

28 Mar 18

## ROYAL ENGINEER YACHT CLUB LIFEJACKET POLICY

### Aim

1. This note details the REYC policy on the wearing of lifejackets and buoyancy aids when sailing aboard REYC yachts and dinghies.

### Lifejackets on board

2. The number of lifejackets on board depends on the coding status of the yacht.
  - a. **Coded.** Coded REYC Yachts carry sufficient lifejackets to meet the requirements of their coding.
  - b. **Uncoded.** E.g. Yacht *Hebe* carries lifejackets to match the maximum crew numbers plus one spare.

### Skipper's responsibilities

3. **Yacht takeover.** On takeover of a REYC yacht, the skipper is to be made aware of the Club's lifejacket wearing policy which is contained within the boat folder.
4. **When lifejackets are worn.** The skipper is to ensure that lifejackets are worn as follows:
  - a. **Serving military members on AT / RYA course.** Serving military members on duty aboard a yacht chartered for Adventure Training or RYA course are to comply with the Joint Service regulations. Individuals on duty on a REYC yacht must have passed the military swim test.
    - (1) All crew members must wear lifejackets when sailing on REYC yachts unless conditions are such that the skipper makes a decision that lifejackets maybe removed.
    - (2) **A decision by the skipper not to wear lifejackets is to be recorded in the log with reasons.**
  - b. **Members chartering REYC yachts for cruising or racing.** Members chartering REYC yachts for cruising or racing are expected to follow the RYA and RNLI advice to wear the lifejackets provided when underway. Lifejackets are to be worn in the following circumstances:
    - (1) By all crew on deck when a reef is taken in the main sail.
    - (2) At night.
    - (3) In fog.
    - (4) When directed in race instructions.
    - (5) By non-swimmers.
    - (6) Children under 16 are to wear lifejackets when on deck.
    - (7) Lifejackets are to be worn when using yacht dinghies/tenders.
    - (8) **A decision by the skipper not to wear lifejackets is to be recorded in the log with reasons.**

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## ROYAL ENGINEER YACHT CLUB BUOYANCY AID POLICY

### Aim

1. This note details the REYC policy on the wearing of buoyancy aids when sailing on REYC windsurfers, kitesurfs and dinghies. **NB Lifejackets are not to be worn during inshore activities as they inflate when immersed.**

### Windsurfing & Kitesurfing

2. The level of skill will determine if a windsurfer is mandated to wear a buoyancy aid.
  - a. **Novice / Intermediates.** Novice and intermediate windsurfers are all required to wear buoyancy aids at all times on the water.
  - b. **Advanced.** Advanced windsurfers are not mandated to wear buoyancy aids, however waist/seat harnesses and wet suits provide additional buoyancy. Dependant on weather and wave conditions, helmets and impact vests can be worn which provide additional buoyancy.
  - c. **Racing.** Each race/event is assessed on conditions and only if it is considered safe will that fleet race. UKWA do not require their sailors to wear life jackets and it is a personal preference as to whether individuals wear buoyancy aids.

### Dinghies

3. Dinghy sailors are to wear buoyancy aids at all times on the water.

Rear Commodore (Inshore)