

Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club - Annual Boat Hire Agreement

The club boats are available for hire to club members only.

2 x Laser 1
1 x Laser 2000
1 x Fireball
4 x Dart 16 catamarans

Approval to use the boats for the current year must be sought from either Andy Robinson, Sam Rowell or Paul Williams. Users must have a minimum of RYA Level 2 or equivalent experience. Individual approvals will stipulate which of the club boats you are able to use and which approval level you will be asked to adhere to

Level 1 – Club organised events only i.e. club racing and training events when there is rescue cover available.

Level 2 – use of boats up the river from the public launch slipway

Level 3 – Use of boats in levels 1 and 2 plus taking them out to sea.

The final decision as to whether you take a boat out will be up to you, once the annual approval is given. You should sail within your own ability and take note of any weather forecast. As a person hiring a club boat you have a duty of care not only for yourself but also the club boat you are using. Prior to use the hirer should inspect the boat and note any defects, if these deem the boat unsuitable to use then the hirer will receive a refund on the hire fee. Any defects should be noted in the diary and where appropriate the hirer should assist the club in fixing the boat.

Note on Sailing catamarans

The Dart 16 is a very robust and durable craft and an ideal introduction to Catamaran sailing. However, as with all sailing craft, it is not immune to forcible contact with solid objects such as other craft, jetties, rocks and underwater obstructions whilst afloat, being dragged over the shore or dinghy park when not on its launcher or being sailed straight up the beach on coming ashore.

Unlike a monohull with a single rudder, the raising and lowering of Dart rudders is of primary importance and can present problems to those unfamiliar with the procedures involved. Make sure you know how to operate them before going afloat and be aware of the time it takes to get BOTH rudders up when approaching the shore !!

Once ashore the rig should be lowered and made safe as quickly as possible and the boat either returned to the dinghy park or a safe location if further use is intended.

On a final note, particularly for those new to catamaran sailing, catamarans can achieve remarkable speeds in windy conditions and are capable of rapid acceleration when bearing away, They also have the ability to “ cartwheel “ ie, burying the leeward bow causing the boat to capsize stern over bows, if over pressed in very strong winds. Righting a capsized catamaran by its crew is a difficult task – so enjoy the thrills – but know when to ease off !!

Booking and Paying

If a member wishes to use a club boat they must book the boat they wish to use in the diary which is located in the club house. Bookings are made in segments of half a day and the fee for each half day is £5 for a single handed boat (laser) and £10 for a two man boat. The money will then be reinvested in maintaining and improving the boats. A boat can only be booked a maximum of seven days in advance, unless prior permission has been given by either Andy, Sam or Paul. This will ensure that all approved members have an opportunity to use the boats. All money should be paid to

Mark behind the bar or put in an envelope and marked for the attention of the treasurer with your name, the boat you hired and when you wish to use the boat.

First Name _____ Surname _____

Home Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Email _____

To be completed for member hiring club boats:

I understand that in hiring a club boat I undertake to follow the guidelines laid down in the agreement and accept my responsibilities to look after the boat in a careful manner dependent on the weather and sea conditions and to not exceed the level I have been authorised to in the use of any of the boats.

Name in BLOCK CAPITALS

SIGNED.....DATED.....

This section must be completed when the hirer is less than 18 years of age and to be signed by the person with parental responsible in accordance with the Childrens Act.

The Parent/Guardian accepts that the Club is not responsible at any time when the above named sails the club boats and the sole responsibility for such use is that of the Parent/Guardian.

Signed by Parent/Guardian

Name in BLOCK CAPITALS

Boats approved to use

Laser 1 yes / no

Laser 2000 yes / no

Dart 16 yes / no

Approval Level 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

Approved by _____