

SUTTON DINGHY CLUB - JUNIOR POWERBOAT POLICY

The ISA recommends that no one under the age of sixteen years should be left in charge of any powerboat without appropriate adult supervision. Under Irish law it is illegal for anyone under the age of sixteen to operate a powerboat that is capable of 17 knots or more.

The policy of Sutton Dinghy Club is to improve both the participation of junior members and keep their interest levels high whilst aiming to maintain a strict level of ability for being a responsible powerboat driver. In order to ensure that the participation of junior members in powerboat based activities is carried out in a sensible, safe and controlled fashion it has been necessary to impose certain restrictions on junior members under 16yrs.

- These restrictions are as follows:
- Persons using club powerboats unsupervised should be a minimum of 16 years old and hold at least an ISA National Powerboat Certificate.
- Junior members under 16 years of age may not helm on a club powerboat whilst it is actively engaged in or rostered to carry out rescue duties at any time (except as part of a rescue training exercise or training event). This exception is subject to the approval of the Club Principal, Senior Instructor or member of the General Committee present at that event.
- Junior members between 14-16 years of age may crew on a club powerboat whilst it is actively engaged in or rostered to carry out rescue duties. Before engaging in crewing duties these junior members must have submitted request for review to Club Rescue Officer. The above activities will be conducted only under the strict supervision of and when accompanied by a qualified club powerboat driver or instructor.
- Junior members aged 12-14 years old will be permitted to use club powerboats at specific events designated for the purpose of powerboat training. The above activities will be conducted only under the strict supervision of and when accompanied by a qualified club powerboat driver or instructor. The designated responsible driver must be a minimum of 18 years old and hold at least an ISA National Powerboat Certificate.
- All designated responsible drivers are approved at the discretion of the Sailing Committee. The Sailing Committee has the authority to allow or deny the use of any particular club powerboat by a junior member or inexperienced adult member.
- Before a junior member less than 16 years of age may participate in club powerboat activities as a helm or crew a consent form signed by a parent or guardian must be provided to the Sailing Committee.