

Frequently asked questions

Going on the water

Q. Why aren't there activities for children during the school holidays?

The club is run by members for members. All our instructors are volunteers, and like the members who manage the club, already give a huge amount of time to the club and its members. There is usually an activity camp each summer for a few days, but this depends on the same volunteers. If a different group of suitably-qualified members were willing to come forward to run further activities, it might be possible to increase our offering. In the meantime, commercial centres such as Ardingly Activity Centre and (Redhill) Aquasports offer activities during school holidays.

Q. Can I take my friends and family sailing if they aren't members?

Yes, adult members can (not cadets), up to 5 times per year. Visitors must be signed in in the Visitors' Book in the clubhouse by the club member introducing them, who also remains responsible for them while they are on site or on the water.

Q. Can I hire a boat to take my guests on the water?

Yes you can, the hiring member takes responsibility for the boat

Q. Can my children or grandchildren join one of the youth groups?

Yes they can. If you are already a family member, please make sure they are listed on your family membership. If you are a single member you can either upgrade to family membership or they can give it a try as a non-member (which provides their insurance) and if they love it and join we'll waive the joining fee. Grandchildren can join as cadets or pay non-member rate. They don't need to pay a joining fee. The membership team are always willing to help with bookings or sign up family members.

Q. Can I canoe or paddleboard at Weir Wood?

The Sailing Club's lease only covers sailing. If your craft has a sail you can take it out on the water, so long as it is registered with the club and it is displaying a current year boat sticker. Any registered boat or sailboard can be kept in the boat parks. If you are becalmed you can paddle back! All other water activities, such as kayaking and paddleboarding are controlled by Weald Water Enterprises, their lessees or contractors. Swimming and fishing are also not permitted by club members under the terms of our lease.

Q. Where can I land?

You can land anywhere in an emergency, but under normal circumstances, you should only use the sailing club pontoon or any of the 3 slipways. Please ensure that you do not obstruct the roadway or access to the slipways with your trolley while you are sailing or while you are rigging your boat as we share the roadway and slipways with other users.

Q. Does my boat need to be insured?

Yes it does, you need at least £1,000,000 third party liability insurance. The annual declaration you make when you renew each year or when you register a new boat confirms you have the right insurance.

Onshore

Q. Why can't I bring my dog to site?

This isn't a club rule; it's because Southern Water, the owners of Weir Wood reservoir, prohibit dogs on site.

Q. Can I drive my car or van down past the sliding gate?

Yes, but only if you are picking up or dropping off your boat, sailboard or other equipment, and you must move your car back to the car park as soon as you have unloaded. Cars must not be parked inside the gate, so please make sure your boat and/or equipment is ready to go before you drive in to collect it. While inside the gate you must travel very slowly and give way to pedestrians and boats. Cars must never obstruct the roadway or access to the boat parks.

Q. Where can I leave my boat and trailer?

Boats can be parked in the designated boat parks, which are for the most part behind the trees on the side of the roadway opposite the reservoir. The only areas along the roadway which are designated for boat parking are

- *The section of hard standing between the club house and the RIB Cages*
- *The Heavy Boat area, after the main slipway*

Trailers which are not under boats must have a trailer subscription, display a current sticker and be parked in the designated trailer area which is at the far end of the Oppy Bay boat park.

Everything else is an amenity area shared with other reservoir users and must not be used for boat or trailer parking at any time.

Q. Can I leave my trolley on the beach?

The beach areas are for all users of the reservoir, so please ensure that you don't obstruct them while rigging or with your trolley while sailing.