



## Club Rules

1. This Club is called 'Yare Boat Club Ltd'. Its object is to encourage its members to make the best possible use of the country's waterways, in particular to by encouraging rowing and sculling on the river Yare, and promoting participation in, and the development of, rowing and sculling.
2. The Club is non-profit making. All income, from whatever source, is used for the running of the Club including the purchase of new equipment. There will be no distribution of Club assets in cash or kind to members or third parties.
3. The Club is affiliated to British Rowing, the governing body for the sport of rowing (both indoor rowing and rowing on water). <https://www.britishrowing.org/>

### 4. GENERAL RULES

- 4.1 Leave the boathouse tidy, returning all equipment and tools to their appropriate racks, cupboards etc.
- 4.2 If leaving the boathouse unattended ensure the doors are locked/padlocked as appropriate, with padlock numbers scrambled.
- 4.3 Club equipment must not be removed from the club premises or usual club rowing/paddling waters without the permission of the appropriate Captain.
- 4.4 The club runs a Goolesheet with multiple tabs on it. All booking activity is currently run through this. All members are required to complete the log book inside the front club house before each outing, stating time of departure, most distant point of outing, boat used (private or club boat by name) and then tick themselves back in when they return to the club.
- 4.5 Members are expected to take part in the general maintenance and upkeep of the club, its buildings and the land.
- 4.6 Do not run in the boathouses.
- 4.7 During any national or local emergency, such as the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic, any use of club and boat must be made in accordance with any interim club rules in force at the time, in accordance with UK government and British Rowing guidelines.

### 5. ALLOCATION AND AVAILABILITY OF BOATS

- 5.1 Club boats may only be allocated to a particular race crew with the agreement of the rowing captains and coaches and then only for the purpose of specific race training and participation for a determined and reasonable period on an equitable basis.
- 5.2 Otherwise, club boats are available to all club members, subject always to their level of competency, as determined by a qualified coach in accordance with the Club's Safety Policy.

5.3 No racing (fine) single sculling boat may be taken out by a new member(s) until they have demonstrated a satisfactory level of rowing/sculling competency and been approved by a coach.

5.4 Club boats must not be taken out when the presence of ice or other hazard on the river presents an abnormal risk of damage to boats or blades.

## **6. CHECKING AND CARE OF BOATS AND EQUIPMENT**

6.1 Before putting a boat on the water, ensure it is safe and not damaged, eg bow ball, heel restraints, hatches, gate top nuts etc are in place and secure. Blades should be similarly checked.

6.2 If a problem with club boat/blade cannot be resolved there and then, details of any faults must be emailed to [boatrepairs@yareboat.club](mailto:boatrepairs@yareboat.club). Please hang a 'Do Not Use' label on the boat.

6.3 Every member who uses a Club boat shall be bound to assist in housing and wiping down the same and its oars or sculls and must exercise the greatest care in the use of the boat.

6.4 Boats must not be left in positions where they may fall or be blown off trestles.

6.5 Boats returning from away events must be re-rigged as soon as possible (normally within 48hrs) to ensure their availability to other members.

6.6 Boats MUST be thoroughly cleaned after an outing (oil and algae stains penetrate fibreglass easily). Blade handles should be washed with soap and water.

6.7 Wet wiping-down towels should be taken home and dried before returning them to the club and not left at the Club to dry out.

6.8 All boats on racks (other than the bottom row) must be always fitted with blue foam tubes/bumpers on the gates, to prevent scratching the boat underneath as it is put on or off the rack.

6.9 The Board has the right to make the users of any boats, which suffer damage through carelessness. financially responsible.

## **7. ACCIDENTS AND OTHER INCIDENTS**

7.1 All incidents which result in injury, boat damage, accidental capsize or falling in, even the smallest ones and near misses, MUST be reported to British Rowing via their Incident Reporting System, by the person involved within 24 hours of the incident. The club's safety advisor receives a copy. We encourage all members to take responsibility for, and contribute to, the club's safety culture. Guidance on the incident reporting system is available on the British Rowing website.

7.2 Damaged boats, oars or other equipment must be clearly marked with a label and the damage should be logged in the repair book in the front boat house. Details of any faults must be emailed to [captain@yareboatclub.org](mailto:captain@yareboatclub.org).

7.3 "Near incidents" involving rowing boats, such as dangerously near collisions or encountering a boat without lights at night, must also be recorded in accordance with 7.1.

7.4 When moving boats look out for other members and boats, especially protruding riggers and boats stored at ground level. Members should ensure that they do not put other members or boats at risk.

## **8. DRIVING AND STORING THE LAUNCHES**

8.1 All launch drivers must hold an appropriate RYA powerboat certificate, or have received equivalent training from a qualified person approved by the club (see also the Launch Competency policy) and be aware of the BR guidelines, Water Safety Rules and the club's safety policy.

8.2 Fuel must be stored in accordance with the instructions displayed in the boathouse.

## **9. BOARD AND GOVERNANCE**

9.1 The government and management of the Club is vested in a Board of Directors consisting of eight members.

9.2 The rules of governance are set out in the club's Articles of Association.

9.3 The Board also has the power to co-opt members to the Board or to any Board Sub-committee, provided that all existing Directors, whether present at the meeting or not, shall agree to the co-option.

9.4 The Board may also appoint Vice Captains at their discretion, who do not necessarily have to be Directors.

9.5 The Board can amend the Club Rules with 75% of Directors voting in favour of the amendment.

## **10. MEMBERS**

10.1 The Club shall offer the following categories of membership: Full, Non-rowing including kayakers, Concessionary, Associate (for scullers or rowers from other rowing Clubs who train regularly with YBC members in YBC boats in order to race in a composite crew) and Cox.

10.2 Club members may request a racking space.

10.2 All subscriptions and racking fees shall be payable in advance from the date of the Annual General Meeting and must be paid by 28 February. The Board shall have power to abate those subscriptions paid by members who have joined the Club after 1st May.

10.3 If any current member has not paid their fees, or communicated with the Membership Secretary about any difficulties they have paying their fees, within one month of the start of the process, they will no longer be considered a Club member and will not be allowed to use any club facilities or equipment after the last day of that February.

10.4 If a member who has not re-joined have any private equipment on site at the club, they will have a further calendar month from the end of February to remove it, unless they re-join during that time. If we reach the end of March and they have still not paid then their equipment will be removed from inside any building and placed outside. Should part of their equipment include a racked boat, they will lose this racking slot, and even if they re-join at a later time, they may not be able to get it back. If they have not collected their equipment in a further month (end of April), the club will assume that this equipment has been donated to the club, and it will be disposed of as the club sees fit – through sale or adoption into club equipment

10.5 Associate members cannot be part of more than one composite crew with YBC members. (If an associate member would like to race with more than one YBC crew they must become a full YBC members)

10.6 Associate members do not have independent access to the boathouse, are not allowed to use singles, cannot bring other people onto YBC premises and do not have voting rights at the YBC AGM.

10.7 No person shall be allowed to compete under the Club's name in any competition unless he/she is a paid-up member of the Club.

10.7 No member may enter for a Regatta or other race, or remove any Club boat, oars or sculls from the boathouse, without the permission of a member of the Board/Captain. All members shall pay their own entry fees and expenses. If permission is given to transport boats, oars or sculls, to a race, the Board must be satisfied that the means of transport is adequate.

10.8 Member Declaration - Each new member of the Club shall complete a membership form on which they shall sign that they are medically fit to row and can swim.

10.9 The Club has Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection policies and procedures - these are guided by British Rowing, and the Club requires all members to accept them as a condition of membership.

10.10 Safety - The Board shall appoint a member to act as Safety Adviser whose duty it will be to understand the requirements of the British Rowing Limited Code of Practice for Water Safety and advise on their prominent display, their observation and their implementation at all times.

10.11 The Club colours shall be dark blue and old gold (warm yellow). All members competing in Regattas or major races of any kind should ideally, or may be required by the race rules to, wear Club colours. For reference the paint colours (blades and boats) are Ford Signal Yellow – Holts Car Paint Code HYE05 and Ford Cobalt Blue Metallic 2C – Holts Car Paint Code HDBLUM04.

10.12 The Club will not be responsible for the loss or damage to any member's own boat, oars, sculls or any other fittings when stored on the Club premises. Permission must be given by the Board before any boat or equipment is stored. A member must insure his/her own boat for third party risks and may be asked to produce evidence that this has been done.