

Chelmarsh Sailing Club Club Rules - 2026

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The name of the club is Chelmarsh Sailing Club. This is registered as a Charitable incorporated Organisation with Charity Number 1207691 ("the Club").
- 1.2 These rules should be read in conjunction with the Constitution. The definitions used in the Constitution shall have the same meaning when used in these rules. Where there is any contradiction between these rules and the Constitution, the Constitution shall take precedence.
- 1.3 These rules may be amended only by a resolution passed by the Committee in accordance with clause 18 of the Constitution.
- 1.4 All members and their guests are required to conform to these rules. Breaches of the rules will be considered by the Committee, who will decide the appropriate action to be taken.
- 1.5 Other definitions: The terms defined below shall have the meanings given, save where the context requires otherwise.

"The Constitution"- The constitution of the Club (link to the current version can be found [here](#)).

"The Clubhouse Area" – The land and buildings shown on Plan 1 attached to the Lease

"The Lease"- The lease dated 29 August 2013 and made between SSW (1) Chelmarsh Sailing Club Ltd (2) and David William Thursfield, David John Stanley and Peter Widdowson (3) as amended by deeds of variation dated 13 January 2020 and 30 November 2025

"NOWCA"- National Open Water Coaching Association

"The Sailing Area" – The area of the reservoir shown on Plan 2 attached to the Lease.

"SSW"- South Staffordshire Water Plc

2. Membership

2.1 The different classes of memberships available to individuals aged 18 and above and the benefits applicable to such membership are as set out in the table in Schedule 1 to these Rules.

2.2 Family Membership

2.2.1 Family membership is available for the following classes of membership: Sailing, SUP, Swimming, and Supporter.

2.2.2 Family Membership enables the named member together with their partner and their children under the age of 18 to enjoy the facilities applicable to that class of membership. At the discretion of the Committee, other family groups can be recognised for the purposes of Family Membership.

2.2.3 Both the named member and the partner shall be entitled to vote at a General Meeting in respect of Sailing Family Members provided that they have been family members for at least 6 months immediately prior to the vote.

2.3 Junior/Student Membership

2.3.1 Junior and Student membership is available for those aged less than 18 (in respect of Junior Members) or who are 18 and over but engaged in full time educational courses (in respect of Student Members) for the following classes of membership: Sailing, SUP and Swimming.

2.3.2 Junior and Student Members shall have the same rights to enjoy the facilities applicable to the relevant class of membership as an adult member, subject to any licencing restrictions, provided that Junior and Student Sailing members shall not have a vote.

2.4 Temporary Membership

2.4.1 Temporary membership may be granted by the Committee in such circumstances as the Committee thinks fit; for example, for persons participating in either open events organised by the Club or events organised by third parties with the consent of the Club. Likewise Temporary membership is available for those attending training courses at the Club.

2.5 Affiliated Membership

2.5.1 The Committee may at its discretion make individual arrangements and agree appropriate fees annually for the use of the facilities by schools or other approved groups affiliated to the Club provided each group shall be approved by the Committee. The times at which the group may use the Club shall be decided by the Committee. Any arrangements made under this clause may not last for more than twelve months.

2.6 Honorary Membership

- 2.6.1 The Club may, by a decision of the Committee, elect Honorary Members. The total number of Honorary Members shall not at any one time exceed five per cent of the total voting members at the time of the appointment. The post is to recognise individuals who have made outstanding voluntary, professional, or philanthropic contributions to the Club, or to its predecessor body (also known as "Chelmarsh Sailing Club").

2.7 Restrictions regarding members' rights

- 2.7.1 Any member participating in open water swimming at the Club must satisfy the requirements of NOWCA/Chelmarsh OWS with reference to competency and must be a member of NOWCA and use NOWCA wrist bands. All such members shall comply with the Club's OWS Rules in force from time to time (link to the current version can be found [here](#)).
- 2.7.2 Any member participating in stand-up paddleboarding (SUP) at the Club must have first completed the Club's SUP training or be otherwise authorised pursuant to the Club's SUP Standard Operating Procedures in force from time to time and shall comply with the Club's SUP Rules in force from time to time (link to the current version can be found [here](#)).
- 2.7.3 Any member sailing at the Club shall comply with the Club's Sailing rules in force from time to time (link to the current version can be found [here](#)).
- 2.7.4 Any member who uses the boat park shall comply with the Club's Boat Park in force from time to time (link to the current version can be found [here](#)).

3. Data Protection

- 3.1 The Club may maintain Membership and Subscription records and other personal information on such electronic media as the Committee deems appropriate. All information will be held and processed in accordance with the Club's data privacy policies (link to the current version can be found [here](#)). Members are also subject to the Club's CCTV Policy (link to the current version can be found [here](#)).

4. Lease provisions

- 4.1 All members must comply with the rules attached to the Lease (a copy of which is set out in Appendix A to these rules).

5. Fees and subscriptions

- 5.1 Entrance fees, subscriptions and, where applicable, boat fees for new members become due on application as members of the Club.
- 5.2 Subscriptions and other fees are payable in advance.
- 5.3 Fees shall be set at the level agreed by the Committee from time to time.

6. How the Club is managed

- 6.1 The main provisions regarding management of the Club are set out in the Constitution
- 6.2 The Committee shall be composed of the Officers, SUP Representative, OWS Representative, Fleet Captains and a maximum of five additional members all of whom shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting.
- 6.3 The Officers of the Club shall comprise: Commodore, Vice Commodore (on the water), Vice Commodore (landside), Treasurer, Secretary, Bosun, Membership Secretary, Principal of Training, Health and Safety Officer, Safeguarding Officer.
- 6.4 Fleet Captains: each of the Fleets established by the Committee shall appoint a Fleet Captain to represent their interests. Under the direction of the Committee there shall be held annually an election of each Fleet Captain. A Fleet Captain may stand for re-election. Those entitled to vote at such elections are Sailing Members who keep boats of the relevant Fleet at the Club and, at the discretion of the Committee, crewing members whose names have been previously notified to the Committee by the boat owning members.
- 6.5 The Committee shall have power to make, rescind and alter from time to time as they think fit policies and byelaws for the regulation of the Club. All members must comply with the policies and byelaws including the following:
 - 6.5.1 Equality (link to the current version can be found [here](#))
 - 6.5.2 Health and Safety (link to the current version can be found [here](#))
 - 6.5.3 Data Protection (link to the current version can be found [here](#))
 - 6.5.4 Safeguarding (link to the current version can be found [here](#))
 - 6.5.5 Code of Conduct (link to the current version can be found [here](#))

Appendix A - Use of Sailing Area and Conduct of Members

1. All members are expected to comply with these rules at all times. The General Committee may remove membership from any member who breaches these rules or brings the Club or the water sports it promotes into disrepute without any compensation. A member whose membership is being considered for removal may appeal to the membership.
2. No Members shall use the Club or its name for the purpose of any form of advertising or for any form of business or for the purpose of any political discussion or propaganda.
3. No persons under the age of 18 shall be supplied with or consume intoxicating liquor on the Club premises, nor may they use the Club room unless an adult is present in the room.
4. A member may invite a guest to the Club providing that (a) the member enters the name and address of the Guest in the Visitor's Book and (b) the member does not leave the premises whilst the Guest is present. A member may not introduce the same person as a Guest more than four times in a year. A Guest may bring a designated class of boat or SUP, with the prior permission of a Committee member, for which there may be a fee as prescribed by the General Committee from time to time. The member will be responsible for ensuring that the Guest conforms to the rules and byelaws of the Club and all Standard Operating Procedures.
5. Members may only sail a class of boat that has been approved by the General Committee. Members wishing to sail a boat from a class that has not been approved require approval from an Officer before sailing that class at the Club.
6. Any member introducing or removing any water sports equipment to be used or stored at the Club must record the movement in the log provided within 48 hours. Where the equipment has previously been used in an area where waters are known to carry any notifiable disease or other disease the Club and/or the Company reserve the right to exclude such craft from as much of the vicinity of the Chelmarsh Reservoir Site as is under the control of the Club and/or Company until such time as the craft is in the opinion of the Company fit to enter such vicinity. The Company shall be the sole judge of when this requirement will be applied and its decision shall be final; the Company also reserves the right to set down any requirements from time to time for the Club and its members to carry out under the supervision of the Company (if required) the hosing down cleaning and sterilising of any such craft, both inside and out, and any other equipment brought to the Company's Chelmarsh Reservoir Site.

7. All members and visitors must comply with the safety procedures that have been defined for the sport that they are taking part in. The safety procedures for each sport will be proposed by an Officer and approved by the General Committee.
8. No member or guest shall trespass on the land of the Company except as may be occasioned in case of emergency.
9. The Club has no employees and relies on its members to volunteer to carry out duties. These duties could include Officer of the Day, Assistant O.O.D, Officer in charge of Rescue Boat, Grounds Maintenance etc. Members will be asked to volunteer for a number of these duties each year.
10. All boats must be insured against Third Party claims to a minimum of £5,000,000.00 or as prescribed by the General Committee.
11. Boats that are not racing and SUP may use the Sailing Area during organised events, except where this is explicitly prohibited by the General Committee. At all times non-racing boats and SUP will keep clear of those racing and of the marks of the race course.
12. Member's dogs are permitted in the Clubhouse Area but must not enter the water and must be on a leash. No other animals (whether pets or otherwise) are allowed on any part of the Clubhouse Area. Members dogs are not allowed inside the Clubhouse itself, with the exception of assistance dogs where prior approval has been given by an Officer. Members shall arrange to remove any other dogs or animals which enter into the Clubhouse Area. Members are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs.
13. No member or visitor shall commit or permit any act which may result in the fouling of the Clubhouse Area or Sailing Area or of the water flowing into or in the reservoir. Bathing is not permitted.
14. Water sports shall be restricted to the parts of the reservoir defined on Plan 2 appended to the lease or such smaller areas as may from time to time be necessary for operational reasons as determined by the Company;
15. No craft shall beach except within the area leased pursuant to this Lease except in an emergency or during training;
16. No gun shall be used for any purpose in connection with any of the Club's activities without the previous written consent of the Company;

17. There should not be any music or any other sound played inside any building including the clubhouse on the Clubhouse Area which is audible outside the said building or clubhouse or on any part of the Chelmarsh Reservoir Site. Provided that it is agreed that radios maybe used to support water sports activities;
18. Only the lavatories provided in the clubhouse shall be used for sanitary purposes;
19. No interference shall take place with the machinery valves drains fences gates and roads or other apparatus or works of the Company or of apparatus of the electricity supply or telephone service authorities without the Company's prior written consent;
20. All vehicles belonging to members of the Club and coming onto the road shown coloured brown on Plan 1 in the lease from the public highway shall display a Company sticker for the appropriate year which shall be issued by the Company to the Club for that purpose and other vehicles parked on the Clubhouse Area whether guests of members or invitees of the Club must display a sticker or notice on the inside of their windscreen indicating that they are a visitor.
21. Water sports equipment shall be stored or left within the Clubhouse Area only in such places and at such times and in such manner as the General Committee or an Officer has approved.
22. Members should ensure that they do not interfere with any maintenance work carried on upon or near the Company's Chelmarsh Reservoir Site by the Company or its agents.
23. Powered boats may be used when reasonably necessary in connection with safety, race management, training and maintenance associated with water sports operations but for no other purpose.

Schedule of membership rights

Benefits	Membership Type							
	Sailing	Swimming	SUP	Temporary	Affiliated	Honorary	Radio-controlled sailing	Supporter
Use of clubhouse facilities, including bar, changing rooms and parking while using such facilities	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
Use a paddleboard on the reservoir, subject to the SUP conditions in Rule 2.7.2	☒	☒	☒	Rights depend on the circumstances	Rights depend on the circumstances	☒	☒	☒
Take part in Open Water swimming sessions in the reservoir subject to the swimming conditions in Rule 2.7.1 and provide SUP safety support for swimming sessions	☒	☒	☒			☒	☒	☒
Take part in Radio-controlled sailing sessions on the reservoir	☒	☒	☒			☒	☒	☒
Take part in sailing activities on the reservoir subject to the sailing conditions in Rule 2.7.3	☒	☒	☒			☒	☒	☒
Store a boat and/or trolley/trailer in the boat park subject to the Boat Park conditions in Rule 2.7.4	☒	☒	☒			☒	☒	☒
Voting: subject to having been a member for at least 6 months immediately prior to the vote	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒