

DWSC Safety Policy

The following safety statement is in addition to the club rules. It neither supersedes any rule nor overrides any rule as to competence requirements, clothing/buoyancy requirements or any other rule.

- Users of the reservoir take responsibility for their own safety whilst afloat. The principles in the International Yacht Racing Rules are as valid on any water, be it Ocean or inland lakes.
 - A. Every boat shall render all possible assistance to any vessel or person in peril, when in a position to do so.
 - B. It shall be the sole responsibility of each boat/person to decide whether or not to sail, start or continue to race.
- The club will also provide safety cover for persons on the water but this does not remove or alter the individual's responsibility for their own safety. Use of the water is only permitted with acceptance of this condition before going afloat.

The club safety level will provide different levels of cover:

- Weekdays and evenings. The club will provide a watching brief. This means that at regular intervals the water will be checked. This is not a constant watch and anybody afloat must be aware that a response time may be slow. You must not sail in a position where you cannot be seen from the shore. You should be able to recover your capsized boat without assistance. A safety boat will be ready for immediate use.
- Weekends. The club will provide a safety boat and regular safety watch. The safety boat will be at the disposal of the safety coxswain exclusively. This boat will endeavour to provide assistance once it is established that someone is in difficulty. However you remain responsible for your own safety whilst afloat. Paragraphs A and B still apply.
- Racing. When racing takes place one or more boats will be on the water according to conditions and number of boats afloat. Paragraphs A and B still apply.
- If there is no safety boat in the water do not go afloat. Report to the office first in order that safety cover can be assessed.