

Coalhouse Fort Radio Yacht Club



Information for Members

Code of Conduct

The club operates a strict policy concerning the Behaviour and Conduct of members, details of which are included within the club's constitution. A copy of the constitution may be downloaded from the club website.

Car Parking

Members and visitors to the club are required to park their vehicles within the designated areas at the fort. Special arrangements are made for club open meetings and parking within the designated area will be directed by a club member on the day.

It should be noted that parking alongside the lake is strictly controlled and only available at certain times and with the express permission of the committee and the park ranger. There is a speed restriction of 5 mph in force on site.

Members and guests are reminded that the use of transmitters within the car parking areas is strictly prohibited.

Coalhouse Fort Park

The entirety of the park is owned by Thurrock Council and subject to their Byelaws. Members and guests are reminded of their responsibility to comply with such byelaws whilst on site and that they must abide by any restrictions or instructions given by the Ranger team.

Attention is drawn to members and guests disposing of any litter in a responsible manner, it is appreciated that there is a lack of 'rubbish bins' lakeside but they are available outside the ranger's office and by the entrance – take your rubbish with you.

Thurrock Council have recently introduced and brought into force a new byelaw banning Drone Flying within the park.

It should be remembered, that the park is an area open to the public, the club shares the facilities and at times there may well be members of the public making use of the lake for crab fishing and/or other activities. The club has no special rights over usage and courteous approach and speech is appropriate.

Safety

The safety of members, guests and the public is paramount. Club members are required to ensure all aspects of sailing is conducted in a manner which does not impair the safety and wellbeing of others. To this end member's attention is drawn to:

Ensuring all equipment, chairs, boxes and boats at rest etc. is kept:

- Within a confined area away from areas where the public can normally be expected to be, i.e. away from path areas.
- Away from the lake side region of the path (an exception to this is in the case of race starting equipment)

Transmitters that include telescopic Ariel's have a 'safe tip'.

Any rescue poles etc. are kept in a position alongside the bank and parallel to the water's edge.

All equipment is maintained and used in a manner as advised by manufacturer, this relates to items such as batteries, glues, tools etc. * *See section on Best Practice*

It is recommended that members have a small First Aid kit to hand.

Members are required to have to hand an emergency contact listing for fellow members. Members must keep the club secretary fully informed of any changes to their Emergency Contact details for circulation to other members. Up to date copies are available from the club secretary.

The closest Defibrillation machine is located on the outside wall of the Village Public house in East Tilbury Village, members should acquaint themselves with the location of this.

In case of Emergency and the aid of the 999 Emergency Services members should have to hand the location details of the fort **Princess Margaret Rd, East Tilbury, Tilbury RM18 8PB**

No member is permitted to enter the water either by stepping in or on the club's boat without:

- Permission of a committee member
- Another member being in attendance
- Wearing of a Life Jacket

Nothing is to be placed into the water other than a boat or a pole designed to retrieve a stricken boat unless permitted by the site Ranger.

Members are requested to acquaint themselves with the Health and Safety documents that can be found on the 'Download Page' of the web site (www.coalhousefortryc.com)

Best Practice

Before arriving at the lake members should:

- Ensure they have all the necessary equipment required for the day's sailing.
- Batteries and spares have been charged in accordance with manufacturers recommendations, ready for use.
- Suitable clothing is to hand for prevailing and or forecast conditions.
- Check before arriving that the boat electrics are responding to transmitter signals
- Deck patches have been applied and/or ready to apply for use.

Members should be aware of and ensure that all instructions have been read and understood for items of equipment they intend to use. Whilst generally considered a safe sport there are certain items used which could be considered to present a hazard to members, guests and the public if they are not treated with respect and due respect. Attention is drawn to items such as:

Tools – sharp knives, hooks and lines are often items carried in tool boxes. These should be kept in a manner to minimise risk of injury.

Batteries – It is important that the correct type of battery is used to power receivers and transmitters and that they are handled, charged and stored in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. This is especially important with LiPo and LiFe battery types, instruction booklets are enclosed with these batteries and their dedicated chargers and these instructions must be adhered to.

At the lake.

Member's should ensure that all equipment placed within the 'pit' area is positioned in a manner to minimise the risk of trip hazards.

If a member is using a 40Mhz radio system you must ascertain that no other member is using the same radio frequency before powering on your transmitter. 2.4Ghz systems do not require this check.

After rigging the boat, a check should be made that the boat is responding to the transmitter before putting it in the water, it is also recommended that a visual check of transmitter battery voltage is undertaken to ensure sufficient power is available.

The area adjacent to the lake side is grassed and uneven, so members must take care when walking along this area as there are a few potential trip hazards. Care should also be taken to minimise the risk of collision with other members when concentrating on sailing and walking. It is not at all unknown for small children and animals to run along this area, so members should take care to try and avoid the unexpected.

It must be remembered that Coalhouse Fort is a public park and that the club does not have control over access. Whilst sailing, personal equipment is often left unattended and member's attention is concentrated on sailing. Whilst rare there is always an inherent risk of theft, members are advised not to leave valuable items in the 'pit' area. **The club cannot take responsibility for any occurrence.**

Exclusions

The club maintains very strict policies concerning conduct and behaviour. Any member who breaches any of the following will be excluded from the meeting and/or excluded from all future attendances.

- Any member deemed to be deliberately bullying another member
- Any threat or act of violence towards another member or member of the public.
- The use of inappropriate or foul language.
- Failure to comply with a direct reasonable instruction from the Race Officer.
- Failure to comply with a direct reasonable instruction from the site Ranger.
- Re charging of LiPo batteries, any member found to be recharging this type of battery 'on site' not using a specifically made for the task LiPo Safe charging bag/container.