



ST CATHERINE'S SAILING CLUB

GUIDANCE FOR NEW SAILORS

Club sailing takes place on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings from Easter, through to end of September, please check calendar for details of times.

Club sailing is available to all members who have taken lessons or who have prior sailing experience.

If you don't have your own boat, there are a number of Club boats which can be used:

- Oppies are suitable for children up to 15 years who have taken lessons or sailed them before.
- Fevas are great for one adult and a child.
- Laser Picos can be used singled-handedly by an adult or double-handed
(£5 charge to cover cost, maintenance & insurance when Fevas / Picos are borrowed unless you are paying berthing fees)

Please arrive at the club **at least 1 hour before races are due to start**, even if you are just planning to sail for fun and not join in the races. It is best to launch with the other boats, as the sailors do help each other. If you arrive late, there may not be anyone around to assist and the **Officer of the Day ("OOD")** may already be on the water.

It is important to **advise the OOD that you plan to sail**. Safety is always a priority, therefore please ensure you discuss your plans with the OOD, with consideration given to the experience of the sailor and the weather conditions at the time. The OOD has the final decision as to whether members can sail with the club boats.

- If you are an experienced sailor but have not rigged or sailed the club dinghies before and just need some guidance, please arrive in good time and ask a club member for assistance.
- If you are new to sailing, please consider taking either a group lesson, a private lesson or join the buddy sailing scheme.

If you are going to join in a race, then great, we'd be delighted to see you on the start line. The signing-in book is kept inside the clubhouse on the desk, and the course will be drawn on the whiteboard. Please ensure you are rigged and ready to launch with time to spare to sail out to the start line. If you start a race, and then decide it's not for you, then just let the OOD know that you are withdrawing.

AND FINALLY, PLEASE JOIN US IN THE CLUBHOUSE AFTER THE SAILING FOR A DRINK (AND POSSIBLY A PIECE OF CAKE!)