



## **Return to Racing: Duty Officer Guide**

### **1 Intent**

The purpose of Phase 2 of the return to sailing is to re-introduce racing on an interim basis, for those willing to participate and volunteer to run the racing, but on a more conservative basis than previously in line with RYA guidance, and of course the wider government restrictions and guidance resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We request that the overall guiding principle as the Duty Officer is to oversee enjoyable racing in a safe environment, in a more relaxed rather than highly competitive manner.

### **2 Changes from the traditional Duty Officer role**

During this interim Stage 2 phase the Duty Officer role is largely a key holder and oversight role, as the clubhouse remains mainly in lockdown. If you are the Duty Officer for the first racing session of the day, as usual please arrive promptly at the start of the session to provide the relevant keys that are required (Safety Boat hut, Safety Boat, Race hut keys) and a VHF radio. Please follow the process laid out in the "FPSC Safe Operation of Safety Boats during COVID-19 restrictions Version 5.2.docx" document, and make sure you are familiar with them prior to your duty. The Duty Officer is the only person who should enter the clubhouse at the moment to access the keys and VHF radios.

There is no need to raise or lower any flags from the main club flag pole, these are to remain flying and will be looked after by the Flag Officers.

Please provide advice and support to the Race Officer as needed on decisions about running, delaying or cancelling the racing. The Race Officer has the full support of the Flag Officers and Hon. Sailing Secretary to withdraw and cancel the racing due to the prevailing conditions (wind strength, temperature etc.) and number of competitors, much sooner than we have traditionally. Please take into consideration that we are only deploying one safety boat, and in emergencies threat to life will override social distancing protocols. This is a judgment call and please err on the side of caution. A second safety boat should not be launched, the only exception being to rescue the first one or in an emergency.

You may be asked by the Race Officer to bring out, or replace, a standard course board for display outside the club.

Please report any issues that arise, or were successfully addressed, with a Flag Officer.

Remember to wash or sanitise your hands on a regular basis.

You can pre-book and guarantee a race entry for the weekend that you undertake the Duty Officer role.

26th June 2020