



## COVID Rescue Boat Procedures

Thank-you for giving your time to crew the rescue boat. These guidelines set out how we have changed our rescue procedures to minimise risk of COVID infection.

1. Please keep at least 2m from people outside your household, at all times. If you have any COVID symptoms, please stay at home.
2. Rescue crews must be from the same household.
3. We will provide rescue cover for free sailing during racing, as well as for racers. Free sailors have been told to come and ask you or the OOD for rescue cover. Please agree an area they will keep within, and a time limit. You are free to decline to offer safety cover to free sailors if you do not think you can keep them safe.
4. The rescue boat will ordinarily be kept afloat. However, if the rescue boat does need to be launched or recovered, it is possible to do this with the two crew, along with two or three other people, with everyone remaining 2m away from non-cohabitants. Please plan this carefully, station people along the rope at appropriate distances and use a maximum of 6 people.
5. Take a cautious approach to rescue, avoiding coming within 2m of individuals except as a last resort:
  - a. encourage sailors to retire if they are struggling or have gear failure, rather than intervening
  - b. tow sailors home in their boats, in preference to transferring them to the rescue boat.
6. Please take a face mask with you. If (as a last resort) sailors have to be transferred to the rescue boat, please wear the mask. Station the rescued sailor in the bow of the boat, with the rescue crew in the stern, and transfer the sailor to shore at the earliest opportunity.
7. As ever, please keep an eye out for any users on the water such as paddlers or swimmers, even if they are not club members or have not asked for rescue cover. If you think they might be in difficulty, please check they're OK