



MYLOR YACHT CLUB

CRUISING POLICY

Reviewed and Revised February 2020

INTRODUCTION

The *House Committee* of the Mylor Yacht Club has delegated to the *Cruising Secretary* the responsibility of organising and running cruises/rallies for the Mylor Yacht Club. The *Cruising Secretary* may delegate the responsibility to a suitably qualified individual. The MYC cruising policy has been devised to enable MYC cruises to be undertaken safely with due consideration of the risks entailed. This policy has been reviewed and adopted by the *House Committee* which requires that the policy be operated and complied with whenever club cruises or rallies are organised.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Club cruises are planned to enable members to enjoy the company of other club members taking part. Many are more of the nature of a “Rally” rather than a “Cruise in Company”.

Definition of a Cruise in Company

A “Cruise in Company” involves an element of assistance and encouragement for less experienced skippers to expand their cruising horizons. This places a duty of care on the organisers and subjects the participants to some regulation. The duties of both the organisers and participants are described below.

Definition of a Rally

A “Rally” is a meeting of members & their vessels at a time and place, specified by the Rally organiser.

The passage to and from the event are entirely at each skippers discretion. There will be no input from the club about or during the passage.

MYC CRUISING POLICY

1. Registration Entry Forms:

Each owner/skipper will notify the *Cruising Secretary* of their intention to take part in the Club’s rally & cruising programme each year and shall complete and sign, preferably via the web site or by email, the *Registration Entry Form*. This shall be completed and received by the *Cruising Secretary* before taking part in any cruise or rally event.

Owners/Skippers Responsibilities:

The following decisions and preparations are the sole responsibility of each skipper:-

1. To notify the *Cruise/Rally Co-ordinator* for each event of their intention to take part, preferably by e-mail. This notification shall include any changes to the data on their *Registration Entry Form*, and shall also notify the number of persons on board for that cruise.
2. The decision whether to take part or not, taking into account the type of their vessel, their own experience as a skipper and that of their crew.
3. Obtaining and interpreting the appropriate weather forecasts covering each leg of the planned cruise/rally.
4. Determine the safety and suitability of the passage and destination for their vessel.
5. To notify the *Cruise/Rally Co-ordinator* immediately, by VHF or mobile phone, in the event they decide to abort any part of the cruise or go to another location, so as to avoid any unnecessary security alarm.
6. To report safe arrival at the destination to the Co-ordinator.
7. The skipper is to notify the *Cruise/Rally Co-ordinator* on leaving the cruise/rally for any reason and to confirm safe return to their home Port if remaining part of the Cruise/Rally.

The *Cruising Committee* also recommends that each skipper:

1. Completes personal, boat and emergency contact detail on the RYA SafeTrx app or via the website at <https://safetrx.rya.org.uk>.
2. Has a free “Sea Check” carried out by the RNLI.
3. Completes a passage plan as required under SOLAS V.
4. Has obtained an International Certificate of Competence (ICC) or comparable RYA qualification.
5. Attends at the pre-cruise/rally briefing if available.
6. That lifejackets are worn when on deck and particularly in tenders or dinghies.

2. *Alcohol:*

Members are reminded about the dangers that the consumption of alcohol can cause whilst taking part in sailing, which particularly extends to the use of tenders.

3. *Cruise/Rally Co-ordinator’s Responsibilities:*

The *Cruising Secretary* shall appoint a *Co-ordinator* for each *Cruise* or *Rally* unless they are undertaking those duties themselves, to take responsibility for organising and coordinating each event.

Generally - Notification of the event.

1. The event will be emailed to each skipper who has completed the *Registration Entry Form* via the Club Manager ‘Mailchimp’ system at least two weeks before the event.

2. To record a list of those who express an interest in taking part. Notify the skippers on the list of any updates/changes/details relating to the event.
The co-ordinator is to include the *cruising committee* and *cruising secretary* in this list even if they are not taking part for information purposes.
3. A MYC Facebook Event page maybe used on the discretion of the event co-ordinator in addition to the email system via the Club Manager to the co-ordinators instructions. The wording is to be provided by the event co-ordinator and not changed without their agreement. The post is to contain the wording '*for details please refer to the cruising email relating to the event*'.

For Cruises only the *Co-ordinator* shall:

When it is appropriate hold a briefing meeting, usually at the club house, and/or communicate by e-mail to all members who have notified their intention to take part in the cruise setting out the following:

1. The intended destination and a general brief description of the planned trip.
2. The planned departure and arrival.
3. The VHF channel to be used for inter-ship communications.
4. The *Cruise Co-ordinator's* boat name, skippers name, VHF Call Sign, MMSI Number, and mobile phone number.
5. Keep a list of all notified participants to include boat names and contact details from their cruising entry forms.
6. Provide a list of participating yachts to all those taking part in the cruise, to include boat name, skipper's name, MMSI and mobile phone numbers.
7. Establish if any skipper requires additional support/knowledge or chaperoned on passage and arrange if feasible.
8. Co-ordinator to prepare a risk assessment for each cruise event as per format agreed by *Cruising Committee & House Committee*, and forward a copy to the Cruising Secretary to keep on file on behalf of MYC.
9. If any boat appears to be overdue or where there is any other cause for concern and the boat cannot be contacted then take all reasonable steps to establish the whereabouts of that boat. This will include checking with other participants and the shore contact numbers for that boat. If the vessel is still unaccounted for then the coastguard and any relevant harbour master should be notified.

For Rallies only the *Co-ordinator* shall:

Carry out briefing/email as for cruises except paras 2,7 and 8.

ACCIDENT BOOK

An Accident Book is kept in the clubhouse in its designated place. All accidents should be recorded promptly after their occurrence. The responsibility to make this entry is that of the event organiser to whom all accidents should be reported.