



Welcome to Rathmullan Sailing Club

In this pack you will find all the information you need, whether you're an experienced sailor or new to the sport. This document will help you navigate our club, our club rules and partake in club life safely and with confidence.

Have a good read and give yourself the knowledge and confidence to start sailing in Rathmullan Sailing Club.

Sailing School VS Sailing Club

The Sailing School and The Sailing Club are two separately run organisations

The Sailing School is a not-for-profit community-based initiative of the Rathmullan and District Resource Centre and an Irish Sailing Association (ISA) accredited Training Centre, providing all age groups with accredited sailing courses.

Rathmullan Sailing and Watersports Club operates from April until October and is open to people of all ages and experience, from age 8-80 and beyond! The club offers the challenges of learning to sail or kayak, along with a great team atmosphere where everyone pulls together whilst having fun!

The club is unique in that we provide boats, wetsuits & buoyancy aids to all our members.

Let's get to know the Boats

When you join the club, you will be invited to our "Sailing Club Bookings" WhatsApp Group. This group is strictly for booking boats and **no other messages are allowed in this group**. This is to ensure bookings and numbers of sailors can be closely monitored.

How to book a boat?

Never booked a boat before? Here's a quick guide to all the boats available at your disposal.

Our biggest fleet is our Topaz fleet ideal for beginners and easy to right in the event of a capsize.

The Fevas are the next step up and best handled by two sailors, or more experienced sailors. Heavier boats, they can be more difficult to right. The Bahia and Vago are the biggest boats available and are more suitable for crews to take out and can be extremely difficult to right in the event of capsize and may need to be towed to shore.

Topaz



- TYPE: Double-hander/Single-hander
- SKILL LEVEL: Start/Basic Skills
- RECOMMENDED AGE: 10 – 15 Years
- WEIGHT: 60/100 Kgs (depending if single or double-handed)

Feva



- TYPE: Double-hander
- SKILL LEVEL: Basic/Improving Skills
- RECOMMENDED AGE: 11 – 15 Years
- COMBINED WEIGHT RANGE: 85 – 110 Kgs

Bahia



- Skill Level: Advanced Helm
- Capacity: 1 – 5 People
- Stiff and stable roto-moulded hull
- Skill Level: Advanced

Vago



- Skill Level Advanced Helm
- The boat can be sailed either single or double handed.
- It has an asymmetric spinnaker and a single trapeze.
- The hull is of roto-moulded construction, making it incredibly durable.

A simple message with the sailor's name and choice of boat is sent to the "Sailing Club Bookings" WhatsApp Group". You can keep an eye on the group for any potential cancellations. All you need to know now is the club rules. These are vital for all active members & guardians to familiarise themselves with, to ensure our events run smoothly and safely.

Rules for Safe Sailing

To ensure the safety of our members and volunteers, Rathmullan Sailing and Watersports Club is implementing a set of strict rules that must be adhered to by all members, to ensure everyone has a safe and fun sailing experience.

- You must sign in before you sail. If you are under 18 a parent must sign you in and provide a mobile number which they can be contacted on in the event of an emergency or a return to shore order.
- No sailors are permitted to jump from boats when out at sea (unless authorised by the OOD). This unnecessarily ties up safety boat operators and puts other sailors at risk who may have a genuine emergency.
- Sailors may be asked to return to shore if any activity is being carried out that puts other sailors at risk. This is for their own and other sailors' safety.
- You may be asked to share a boat due to numbers, or to help you to advance your sailing.
- A RIB operator's decision is final. If a request is made by a RIB operator it must be carried out by the member. Any breach in this could result in a return to shore order.
- The above rules are for everyone's safety and if followed our sailing will be safer for everyone involved.



Junior Members are defined as persons under 18 years old. They should:

- Not engage in horseplay such as unnecessary capsizing, jumping from boats or any activity that warrants a rescue boat's attention.
- Not operate a RIB or handle fuel unless they have reached the legal age to do so and are trained.
- Be at least water confident non-swimmers. This means being able to comfortably float in depths over one's head with the support of an appropriate PFD.
- Have achieved an ISA accredited basic sailing or equivalent before sailing a dinghy single-handed or helming a dinghy.
- Follow instructions and briefing of OOD and Safety Boat Operator

Guardians

- Sign Junior Sailors in
- Provide contact number
- Ensure junior members are provided with the appropriate Personal Safety Equipment.
- Be available at agreed collection time, or in the event of an unscheduled return to shore.
- Notify Safety Officer of any medical issues that could affect their ability to sail

All members are obliged to read the Safety Statement and must:

- Have regard for all safety training, instructions and briefings
- Comply with all notices relating to safety
- Follow safety procedures and operating instructions that are provided
- Take reasonable care for their own safety and that of any other person who may be affected by their action or omission
- Co-operate with the Committee in the application of relevant safety legislation, and codes of practice
- Use equipment supplied by the Club in accordance with instructions
- Be familiar with the operation of the Club's safety equipment including fire extinguishers
- Not intentionally interfere with or misuse any equipment or appliance provided
- Be aware of personal capabilities in handling a boat under various weather conditions.
- Be at least water confident non-swimmers. This means being able to comfortably float in depths over one's head with the support of an appropriate PFD.
- Draw to the attention of visitors or other third parties relevant safety procedures;
- Report any unsafe practice being carried out by another member, a visitor or a contractor to the Safety Officer. This reporting may be verbal or in writing and may be made anonymously.

We are a growing club and ask all members and guardians to help where possible maintain this momentum and continue to grow our club. Your help is always welcome. Our club and surroundings are a fantastic resource here in Rathmullan and one we are all very proud of. We look forward to welcoming you all in person on the water and wish you all a very happy and fun filled season of sailing with us at Rathmullan Watersports & Sailing Club

Rathmullan

Sailing & Watersports Club

