

# Changing Rooms Policy – Practical application guidelines

## **A request for your co-operation from the Commodore.**

The Committee has taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the Club offers a safe and fun environment for everyone taking part in Club activities within the constraints associated with the size and layout of the clubhouse. Overarching details are contained in the Safeguarding Policy with specific focus on Changing Rooms in the Changing Room Policy document. Both are on the website with links below:

[Safeguarding Policy](#)

[Changing Room Policy](#)

Members will be aware that the club provides separate 'Men's' & 'Women's' changing/toilet facilities plus a small 'multi-purpose' disabled shower/toilet room, but we are not able to provide separate changing/toilet facilities for adults & youth of the same gender.

Whilst we celebrate the fact that the Club Membership in general and Club Racing in particular has a healthy mix of adults and youth competing, it does mean that the Changing Rooms and Toilets are open to both youth and adults (of the same gender) with equal priority. Hence some basic rules have been put in place to ensure a safe environment is maintained. Members are therefore requested to familiarise themselves with these rules and ensure that they comply. For clarity the Rules are set out in the changing rooms policy and supplemented by the poster affixed to the Changing Room Doors – see link to [Changing Room Rules Poster](#).

Anyone who is uncomfortable with this arrangement is advised to come to the club already changed in their sailing gear or change in the 'multi-purpose' Disabled toilet/shower room.

For most of the time, the policy is easy to comply with and reflects the most current & accepted way of operating;

However, there are certain times of the week when club youth groups are operating or periods during the summer when the Sea School are running courses that this becomes more of a challenge as large numbers of youths will be changing at the same time. These busy times (1/2 hour slots AM and PM) will be notified on the changing room doors by the group organisers, highlighting the periods to be reserved for priority use by the children.

I would be very grateful if large groups of adults could avoid use of the changing rooms at these times, by doing your other preparations at these times (rigging, de-rigging etc). For smaller numbers, please feel free to use the multi-use disabled toilet/shower facility.

If, in exceptionally rare circumstances it is unavoidable for adults to be in the changing room at the same time as children, then please speak to the group organiser who will need to arrange supervision of the children. If this is the case, you should not enter the changing rooms until this supervision is in place. Provision of a safe environment for all our members, be they youth or adult is paramount. Any instances of non-compliance should be reported to myself, our safeguarding officer or a committee member so that we can investigate and take appropriate action.

I hope that by all of us considering the needs of others we can have a great summer sailing at times that suits us all.

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Andy Robinson

Commodore