

Walbrook committee notice sent 13/8/2020

Dear []

As you may have seen, from Saturday 15th August, British Rowing moves to Phase E of its "Return to Rowing."

This means that quads and coxless fours may be used in addition to the doubles and singles we have already put back on the water.

The Committee has been monitoring use of boats and it seems that there is little appetite to use doubles at the moment. We do not want to register boats unnecessarily with the EA nor bring them back out of being "laid up" with our insurers if there is little desire at the moment to use the quads/coxless fours.

If you would like to use a quad/coxless four then please contact Andrew Crossley (men) and Stephanie Singham (women) with the names of the people in your bubble (up to 6 names) and the boat you would like to use. We will then arrange for the boat to be registered and put back on the water with the insurers . Please contact Andrew/Stephanie by Monday 12 noon so that quads/coxless fours can be used as soon as possible. At this point in time we have not registered them nor asked our insurers to put them back on the water.

Use of singles - there has been quite a bit of damage to the singles as there is very heavy use. It has been noticed that many people struggle unnecessarily to pick singles up and often hit one end on the hard causing damage. If there are others around please ask them to help you to preserve the boat.

Please read the attached document on new boating protocols from 15/08/20. By booking a boat from 15/08/20 it is understood that you have read this and are willing to comply. Please please remember to book boats even private singles. TWC now require this to be mandatory.

Many thanks

Walbrook Committee

Attachment:

Boating from 15/8/20

Here is the updated set of requirements for boating.

We do recognise that some of these restrictions may seem particularly stringent, but our only priority is to keep everyone safe and well. Throughout all of this we have to remain mindful that COVID19 can be fatal, and a local lockdown would result in us not being able to row at all. A second wave would be very tough physically, emotionally and mentally and each of us MUST take personal responsibility and play our part. BR has emphasised that although we are making progress, this is still not a return to “rowing as normal”; these steps are being put in place to allow members to exercise and access club equipment in order to scull and row in accordance with current Government, British Rowing and Environment Agency guidelines. Open competition has now been suspended until at least the end of September. There will be trial events held in early October.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES HEALTH:

- Do not attend the club if you are feeling unwell, even if you believe your symptoms are is not COVID related. The symptoms associated with COVID may be mild and are ever changing. DO NOT PUT YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS AT RISK. GET TESTED AND BE SURE that you are well before returning to the club.
- If a member appears unwell, ask them to return home immediately and book themselves a test if there is any chance that their symptoms are COVID related

PERSONAL HYGIENE:

- Wash your hands with soap and water or sanitiser often – there are supplies at the club. You are also required to sign in if you use mainland clubhouse.

CHANGING ROOMS/GYMS

- The changing rooms are still NOT open and so spare clothing, including outer layers worn to the club prior to boating, cannot be left there.
- Indoor training is still not permitted at this time – TWC are working hard to get the gyms open but please remember they too are volunteers. Fans in the Paul Gilbert gym are not working effectively enough to meet the Government requirements and they will be serviced as soon as TWC can get an engineer Risk assessments for the Marquee have now been completed and a booking system trialled and put in place. Janet will be emailing all shortly with instructions. Please note you are not allowed to use the Marquee unless you have booked a slot under any circumstances

GENERAL

- Initially we were all very careful in cleaning boats down after use but it has been noticed that boats now seem to be less clean and that some people are hardly using the disinfectant/soap at all. Careful cleaning of boats and oar handles is MANDATORY as is the one person per side in the boathouse for getting out sculls. Please please clean everything you touch with soapy water or disinfectant using a sponge .

- Stay 2M apart - If you have to be closer than 2M, consider wearing a face covering and stay back to back or side to side. DO NOT face each other. This includes assisting in boating and landing
- Observe signage and information posters when inside the club house
- Keep contact with members to a minimum i.e. stay in your crew buddy group if you are using quads. Assess all the risks involved to you personally before agreeing to attend the club.

BOATING

- Only collect the equipment that you need for boating. Do not collect other member's blades etc
- Use the club house for the least amount of time required and otherwise, remain outside
- Prior to getting on the water complete required boat checks including heel restraints and bow balls. it is your responsibility to check! If you are coaching someone or taking responsibility for them on the water then please carry out the check with them to make sure it is done as less experienced people often forget to do this.
- Carry boats whilst maintaining social distancing – singles, doubles and pairs can be carried at the shoulders of the boat with a distance of 2M between each member. Quads and fours must be carried with crew at each seat point spread along the boat at alternating sides (e.g. 1 and 3 bow side and 2 and 4 stroke side). **It is NOT acceptable** to carry a four/quad with only 2 people – one at each end.
- Singles – there has been quite a bit of damage to the singles as there is very heavy use. It has been noticed that many people struggle unnecessarily to pick singles up and often hit one end on the hard causing damage. If there are others around please ask them to help you to preserve the boat.
- Consider wearing a face covering whilst launching and returning in crews and remove once in the seated position. Face coverings are a personal choice during the outing, but members must consider the risk of a mask getting wet through breath, sweat or splashes, restricting breathing and equally becoming less effective as protection against viral transmission when wet
- Crews must not face each other when carrying boats. Always stay side to side or all facing in one direction

ON THE WATER:

- Crew boats must row as a full crew in time with each other at all times to maximise and maintain the space between each member.
- Avoid shouting unless safety is compromised to reduce droplet transmission
- Use the same boat each time as much as possible

BOAT BOOKING

- All members in any boat are required to book their seat via the online booking system. This information will be kept for 21 days to allow for NHS test and trace. Members must keep this system up to date, removing their name if they don't attend a booked session. We now have a large number of people boating – **this is MANDATORY** even for the use of private singles and a requirement of using the site. For use of quads contact Steph/Andrew with the name of your bubble and for allocation of a boat.

AFTER BOATING

- Only clean your section of the boat with stroke and bow cleaning the remaining hull sections respectively

COXED BOATS: • No coxed boats are permitted at this time