



Introduction/Welcome

Welcome to Tollesbury Sailing Club Cadets. The aim of Cadets is to promote the sport of sailing for the children of our Members. We currently accommodate children in school years 4 to 11 and encourage year 12/13s to progress to independent sailing, joining in with Sunday social sailing and racing.

The cadet section is run by cadet parents and helpers, who volunteer and give their time free of charge. We would like every parent to assist in the running of cadets.

In this booklet you will find the information needed for your child to enjoy cadets, but any other question/queries can be asked to your Cadet Captain and instructors.

Tollesbury Sailing Club is an RYA Affiliated Club.

The cadet section is run by a Cadet Committee with the help of qualified RYA instructors and qualified power boat and safety boat helpers.

All cadet parents are encouraged and welcome at all Tollesbury Sailing Club events outside of cadets.

How TSC Cadets is run

Cadets is run by parents of cadets and helpers who volunteer. Many parents have attended courses in Safety Cover, Power Boat Driving and First Aid. A list of who holds which qualification is available from the Cadet Captain.

You will find the date of every cadet sail in the Tollesbury Sailing Club programme, which you should have received in your membership pack. The time stated in the programme is the time the cadets will meet on the day.

We use Team App to organise and sign up for cadet sessions. Contact us if you have not received an invitation to join the "team" and download the app.

The dates for cadet sails are added to the app and parents need to sign up in advance for each session, there may be a limit on cadet numbers due to instructor availability/boat allocation/weather conditions. Please indicate at the same time which adult is able to help

for that Saturday. Parents are requested to stay to escort their child to and from the Hard, and need to be within 5 minutes from the club in case an emergency requires us to come in early. Please let the Cadet Captain know if you have any specific skills to offer!

An email will be sent either Thursday night or Friday detailing the plan for the session and allocating roles to helpers and instructors.

The areas needing to be covered are:-

1. Help Afloat.

Assistance on the safety boats is required. You will be expected to help (get wet!) and appropriate clothing should be worn for the weather conditions. All parents are welcomed and encouraged to help on the water whether or not you hold qualifications, however the SI is responsible for safety so may choose more experienced crews in adverse conditions.

2. Launch and Recovery.

This role involves assisting the children to launch the boats into the water, you will then remove the trolleys from the water's edge and stack appropriately. On the children's return (please see that week's email for approximate return time), as the children return to the Hard, you will be required to find the appropriate trolley (all trolleys will be named) and assist the cadets with getting their boats onto their trolleys and out of the water. Please wear suitable footwear as you will be required to wade into the water up to the knee.

3. Tally.

Every cadet has a number and a corresponding tally band which is issued at the start of the season. All the tally bands hang on a board on the side of the clubhouse. The role of adult is to make sure cadets have their correctly numbered band on their person when leaving the boatyard and upon their return the cadets MUST hand in their band and place on the board in the correct place. This is to ensure your child's safety.

4. Galley.

Two volunteers are needed to make hot/cold beverages for cadets and helpers upon their return. Each child and helper gets a drink and cake/donut. You are then required to collect cups and wash up leaving the kitchen as you found it. You may be required to sweep and mop the floor if necessary.

One parent every season takes on the responsibility of purchasing the provisions and accounting for the money. You are not required to do Galley duty every week, two parents will be allocated this job on a weekly basis.

The Cadet Captain or Senior Instructor has final word over who sails and who does not on the day where conditions are not safe for some or all cadets. This is mainly based on conditions, experience and sailing ability.

Cadets are expected to wear appropriate clothing (see clothing section).

On arrival your instructor will show you which boat you are in (this applies to cadets using club boats), and before going afloat cadets and parents will be briefed on the plan for the session. Cadets will be required to help rig boats ready for sailing and take part in land drills if necessary. Cadets are requested to help instructors with packing away and cleaning the boats and also taking them down to and back from the Hard.

Whilst afloat Instructors and helpers are there to teach cadets to sail and keep you safe. Cadets are requested to follow instructions and remain polite and courteous at all times. We aim to produce a varied programme of structured sailing, racing and games. We also ask that the more confident and experienced sailors help the less experienced sailors with rigging and de-rigging ashore. On return to shore cadets are required to wash, de-rig, pack away and tidy boats. They are responsible for their own person belongings. Lost property will be kept for a short time.

Club boats should be packed away before refreshments, unless told otherwise by your instructor only. In adverse weather conditions this may change. Instructors will show you the correct place to store club equipment.

Wet boots are permitted in the clubhouse, but cadets are asked to change (changing rooms and hot showers are available in the changing rooms) first if they are totally wet through or muddy.

Equipment and Clothing

Sailing runs from Spring to Autumn and therefore weather conditions will change greatly. Cadets will be expected to turn up suitably dressed for the conditions, also a spare change of clothes should be bought for after sailing. Cadets need suitable clothing as we cannot bring the whole fleet in because one child is cold. Please ensure your child has the correct clothing in order to go sailing.

Recommended Equipment

Wet Boots/shoes (not Wellingtons)

Wetsuit

Sailing trousers (or wind stopping/waterproof trousers to prevent wind chill)

Spray Top or Cag (or similar waterproof jacket will do if your child is deciding whether to continue sailing long term)

Sailing Gloves

Rash Vest (optional)

Beanie Hat

Thermal Layer (optional)

Buoyancy Aid, suitably fitted, **MUST** be worn at all times whilst afloat.

This is NOT optional. (Please note that a lifejacket is not suitable.). The club does NOT supply these.

Please ensure your child has the correct clothing for the weather conditions. A wetsuit, spray top and buoyancy aid must be brought to every sailing session whatever the weather conditions, as weather can change rapidly and it is normally colder out of the water.

We do suggest in hot weather children wear sun cream (as we cannot administer this), also a bottle of water should be brought.

Adult helpers should also wear suitable clothing and always wear a buoyancy aid whilst afloat.

Club Boats

Tollesbury Sailing Club has a selection of boats that are available for cadets to use on cadet days (if they do not already have their own boat) by arrangement.

We have RS Visions, a Wayfarer, Toppers and Optimists.

We have a limited amount of club boats and cadet parents may like to purchase a boat for their child, once they are sure their child likes sailing and wishes to continue long term, as this frees up club boats for newer learners. (The Cadet Captain and instructors are happy to advise which boat would be suitable.)

All personal boats are required to have insurance.

Boat Parking

If you wish to keep your boat in the Tollesbury Sailing Club please contact The Rear Commodore (you can find out who this is and download a boat parking application form from the Tollesbury Sailing Club website) who will guide you through the process of payment and allocation of space.

Boat parking runs from April to October and November to the following April.

All boats are required to have at least 3rd party liability insurance.

Cadet charge

There is normally an annual subscription payable for each cadet participating in the activities. This money goes towards fuel and safety boat maintenance, as well as refreshments. This amount will be advised at the start of the season. For those cadets using a club boat we suggest an additional £10 donation for the season, to contribute towards maintenance and insurance of club boats.

Cadet Week

Every year the cadet section has a cadet week. This is in the school summer holiday and is a week (or several days) of sailing, games, races and food. This is not a drop off service, more stay and play; you will be required to help throughout the week!

This is charged separately and details will be issued nearer the time.

Waiting List

TSC Cadets has proved very popular over recent years, so we have a waiting list for new starters. TSC members may add their child to the waiting list by emailing the relevant Cadet contact (please contact the Committee to get the necessary contact details). At the end of the season the list will be reviewed, to see if there will be space for any children to start cadets in the next season. Usually, children who have been waiting longest will be offered spaces first, however, depending on the age/experience of the cadets who have left, there may only be a space for an older cadet; or a cadet who can provide (for example) an instructor parent. This decision will be made in the best interests of the whole Cadet group.