

The
Green
Guide
to
Check Clean Dry
for Inland
Sailing
Clubs

The Green Blue
Making the environment second nature



A joint environment initiative



Check Clean Dry for Inland Sailing Clubs



Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) can cause damage to equipment, infrastructure and habitats which is why it is important for all inland sailing clubs to adopt Check Clean Dry to minimise the introduction and spread of species between different freshwater sailing venues.

This leaflet is designed to help clubs to consider what they need to put in place to carry out Check Clean Dry for all types of boat movement; all boats leaving the club's site; visiting boats from other parts of the UK and overseas; and club members' boats that leave to use another sailing venue then return to the club.

Key Principles of Check Clean Dry

Check Clean Dry is a three step approach to stop the spread of INNS. It should be used for boats, sails, trailers and trollies, and all clothing that has come into contact with the water including wetsuits, spray tops, buoyancy aids, gloves and footwear. It should also be used for any equipment (pontoons, buoys and ropes) that is moved between different water bodies.

Boats, sails, trailers, trollies and equipment should be washed down thoroughly with clean water at maximum pressure with a hose. All visible plant and animal material should be removed and put in the bin.

Clothing and footwear should be rinsed in clean water on site. In addition, visitors and members should be encouraged to submerge their kit in hand-hot water for 15 minutes (either on site or at home) as research has shown this method will destroy eight of the UK's worst aquatic invasive species.

Clubs should also remind visitors and members of the importance of leaving equipment and clothing to dry for as long as possible before being used in a different water body as some invasive species can survive in damp conditions for more than two weeks.

The most thorough and systematic way to minimise the risk of spreading INNS is to wash all boats and equipment before leaving a club's site regardless of whether a site is known to have INNS present.



Image Credit: GBNNSS, David Aldridge

Departing Boats

All boats, sails, trollies, trailers and equipment retrieved from the water should be washed down and fully drained before being allowed to leave the site. Ideally this should be supervised by the club and boats should confirm that it has been done on exiting the club's site. Run-off/waste water from washing down can be discharged back into the water body.

Visiting Boats

Visitors should be asked to confirm on arrival that their boat, sails, trailer and equipment have been through Check Clean Dry after the last use. If they cannot confirm this, they should be directed to a designated area where the boat, sails, trailer and equipment should be checked and washed. Run-off/waste water should not be allowed to enter the water body or any surface water drains. It can be directed into the foul sewer.

Returning Boats

Club members who leave the club's site with their boat to use a different water body and then return should take individual responsibility for ensuring their boats, sails, trailers and equipment have gone through Check Clean Dry. If they have not done this they should enter a designated area to wash their boat, sails, trailer and equipment before moving into the dinghy park or launching their boat. Run-off/waste water from washing down should not be allowed to enter the water body or any surface water drains. It can be directed into the foul sewer.



Image Credit: Steve Mitchell

The requirement for members to take responsibility for managing their own Check Clean Dry process should be included in the club rules.

RIBs/Safety Boats

All RIBs/Safety Boats should follow the same Check Clean Dry approach depending on whether they are departing, visiting or returning to a club's site. In addition, engines should be flushed with clean tap water using appropriate equipment, flush muffs or in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. The water should be allowed to drain completely from the engine in a vertical down position. Where visiting or returning boats cannot confirm that this has been done, provision needs to be made for engines to be flushed prior to launching in a designated area away from surface water drains or the main water body.

If RIBs/Safety Boats are on the water but not in use and stationary for any period of time, drivers should be asked to raise the prop out of the water to minimize the risk of INNS entering the engine.

The Green Blue

The Green Blue is a UK wide programme created by the Royal Yachting Association and British Marine in 2005 to enable the UK recreational boating sector to decrease its impact on the environment by:

- Raising awareness amongst industry and users
- Reducing harmful discharges
- Reducing environmental disturbance
- Encouraging sustainable choices

For more information visit our website
www.thegreenblue.org.uk



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