



## BABBACOMBE CORINTHIAN SAILING CLUB COMMODORES NEWSLETTER JUNE 2020



Welcome to our latest Newsletter and I hope everyone continues to keep safe and well.

The main topic in this Newsletter is the work we are doing and the plans we have, especially now the lockdown rules have been relaxed from early July.

To recap, we have completed Risk Assessments for both Club Houses and their activities and have drawn up Processes and Procedures which will need to be followed. These will be published in due course on the website and we are reviewing them each time the Government changes the lockdown rules and advice.

### **Sailing and the Beach Club House**

As I say we have completed a comprehensive risk assessment and created processes and procedures to address the challenges to allowing us to sail, when we can, even if it is in a limited manner.

Sailing Committee met Wednesday (24<sup>th</sup>) to discuss how to proceed and discussed if the relaxation in the rules could allow us to open up some of our activities. A review of the position as we understand it from 4<sup>th</sup> July is:

We could sail single and double handers, the latter especially if the helm and crew are from the same family or support bubble. Separate household crew can be accommodated but they would always need to maintain a minimum 1 metre distance (the 1 metre + rule) but this was not deemed practical. Similarly, our safety boats can be crewed in the same manner, not ideal, but possibly feasible.

To limit the risk of any accidents and close contact we would need to restrict sailing to those deemed sufficiently experienced to be able to sail safely on their own and recover themselves and the boat in instances of capsizes say.

Whilst the Beach clubhouse would be open to access masts, sails and kit we would not be able to allow access to either the changing rooms or the galley area so it would be "come ready" and "go home wet" or get changed on the promenade, in as much as we all might if we were going swimming in the sea on holiday.

We would also need our sailors to fetch, prepare, clean and return their boat in accordance with the Clubs COVID 19 rules i.e. on your own, with family help or one other at the required social distance.

To manage the numbers when we do start, there could be a need to limit the numbers and in all instances you will need to book in advance on Dutyman and pay via through the

website. No payment of any kind will be taken on the beach, especially cash. So, apologies but no payment, no sail.

At the current time we do not envisage being able to undertake any training and I hope you will understand this and bear with us.

Lastly, given all the precautions we are having to take and ask you to take, it is highly likely that it will take longer for us to run a sailing session so please be prepared to wait in a socially distanced line.

We are reading the Governments official advice published on 24<sup>th</sup> June, as are the RYA and we are awaiting the RYAs further advice. So, until things change materially the Sailing Committee have taken the view that in the foreseeable future BCSC cannot restart sailing in any form.

I know this will be disappointing to many of you, but we must keep all of us safe at this time.

### **Top Club opening**

One of the big, and for some, most eagerly awaited relaxation of the C-19 rules was to allow pubs, bars, and hotels to re-open. So, in a very short time we have had to digest the detail of what that means for us and it looks like we can open the Top Clubhouse.

However, there are a number of restrictions on us all if we do. If we open there will be no events or quiz to start with, as we do need to take this step by step.

We can have no more than 30 people in the Clubhouse which probably means 28 members plus 2 volunteers. To ensure we manage that number we may need you to email us in advance to tell us you are coming as we will have to turn you away if you arrive on spec and find we have reached our limit.

To try and minimise the risk of this happening only current members will be permitted to use the Clubhouse so, apologies no guests and any lapsed members who would like to participate will need to pay their membership fee before coming along.

We will need to note your attendance when you visit, and unlike pubs etc. we will have your contact details so just need to know who has come in on a particular date. This will be done by the bar volunteer so as to avoid using the same pen to sign in

One key aspect to assist our opening is that we have arranged to install a new contactless card payment system. Apologies but there will be no acceptance of cash or cheques for payment of drinks. Please make sure you bring your Debit Card with you.

We will be spacing out and reducing the number of tables and in line with the revised rules will limit the numbers at each table. Our understanding is that it should only be you, your immediate family, support bubble and one other family at your table, the latter at the 1 metre plus rule.

Your experience of any visit will be different as well in that we will need to ask you to enter by the main front door and leave by the rear fire exit, in effect creating a one way system. You will need to keep any coat you have and belongings with you and there will be hand sanitiser at the entry and exit for you to use. Please bring your own sanitiser and face mas for use whilst you are in the club, if you wish.

One important matter to note is that we will operate a table service process and therefore the bar area is not to be approached and we will come and collect your order and payment.

For all you draught drinkers I am afraid in the early weeks we are only going to be selling bottled or canned beer and lager, as we do now for cider and Guinness. The reason for this is if we only have a limited number of customers, we cannot keep an opened cask for any significant time without the contents going off. To avoid throwing beer away (like the 150+ pints in March when we shut!) we need to understand how much we might dispense before re introducing draught beers and even then we may have to limit the range.

We are looking at whether plastic glasses are more practical, or it is one glass for your visit which will be cleared from your table once you leave. When you leave, we will need to clean the table so for later arrivals please bear with us if you have to wait whilst we do this. It's envisaged a red / green card system will be in operation.

We will need to manage access to the toilets and expect this to be on a one in one out basis. Access to the Gents will need to be via the accessible toilet so there will be some changes to the usual arrangements and there will be times when you will unfortunately, need to wait.

There will be signage up in the Club to help you to help us and all members will be expected to follow the new system. Sadly, if you don't you will be asked to leave (a yellow card!). Any further instances on later visits may result in you being asked NOT to return for a period (a red card!).

My apologies to any of you who feel we are being over cautious and bureaucratic but I'm afraid we cannot afford to take any risks at this point and I'm not prepared to allow anything that may jeopardise your health or that of the volunteers. We will be walking through and testing these proposals so please bear with us whilst we do and if the process outlined needs to be refined.

So, with all this planning etc it would help us to know whether you want to return to the Club. You will have already received an email from us asking you to take part in

a survey to indicate how you feel. Attached is the link again and if you have not done so already please identify your preference. This can be completed anonymously, and you can add comments. So far at the time we have had over 50 responses, so thank you.

[BCSC Top Clubhouse Survey](#)

As a consequence of all this work we will not be open from 4<sup>th</sup> July but will be looking to do so, if its feasible, sometime later in the month and of course as soon as we know you will be advised.

## Other News

We have been able to sell another of our older (yellow hulled) Laser 2000 dinghy's so we've got additional funds (to go with last months Torbay Lottery award) to put toward new dinghies as and when we can find them. Our expected submission for a Sport England small grant for more funds has been held up as they have temporarily closed the door to new applications. We are now expecting to be able to submit a case in mid July and we are also hoping Sport England will reopen the Community (COVID 19) grant scheme to allow us to see if we can alleviate the financial impact of being shut.

Finally, despite being closed some normal things have been going on like stock takes and the start of the preparation of the annual accounts and completion of our RYA Membership survey. Going forward this has identified an area where we could not answer a question accurately. To help us in the future we have therefore added a question to everyone's MemberMojo profile. On behalf of the RYA we are seeking to identify how many of our members are registered disabled. If you are happy to answer this additional question please access your MMJ record accordingly. I can confirm that BCSC follows the GDPR regulations and other than a few Officers your data is not visible to other members.

I appreciate this had been a long Newsletter and not one with the usual news items and reports of sailing and events. As ever if you want to ask any questions please just call me or one of the other Officers, write to me at my email below or to the Club email.

We will keep you updated on all our progress and in the meantime can I please ask you to respect and follow all guidelines from the Government, RNLI and RYA but above all stay safe.

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