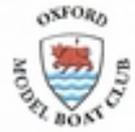


# OXFORD MODEL BOAT CLUB SAFETY RULES



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## SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT:

The safe operation of model boats, in compliance with the Club rules; the restraints of the Clubs group insurance scheme; the Oxford City Bye-Laws and the Oxford City Parks Dept. requirements relating to Safety, Noise, Pollution and Wildlife.

It shall be the responsibility of all club members to monitor the club's boating activities and general behaviour at the lakes and members shall have the authority to stop any activity which in their opinion contravenes the club rules or constitutes any hazard to other members or members of the public.

As unlimited sailing is available during park opening hours without the need for supervision., all members shall be issued with a copy of the club's safety policy statement and rules, and shall be required to sign a declaration that they have received their copy and fully understand the contents.

In the event of any incident with safety implications, full details shall be recorded by those members present and passed to a committee member who shall be required to inform as appropriate all interested parties: these may include; the Oxford City Parks Department; the Hinksey Residents Association & the clubs insurers, etc.

At all public events, (if considered necessary) notices shall be displayed warning the public of any potential dangers relating to the operation of model boats.

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## SAFETY RULES; Detailed:

### 1. Positions used at lakeside.

Members should take care to position themselves so that they do not inconvenience the public & other park users by standing in the pathways whilst operating their models. In particular they should refrain from walking backwards whilst concentrating on their boat.

### 2. Transmitter & Receiver frequencies & aerials.

Members using 27MHz or 40MHz radio equipment should ensure that the Transmitter aerial has a soft protector ball on its tip and should be held vertical when in use to prevent injury to self or others. The aerial should be retracted as soon as the transmitter is out of use.

The Receiver aerial should have similar protection to prevent eye injury whilst bending over the model.

Before switching on their 27MHz or 40MHz Transmitter they should ensure that the frequency they intend to use is not already in use by another member.

**NOTE: 35MHz radio MUST NOT be used as it is reserved for aircraft.**

Members using 2.4GHz radio equipment are not effected by this rule.

### 3. Propellers.

These are very dangerous, especially in the case of high speed models, it is essential to keep clear of them.

Ensure that you switch on the Transmitter FIRST (i.e. Before the receiver) and set the speed control channel to the STOP position; only then switch on the receiver.

Take care to keep clear of others as you move the model to the water.

Do not leave your Transmitter unattended whilst moving the model to the water.

### 4. Lifting of models.

Ask another member if you need help in lifting a model in or out of the water, explain to them where to hold the model so that you do this in the safest way.

Use a launching trolley or similar device for very large or heavy models as they can be difficult to lift without damage to the structure or fittings.

### 5. Decline help from public when retrieving models.

Do not seek or accept assistance from the public when lifting or retrieving a boat from the water, you could be responsible if they were injured or fell into the water during the process.

### 6. Trolleys & equipment.

Place these away from pathways where others could trip over them.

Do not leave valuable equipment when it may prove attractive to others

### 7. Rescue boats, Waders, life-jackets, etc.

BOATS:

If you need to use the rescue boat to retrieve a model that has broken down or has become caught up on buoy moorings or undergrowth around the lake you MUST:

- (a) Ensure that there are enough members present to launch & retrieve the rescue boat safely.
  - (b) Ensure that there are two members in the boat, one to manage the rescue boat and one to handle the model.
  - (c) Ensure that both members are wearing the club's buoyancy aids (life-jackets).
  - (d) Do not allow a non-member to assist in any of the above activities.
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## SAFETY RULES; Detailed:

### 7. Rescue boats, Waders, life-jackets, etc. Continued:

#### WADERS:

The bottom of the pond is very irregular, when using the waders to retrieve a model or part thereof, it is essential that:

- (e) The waders are adjusted to fit as best as possible.
- (f) A club's buoyancy aid (life-jacket) must be worn.
- (g) A 'wading staff' or long stick should be used to search ahead for hollows or obstructions.
- (h) Do not carry the retrieved boat back to the edge of the pond, but just push it ahead of you. If the boat had sunk, then tip out the water first.

#### LIFE-JACKETS:

Before & after use these need to be examined to ensure that are in good condition. If in doubt that the defective items to a committee member for further examination.

### 8. I.C. boats not permitted.

Models powered by internal combustion engines (petrol, diesel, glow & turbine) are not allowed by the Oxford City Parks Department & our club's insurers. DO NOT USE THEM.

### 9. Members bringing children & Pets.

Members bringing children or pets to the pond are entirely responsible for their behaviour and safety.

### 10. Steam Powered Models

Steam powered models are allowed but there are special conditions for their use and maintenance:

- a) Models with a boiler capacity of more than 3 Bar-Litres require a regular boiler examination and test. It is the owners responsibility to find a competent qualified tester and to produce the certificate to a committee member.  
Do not test a boiler using compressed air or by steaming it. The proper and only safe way is to fill the boiler completely with water then pressurise it using a water pump.
- b) The boiler capacity is calculated by multiplying the total boiler capacity by the working pressure in Bars (1 Bar = 14.5 PSI).  
For a boiler of capacity 0.5 Litre and a working pressure of 100 PSI the calculation is:  $0.5 \times 100 / 14.5 = 3.45$  Bar-Litres. This boiler would require a valid test certificate before it may be used on the pond.
- c) Small boilers of the Mamod type are about 0.25 Bar-Litres so do not require a test certificate.
- d) All boilers should have a regular test of their safety valves to ensure that they operate at the correct pressure, even if they do not require an examination & test as described above.

### 11. Water born Diseases

Water in the pond and lake are likely to be contaminated by Weil's disease. This is carried in Rat's urine and there are some other sources.

Weil's disease is a severe form of a bacterial infection known as leptospirosis. Leptospirosis is caused by bacteria from the genus *Leptospira*. The infection typically only causes mild flu-like symptoms, including headaches and chills. In severe cases, such as in Weil's disease, it can lead to organ failure and bleeding.

**HYGIENE:** Wash your hands as soon as possible and do not handle any foodstuffs after they become wet with pond or lake water.

### 12. Boats with fire monitors

Models that 'squirt water' must not have their jets used to squirt people as the pond water is likely to be contaminated and the repercussions could be very serious for the person squirted.

Even if the model has a fresh water tank do not squirt people as you might encourage other members to do the same with their models that do not have such a tank.