

# THORPE BAY YACHT CLUB

## PARENT CHARTER

TBYC believes that parents/carers and volunteers play a very important role in the development of their children in sailing and ultimately the future of the club. **Parents/carers always take the ultimate responsibility for their child/children and any other child left in their care**, even when the child is participating in activities being run by a club volunteer.

1. It is the sole responsibility of the parents to supervise their children whenever they are on the Club premises, surrounding areas and using the Club facilities. Organised Cadet activities does not excuse the parents of these responsibilities.
2. Understand that the club, although providing support boat facilities during Club activities, is not responsible for supervision, control or safety of children. At all times parents/carers and guardians have sole responsibility for their children/wards and must appreciate that the club does not exercise supervision or control. Even during club racing the club cannot supervise children, or any other persons, on or off the water.
3. Be aware of the existence and role(s) of the Clubs Officers, to assist and co-operate with them, also to know Club policy relating to child protection.
4. Health and Safety is of paramount importance, you and your child must be aware of the following:
  - The decision whether a Cadet may participate in a race/training session is the sole responsibility of that person's legal guardian, or their elected representative and not that of a volunteer leading a session, or acting as a Race Officer.
  - Parents are responsible for pointing out any potential hazards inside and in the vicinity of the Club House.
  - Children should not run, or play in the Boat Park or in the Car Parks or near the RIBS at the side of the Club.
  - Children should not swim from the slipway or the concrete groyne, unless given permission by one of the Club Officials.
5. Offer whatever assistance they can to the running of Cadet Activities and support the Club and their child wherever possible, eg. by watching races and training sessions, making sure that their child has appropriate clothing and equipment, supporting social events and Prize-Giving etc.
6. Recognise the importance and value of coaches and others within the club, who give their time, expertise and resources to provide opportunities for young people.

7. In particular the club expects all parents to:

- Encourage, by reasonable means, children to actively participate in sailing and in other Club activities.
- Recognise that children's enjoyment and participation in sailing, as a member of this Club is of paramount importance.
- Promote and teach fair play by setting a good example.
- Teach their children that effort and teamwork, and helping others, are as important as winning.
- Help their child to set realistic goals, improve their skills and develop a positive attitude.
- Never ridicule or shout at any child for making a mistake.
- Acknowledge and applaud good sailing by all competitors.
- Accept an official's judgement, and then review with official or relevant Club Officer at a suitable time.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's activities.
- Encourage their children to leave the Club premises in a clean and tidy condition.

### **Become a Volunteer**

At TBYC the club is run by volunteers from within its membership. As such parents should actively offer whatever assistance they can in the running of Cadet activities and support the Club and their child where possible i.e. by watching races and training sessions, making sure their child has appropriate clothing and equipment, supporting social events and prize-giving, learning to become Race Officer Assistants (and then Race Officers), learning to assist (and then helm) the support boats etc. This involvement is the best way to become a real part of the club and fully integrate the family into club activities at all levels. Even if you do not sail, there are many roles in which you can help support your child and the club at the same time. Many members, who are absolutely vital to the continued effectiveness of the club and the sailing programme, do not themselves sail. Recognise the importance and value of coaches and others within the Club, who give their time, expertise and resources to provide opportunities for young people.

For more information on becoming a volunteer, contact any member of the General Committee.

Revised and approved by the General Committee 25<sup>th</sup> February 2013.