

# Weston Sailing Club

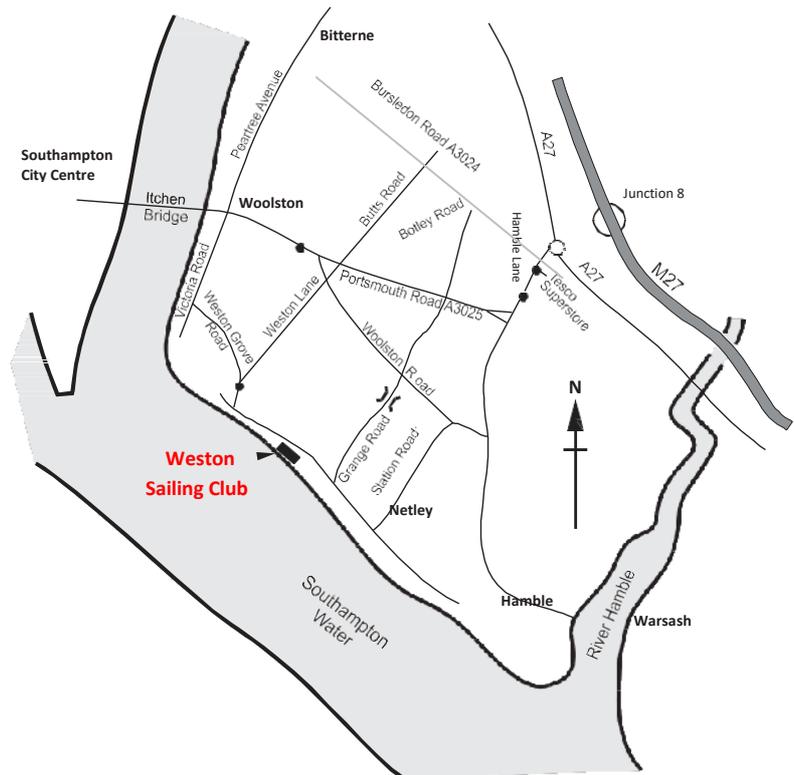
Abbey Hill, Netley Abbey, Southampton, SO31 5FB.  
Telephone: 02380 452527



**Weston is a well-established Club with a full and varied programme to suit all sailors. It is one of the most active dinghy club on Southampton Water.**

## Advantages

- ✓ 1 hour from M25/M3 Interchange
- ✓ Large free car park
- ✓ Large boat compound
- ✓ RIB Patrol boats with VHF radios
- ✓ Sheltered launching
- ✓ Three slipways
- ✓ Sailing on weekends and evenings
- ✓ 11 months year racing each year
- ✓ Open Meeting schedule
- ✓ Weston members' success at National, European & World level racing
- ✓ Excellent spectating, as race area in front of club
- ✓ Galley & Bar



For more information visit our website:

[www.weston.org.uk](http://www.weston.org.uk)

**Please contact our membership secretary:**

Enya Conway  
Thickets Lodge  
Botley Road  
Bishops Waltham  
Southampton  
Hants  
SO32 1DR

Or email [join@weston.org.uk](mailto:join@weston.org.uk)



# About Weston Sailing Club

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Weston Sailing Club is run by keen dinghy sailors and has excellent facilities for both sailors and spectators. If you enjoy dinghy and catamaran racing, Weston runs handicap racing from February through to the New Year.

Southampton Water's double tide enables social sailing and racing to be held most weekends and in the summer, evening races are also run during the week.

Racing is competitive with some of the best sailors in the country belonging to and regularly sailing at the club. Each year, Weston also hosts events such as class open meetings and regattas.

## Training

We welcome sailors of all ages and abilities at Weston and our experienced members are always willing to help with any aspect of sailing. Each year, informal training courses and social sailing sessions are run which cover most abilities.

## Facilities

We have a large sheltered boat pound enabling you to store your boat all year round.

Car parking is free in the extensive car park at the top of the dinghy pound. There are three slipways for easy launching. The clubhouse has spacious changing rooms with hot water available at all times. There is a professionally run galley and a comfortable bar.

For spectators, the clubhouse and large south west facing patio provides an all year round view of the sailing area, which is directly offshore from the club.

## Social Events

As well as sailing, Weston has a programme of social and shore based events running throughout the year. These are often linked to open meetings and cater for all ages and tastes.

## Membership

Applying for membership couldn't be easier. Just fill in the short membership form and return it to the membership secretary. Once accepted for membership, you can pay by cheque or bank transfer to the club account (CAF Bank - Sort Code: 40-52-40, Account No: 00030424).

Once your membership has been accepted, you will receive an invoice, your membership card, and access to the Club member's online portal, which contains the calendar of events.

Our membership year runs from January until December. All members joining between January and July pay the full annual membership fee. From August to December, a reduced fee is payable depending on the number of remaining months.

## Questions & Answers

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Listed below are some commonly asked questions by people joining Weston Sailing Club.

### Is there a joining fee?

There is no joining fee this year. Indeed, there has been no joining fee at Weston Sailing Club for a number of years.

We try to encourage people to enjoy sailing, not price them out of the sport!

### Is there a waiting list?

Space is usually available in the large dinghy pound for additional boats. However, at certain times in the season there may be a waiting list. Should this be the case when you wish to join and store a boat at the club, you will be contacted by the membership secretary before your membership application is processed.

## **Can I sail at Weston without becoming a member?**

If you don't want to commit yourself to full membership of Weston, you can either choose to sail on a daily basis for £5 per day, per person, although you won't be able to leave your boat at the club.

You can apply for temporary membership on a month by month basis. Temporary membership costs more per month than full membership, but if you wish to sail for less than six months, it's worth considering.

Please contact the Membership Secretary for more information.

## **Can I be a member of Weston if I don't own a boat?**

You don't have to be a boat owner to enjoy sailing at Weston. We have a number of members who are always on the lookout for willing crews and we are often able to help put helms and crews together.

The club also owns a small number of dinghies and paddleboards which are available for daily hire.

## **I want to delay joining WSC until later in the year. Will I still have to pay the full fee?**

Because our sailing calendar runs right through to the end of December, a great deal of sailing is available to members who join later in the year. Nevertheless, we do recognise that people wish to get value for money so we start to discount membership from August.

Members joining in August pay 5/6 of annual membership and pound fees, those joining in September pay 4/6, and so on.

## **Can I sail any boat at Weston?**

There is no restriction on types of boat at Weston other than your ability to launch and recover them safely.

All types of boat are currently sailed at the club from established classes such as Lasers and Contenders to the latest asymmetric boats such as RS400, RS800, RS100, 49er and catamarans.

## **My partner and family don't sail. Will they be welcome at the club?**

Weston Sailing Club is a friendly family club. We are always pleased to welcome non-sailing members of your family or friends. There is a large patio at the front of the club where non-sailors can relax and watch the racing, or just soak up the sun. Children can run around and play on the patio, foreshore or the parkland adjacent to the clubhouse.

## **Can I bring my friends to the club?**

You are welcome to bring friends to sail at the club or just enjoy the facilities. However, if they are regular visitors, we would encourage them to become full members.

## **When can I launch?**

Because of the double tide we experience in Southampton Water, launching and recovery is always possible two hours before the first high water and up to four hours after. When there are spring tides, the water can recede 100m offshore but, during neaps, the tide sometimes never leaves the end of the longest of the three slipways. However, with assistance, it is possible to launch and recover at any time.

## **Can I use the facilities when there's no racing?**

Access to the dinghy pound, changing rooms and hose cupboard is always available provided you have purchased a club key. These are available from the membership secretary on payment of a £20 non-returnable deposit.

Hot water is always available for showers. However, when there is no club racing, the clubhouse area is locked and alarmed. Therefore, you will not have access to the galley or bar.

## **How is club racing organised?**

Club racing is organised on a handicap basis and all results are computerised. Depending on the series and the expected number of competitors, there may be one, two or three starts. Details will be displayed prior to racing and will be consistent throughout the series.

## Do I have to enter club racing?

It is a commonly held belief that Weston is only interested in members who race. This is not true. We welcome anyone who enjoys sailing no matter whether their preference is for racing or cruising.

## What safety cover is available?

During club races, there is always at least one safety boat on the water. This is in radio contact with the Race Box on the shore. The race team is constantly on the lookout for boats in difficulty and will direct the safety boat accordingly.

This safety cover is available to all sailors in the vicinity of the club, whether racing or cruising.

However, if you sail at other times, you should follow basic safety precautions like sailing with another boat and telling friends or family your destination and your expected time of return.

The wearing of buoyancy aids is mandatory at Weston for any organised Sailing event.

## When are the galley and bar open?

The galley and bar are normally open to coincide with club sailing sessions, so will be open when sailing is possible. They are not available if you sail outside of these times.

## Do I have to do club duties?

The smooth running of most sailing clubs depends on members volunteering to undertake various activities during the year.

All adult and aged 16+ members are required to volunteer for up to 3 sessions (each) per year. If volunteering sessions remain unfilled on **1<sup>st</sup> March** then sessions are then allocated by the Duty Manager on a pro rata basis, but should still not exceed 3 per year.

Members have the option of paying an additional annual fee in return for committing to do fewer than 3 duties. The additional fee is £75 per duty and must be requested at the start of the membership year.