for membership was made at least 2 days before his admission to the privilege of membership.
- b) Bona fide guests of members may consume intoxicating liquor on the Club premises subject to:
  - (i) No member shall be entitled to introduce more than 3 bona fide guests into the Club at any one time.
  - (ii) The names and addresses of all guests and the name of the member signing them in shall be entered into a book maintained for that purpose, such a book to be kept on the premises.
- c) Intoxicating liquor may be supplied to members and officials of teams visiting the Club for the purpose of participating in a match or to individual entrants in Club open events, but this does not include spectators or supporters.
- d) Intoxicating liquor may also be sold to non-members attending the Club premises for social or other functions organised or authorised by the Club, provided that the number of such functions shall not exceed 12 in any one year, but no functions shall be permitted to which non-members may obtain admission by payment of money at the door whether for a ticket or otherwise.
- e) No intoxicating liquor shall be supplied for consumption off the premises except to a member in person.
- f) No intoxicating liquor shall be supplied to any person under the age of 18 years.
- g) The permitted hours shall be:

Mondays to Saturdays	11.00 am – 11.00 pm
Sundays (except Christmas Day)	12 midday to 10.30 pm
Good Friday and Christmas Day	12 midday to 3.00 pm and 7.00 pm to 10.30 pm
- h) A list of the names and addresses of all members shall be kept on the Club premises.

## 16 LIABILITY

Members of the Club, their guests or visitors, may use the Club premises and any other facilities of the Club entirely at their own risk and implicitly accept:

- a) The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property, which belongs to members, their guests, or visitors to the Club.
- b) All members are responsible for insuring their own boats. The Club will not accept responsibility for inspecting boat insurance certificates to check their validity.
- c) The club will not accept any liability for personal injury arising out of the use of the club premises, and any other facilities of the club, or out of participation in any race organised by the club, whether sustained by members, their guests or visitors, or caused by the said members, guests or visitors, whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to or was occasioned by the neglect, default or negligence of any of the officers, committee or servants of the club.
- d) Before inviting any guests or visitors onto the premises or to participate in events organised by the club, members will draw their attention to this rule.

## 17 ABANDONED PROPERTY

In addition to the power given to the committee under rule 9b hereof, if at any time any fees payable to the club by any member or former member shall not have been paid by 30<sup>th</sup> April in any year and the property of a member or former member remains upon club premises, the committee may:

- a) Move the property to any other part of the club premises without being liable for any loss or damage to the property howsoever caused;
- b) Give one month's notice in writing to the member or former member at his last known address as shown in the club membership list and thereafter dispose of the property as the committee shall see fit;

Provided always that proper evidence is available to show that all reasonable steps have been taken to trace a member or former member.

## 18 PROHIBITION OF SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited at all times in all buildings which are the property of Goring Thames Sailing Club: explicit notices to this effect shall be permanently and prominently exhibited in all rooms and other sub-divisions of such buildings.

## 19 UNSAILABLE BOATS

- a) Club members shall not be entitled to store dinghies on the clubs' premises which are not sailable, or in the case of other boats, unusable.
- b) Where the committee decide that a boat has remained on the clubs' premises for more than 6 months in such a condition, the committee may, regardless as to whether or not the member is otherwise entitled to store the boat on the premises by virtue of being a member;
  - (i) Move the property to any other part of the club premises without being liable for any loss or damage to the property howsoever caused;
  - (ii) Give one month's notice in writing to the member or former member at his last known address as shown in the club membership list that the committee require the boats removal or repair within 6 weeks of the date of the notice, failing which, the committee may thereafter dispose of the property as the committee shall see fit;

Provided always, that proper evidence is available to show that all reasonable steps have been taken to trace a member or former member.

*(End of the GTSC General Rules as last amended by the Annual General Meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> November 2013)*



# GORING THAMES SAILING CLUB

BYELAWS - (As at 24<sup>th</sup> November 2013)

**BYELAW 1** General Behaviour - Members shall cooperate in every way to maintain decorum and good manners within the Club, and to conserve its good name. Members shall be responsible for the good behaviour of their guests whilst on Club premises.

**BYELAW 2** Care of Boats - Members shall ensure that boats belonging to other persons are at all times treated with due care and not unnecessarily interfered with.

**BYELAW 3** Vehicles on Club Property - Vehicles, including bicycles, motorcycles and cars, shall be brought onto the Club site solely as a means of transport directly to and from the site, and for no other purpose.

**BYELAW 4** Dogs and Other Pets - Members shall ensure that their pets are kept under proper control on the Club site, and that said pets do not annoy or interfere with or reduce other persons' enjoyment. Additionally, should a member's animal foul any part of the site, that member shall immediately clean up the same.

**BYELAW 5** Swimming - During a period extending from one half hour prior to the commencement of racing organised by the Club, until the termination of said racing as confirmed by the OOD, swimming or bathing of any kind shall not take place from any part of the Club frontage, including the slipways, except with the express permission of the OOD.

**BYELAW 6** Mooring on the Frontage - Boats other than the Club's own boats or member's dinghies shall not be moored or tied up to any part of the Club frontage, nor kept on any part of the site, nor launched from the Club site, except as shall be specifically approved by a Committee member from time to time in exceptional cases.

**BYELAW 7** Sailboarding, Windsurfing, Canoeing and the Like - During a period extending from one half hour prior to the commencement of racing organised by the Club, until the termination of said racing as confirmed by the OOD, sailboarding, windsurfing and navigation of the like shall not take place from any part of the Club frontage, including the slipways, except with the express permission of the OOD.

**BYELAW 8** Membership dues - The facilities of the Club shall not be available to those members who have not paid, or made appropriate arrangements to pay, their subscriptions and dues by the 31<sup>st</sup> March in each year, notwithstanding Rule 9.

**BYELAW 9** Buoyancy Aids - All racing helms and crews shall wear buoyancy aids at all times on the water. Failure to do so shall result in disqualification from the race.

**BYELAW 10** Supervision of Children - Parents and guardians must ensure that their children are adequately supervised whilst on Club premises or on the water.

**BYELAW 11** Rescue Boat - The Committee shall endeavour to provide rescue boat cover during races and organised sailing events. The prime responsibility of rescue lies with those present who are trained in the use of the rescue boat. No person shall use the rescue boat without wearing a buoyancy aid. The kill-cord will be used whenever the engine is running

The person responsible for launching the rescue boat shall ensure that the logbook is completed that day.

**BYELAW 12** Licence - Any vessel brought onto, parked within or launched from the club's premises should bear a current, valid licence plate displayed in accordance with the Thames Conservancy Acts and Orders 1932 to 1972. These are obtainable from the Environment Agency.

**BYELAW 13** Road Trailers - Road trailers shall not be stored on club premises except for combi-trailers or road trailers that are stored underneath the member's dinghy launching trolley and are padlocked to it. Unauthorised trailers will be removed in accordance with General Rule 19.