

Norwich Model Boat Club

General Rules

1. USE OF THE POND

As the Club does not have exclusive use of the pond, members should show courtesy and consideration to the members of the public, especially those wishing to use their model boats on the pond. Members of the public should be informed, politely, of the frequency protocol system and encouraged to make use of it.

2. USE OF THE CLUB HOUSE

Use of the Club House is open to any member wearing a valid membership badge which due to insurance conditions must be worn at all times whilst on Club premises.

Any member may invite a visitor to use the Club's facilities, but he/she must sign them into the Visitors Book and issue them with a Visitor Badge. Close family members may use the Club facilities providing they are issued with a Visitor Badge. To help with security all paid up members will be provided with name and frequency badges, which must be worn while using the Club House and at the pool side. This procedure allows any Club member to challenge any person found within Club premises not wearing a name badge, to be asked why he/she is there and failing to obtain a satisfactory answer, escort them from the building.

3. TIDINESS

Members are responsible for the general tidiness of the Club House. Club cups used for tea and coffee must be washed and cleaned and returned to the correct cupboard. Any item of Club property should be replaced in its correct location. Any damaged items of equipment should be reported to a Committee member. All rubbish should be deposited in the bins provided.

4. SMOKING

As adopted at the 2003 AGM, smoking is not permitted in the upstairs club room. Following legislation in 2007 smoking is not permitted anywhere within the building. Smoking is permitted on the upstairs balcony and exterior to the premises.

5. DISCIPLINE

Members must, at all times, be aware that the Club, by its very nature, operates in the public domain. The Committee reserve the right to discipline and ultimately withdraw membership from anyone bringing the Club's good name into disrepute. In the event of a membership being withdrawn the balance of any membership fees etc will be refunded.

6. EXPENDITURE

Members are not permitted to order or procure goods or services on behalf of the Norwich Model Boat Club without prior written authority from the Management Committee. Requests for authority to purchase should be made to the Committee in writing containing details of costs and reasons for requesting the purchase.

Authority for emergency repairs or renewals may be granted by the Committee quorum. Requests should be made to the Chairman who will seek authority from the other Committee quorum members, ie Commodore, Treasurer and Secretary (Vice-Chairman and/or Administrative Officer) if any of the above cannot be contacted.

Normal operating expenses, ie rent, rates, electricity, office supplies and newsletter expenses are not contained within the scope of this rule.

7. PUBLIC RELATIONS / PRESS STATEMENTS

All public relations matters, including press statements and Council liaison should only be handled by the Chairman (Vice-Chairman/Administrative Officer in his absence). On no account should any member make statements concerning Club management or Council related affairs to any person or organising body outside of the Club.

8. RADIO CONTROL PROTOCOL

Members must always observe the Radio Control Protocol rules regarding the frequency board. They must make sure that before using any radio control equipment that their name tag is attached to the board in place of the relevant frequency tag. The frequency tag must be attached in a prominent place on their transmitter. Only then is it permissible to turn on their radio equipment. Upon completion of sailing or testing, the frequency tag must be replaced in its correct location on the board and the name tag removed. It must be remembered that at busy times other members may need the frequency tag and we would politely ask that at these times, you restrict your sailing or testing to 20 minutes.

9. I.C. NOISE

Members running I.C. powered craft are required to have their vessel adequately silenced to below the current level of **80 decibels at 3 metres**. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the craft being barred from Club sessions until suitable modifications have been carried out to meet the noise level required. The boat must then be checked again on the noise meter before further use on the pond. Any member can carry out the test. Non-Members using noisy I.C. craft should be politely informed of the current legislation and encouraged to have their craft metered by the Club. Failure by the Club to enforce this rule could lead us to be stopped using I.C. boats on the pond if the residents complain about the noise levels.

10. BOAT SPEED ON THE POND

During any racing with **FAST ELECTRIC OR I.C. BOATS**, if it becomes necessary to retrieve a boat from the water which has stopped, before any member enters the water to collect it, the section head running the event must bring all racing to a stop by using the start and finish klaxon. Whilst the broken down boat is being retrieved from the water all members taking part in the race will hold their positions. Once the boat has been taken from the water the section head will sound the klaxon again to commence the racing. When high speed craft are using the water utmost care and consideration should be exercised by all, in order to prevent collisions.

11. SAFETY AT THE POND SIDE

Except when taking part in an organised steering trial, in order to avoid collisions, all craft must sail in a clockwise direction. It is a mandatory requirement that all transmitter aerials are fitted with a practice golf ball when operating at the pond side, to protect members eyes and those of the general public.

In order to protect members models it has become necessary to segregate scale models from powered craft, ie fast electric and I.C. boats. To accomplish this, the Clubs boom will be deployed at normal Club meetings. Scale models should use the Club House end of the pond with fast electric and I.C. models being operated at the far end of the pond. This rule may be reversed at the discretion of the Officer of the Day when a specialist regatta is underway.

12. FREQUENCIES

The only permissible frequencies allowed for surface use are 72Mhz and 40 Mhz, it is illegal to use

35Mhz as this is strictly for aircraft use only. Please note 75Mhz sets are American use only and are illegal in the UK. Improper use can result in a fine of £2000 and/or confiscation of equipment by the Post Office Telecommunications Department.

Dismissal Procedure

The Committee has the right to undertake a dismissal procedure against any member if such action is deemed necessary. The Club will not tolerate in any way, abusive behaviour of any kind from a member toward fellow members or members of the public.

The procedure will be as follows:

1. A verbal first warning will be given by an authorised member of the Committee in the presence of another Committee member. The fact that such a warning was given will be recorded.
2. If the member does not respond to this, either by not accepting the warning or continuing with their actions, then a written second warning will advise them of their conduct and what they are required to do to make amends.
3. If the member still fails to respond to this second warning then they will be invited in writing to appear before the Committee to explain themselves.
4. If the member fails to respond to this request or fails to attend without reasonable cause (a minimum of 24 hours notice is required), the Committee have the right to withdraw membership forthwith.
5. The member has the right to appeal at an EGM that the Committee will call on the members behalf on a date agreed between the Committee and the member.

If the member will not accept this situation or fails to attend, then the Committee has the right to uphold its decision.

If a quorum of members do not attend then another meeting will be called. If this situation is repeated then the Committee has the right to uphold its decision.

If the Committee's decision is rejected by the members then the circumstances and the warnings previously given will remain recorded.

6. If, in the opinion of the Committee, the matter is one of gross misconduct or totally unacceptable behaviour then the Committee has the right to withdraw membership with immediate effect stating clearly the reason in writing. Actions that could promote this situation include for example - bringing the Club into disrepute in front of members of the public, stealing from a member or Club property, violent or verbally abusive action toward another member or member of the public, affecting the rights of a child or vulnerable adult etc.
7. Once an EGM has been called (Section 5) the Committee reserves the right to withdraw all Club benefits including Club room and Setting up room access until such action has been concluded.
8. If the member accepts the decision of revoked membership at any stage then the annual membership fee will be returned in full within 28 days.

Child Protection Act (1989)

1. A responsible adult is defined as a senior member or Guardian who has the experience commensurate with the type and degree of supervision required.
2. Children must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult when using the Club rooms and other facilities. The level of supervision required is to be commensurate with the child's age, maturity, capabilities and levels of experience. If the responsible adult is not the child's guardian the child's guardian must also be present at all times and take an active part in the supervision of the child.
3. No senior member is to be expected to supervise a child unless he/she has been specifically requested by the child's guardian and agrees to do so.
4. Notwithstanding the requirement of 3 above, should a member discover a child is unsupervised then he/she must assume responsibility for the child's safety in the first instance. The situation should then be rectified as soon as possible, by seeking out the child's guardian. Any instance of such an occurrence is to be reported to a Committee member as soon as possible.
5. Whilst supervising children, senior members who are not the child's guardian should be aware of the requirements of the above Children's Act and avoid placing themselves in a position that could be open to misinterpretation or question.
6. A child must not be left in any of the clubrooms unsupervised by their guardian.

(Due to the size of the Club membership it is now necessary to incorporate some of the above Acts requirements into our rules)

Frequency Tables

27MHz	
TRANSMITTER	COLOUR
26.975	Grey/Brown
26.995	Brown
27.025	Brown/Red
27.045	Red
27.075	Red/Orange
27.095	Orange
27.125	Orange/Yellow
27.145	Yellow
27.175	Yellow/Green
27.195	Green
27.225	Green/Blue
27.255	Blue

40MHz	
CHANNEL NUMBER	Rx CRYSTAL FREQUENCY
665	40.209
675	40.219
685	40.229
695	40.239
705	40.249
715	40.259
725	40.269
735	40.279
745	40.289
755	40.299
765	40.309
775	40.319
785	40.329
795	40.339
805	40.349
815	40.359
825	40.369
835	40.379
845	40.389
855	40.399
865	40.409
875	40.419
885	40.429
895	40.439
905	40.449
915	40.459
925	40.469
935	40.479
945	40.489
955	40.499

NB: If you require any tuition on the above frequencies, please contact a member of the Committee.