



Kielder Water Sailing Club

Information for prospective members

Kielder Water Sailing Club is a friendly, family club for dinghy, catamaran, trailer sailors, windsurfers and standup paddleboarders situated in north-west Northumberland.

In the heart of the giant Kielder Forest, Kielder Water is the largest man-made reservoir in northern Europe with a shoreline of more than 27 miles. The sailing club is situated ½ mile from the dam in a purpose built log cabin near the Tower Knowe information centre. The clubhouse has a magnificent view over the main body of the lake.

From March to November the club offers a busy programme of racing, family events, training and open meetings. There are open days at which non-members can sample the club's facilities, and have a sail with members of the club. Trial sails and try windsurfing sessions can be arranged and are free of charge although a donation to club funds is requested.

Training

Training through the RYA National Dinghy, Windsurfing and Powerboat Schemes are available for club members.

Every year we run an RYA level 1/2 learn to sail course in June/July. For younger members we offer the RYA Young Sailors Scheme taking them through Stages 1, 2, 3 and 4. There are windsurfing courses and coaching for adults and the monthly Team 15 windsurfing club for youngsters. We run regular skills sharing sessions for both adults and youngsters. In late July we run a Summer Camp week where youngsters camp on site and take part in sailing, windsurfing and a variety of activities. In addition we run other RYA courses (Seamanship, Spinnakers etc) depending upon demand.

These courses make use of the club's sailing dinghies and windsurfing kit or, where appropriate, members' own equipment.

RYA Training for Patrol Boat (Powerboat Level 2 and Safety Boat) and Race Management is also available.

Cruising

Kielder is ideal for those who like to do their own thing and cruise in congenial surroundings. Club members can sail there on any day of the year during daylight hours. However there is no patrol cover for cruising and no rescue services on Kielder so whatever you are doing you look after yourself, just as you would on the sea. We encourage sailing in company with others and have a Whats App group so folk can easily share when they are at the club.

Club Racing

Racing generally takes place most Sundays from April to December. Racing is based on the Portsmouth Yardstick handicap system so any class of boat or windsurfer is welcome. There are also personal handicap results, where your handicap is adjusted according to your previous results, to level out the playing field between experienced and less experienced sailors. If you have not raced before, and would like to give it a try, you will be made extremely welcome, and can be sure of advice on all aspects of boat tuning, tactics and rules.

Kielder is one of the finest inland sailing waters in the country and offers challenges at every level. There are regular series of races and the monthly Round the Lake Races are especially satisfying with the mark at the top dam being over six miles away.

Club House

The club facilities are available to members the whole year round. Members have a door card for access at any time.

The club has a variety of sailing dinghies and windsurfing kit for use by members. Many are free to use but there is a small charge for some of them which goes towards the cost of insurance. Full details of the current fleet can be found on the club website.

During any organised club event the galley is open for all members supplying hot food, drinks and snacks at very reasonable prices. All proceeds go towards running the club.

Camping is permitted around the clubhouse and we can have up to 5 motorhomes or caravans on the site at any one time.

Dogs are welcome and owners are asked to keep them on a lead and away from tents and the windsurfing rigging area where sails are often on the grass.

Responsibilities

Club Members are always responsible for their own safety and that of any children or guests. When on the water there is no regular patrol service and members are encouraged to check the weather forecast, the condition of their equipment and their experience before setting out.

The club has no employed staff (except a cleaner) and is run entirely by the members. To ensure the smooth running of the club every member is required to contribute towards the running of the club by doing at least one **duty** a year; as Race Officer, in a patrol boat or in the galley and is expected to help with at least one working party or Open Meeting.

Contacts

If you have any queries about the club, please contact one of the following:

Commodore: Geoff Brown	Tel. 01434 220762	email: baronvonbrown@mac.com
Hon.Sec: Michelle Russell	Tel. 01434 601321	email: sec@kielderwatersc.org
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Training: Julie Gibbon	Tel. 01434 344383	email: training@kielderwatersc.org

Web Site

www.kwsc.org.uk The website has full information on the club and the programme of events. Membership forms and training forms can also be downloaded.