

# Milton Keynes Model Boat Club Rules

1. All members of the Milton Keynes Model Boat Club (hereinafter referred to as “the club”) must abide by the club rules and the constitution.
2.
  - (a) All powerboats are required to operate safely in designated areas.
  - (b) Due caution must be exercised at all times with regards to safety to all other lake users and wild fowl.
  - (c) I.C. engine boats are not allowed on the lake before 9.00am and not later than 8.00pm. This does not apply to scale electric or low pressure steam.
  - (d) If any member wants to use a yacht on the lake it must be radio controlled. All rules apply as for power. Milton Keynes has two dedicated yacht clubs of which we are not one. This is an option for existing power boat members only and we will not accept yacht only membership. In the club, power boats have priority.
3.
  - (a) Rolling membership – annual from date of joining.
  - (b) Membership cards to be carried by members attending club waters (Willen Lake) when operating boats, or attending other club activities.
4.
  - (a) No transmitter may be switched on within range of club waters without displaying the correct coloured pennant for 27meg or the appropriate number for 40meg equipment. Any damage caused by a breach of this rule will be the responsibility of the offender. This does not apply to 2.4 GHz equipment.
  - (b) Life jackets must be worn in the recovery boat at all times. Waders must not be worn in the recovery boat. Persons under the age of 18 years are not allowed in the recovery boat.
  - (c) Juniors under the age of 18 must be supervised by a parent or guardian when operating on club waters.
  - (d) Only insured persons may recover models from the rescue boat, and the rescue boat driver must be informed of this fact.
  - (e) All classes of boats to have a fail-safe on the throttle; spark ignition to have fail-safe on the throttle or the ignition system.
  - (f) All boats using club water must display their club number as shown on their membership card. Letters and numbers must be a minimum height of 25mm with the exception of scale model boats. With scale models you can hide the number on the boat or use it as part of the name/registration of the model boat.
  - (g) A maximum speed of 50mph for all models (unless there are no members of the public in/on the water, or at an organised event).
  - (h) Any boat over 50 inches will be subject to Committee approval.
  - (i) All boats are to be started at water’s edge.
  - (j) Exhaust must be covered, with no more than 65mm exposed past the transom.
  - (k) Fast electric powered boats that are considered too noisy will not be allowed, and their owners will be asked to remove them from the water. Any refusal to that request will result in suspension from the club. (Brushless motors can have a very high pitched sound that is annoying to the public). If we receive any complaints regarding noise, the committee will enforce a maximum allowed voltage allowed on this type of motor.
  - (l) All li-po batteries must be kept in a safe container/bag; these are available from model shops and online.
5. **Noise**  
No boat will be permitted to exceed club noise limits, which at present are 80 decibels at 10 meters. Members’ boats not complying must be removed from the waters. Random noise checks will be made without warning.

6. **Discipline**

Good behaviour within the club is the responsibility of all members. Any breach of the rules will result in the committee issuing a warning, and if the situation persists, denying the member the use of club waters.

7. **Rules**

The club rules may be amended by a postal ballot or email, and then only by a majority vote by members.

8. **Child protection**

- (a) People under the age of 18 years and vulnerable adults are accepted into the club only with the written permission of their parent or legal guardian. These members under the age of 18 years will be known as junior members.
- (b) Junior members or vulnerable adults (as classified in (a) above) will not be permitted to attend any meetings, organised events, or visit any club lake/clubhouse without the presence of their parent or legal guardian. (For this purpose a legal guardian will be accepted as an adult who has the written permission of the parent with him/her to look after the junior member whilst in his or her care. This is a private childcare agreement and not the responsibility of the club).
- (c) Club members are not allowed to approach nor have personal contact with any person under the age of 18 years or who is suspected/known to be a vulnerable adult (unless such person is in the presence of their parent and/or legal guardian as described in (b) above) whilst carrying out any aspect of their hobby except in circumstances required to preserve life or prevent accident.
- (d) Photographs of juniors or vulnerable adults must not be taken without the express permission of the parent or guardian.
- (e) Any club member accused of, or suspected of, inappropriate behaviour with a person under the age of 18 years or registered as a vulnerable adult must be reported to a committee member and will immediately be suspended from the club, and details will be referred to the relevant authorities. The suspension will not be revoked until the matter has been satisfactorily resolved by the relevant authority.
- (f) Any club member who suspects that a person under the age of 18 years or a vulnerable adult has been treated inappropriately shall have a duty to report the incident in writing to the Club Secretary and, in the event of a serious incident, i.e. physical harm, immediately to the relevant local authority. Such inappropriate behaviour includes:
  - (a) Physical harm of any kind;
  - (b) Threatening behaviour;
  - (c) Bullying;
  - (d) Any form of discrimination due to race, cultural differences, gender, disability, or sexuality.
- (g) The club recognises that from time to time some individual members may choose to take part in organised events run by outside organisations, such as schools or groups. Should this be the case, it is the responsibility of the individual member to ensure that the organisers have a set policy on the inclusion of young people under the age of 18 years and vulnerable adults, plus appropriate insurance to cover the event. The club will not be liable for any accident or incident occurring during such activity.
- (h) Whilst in a public area it is the responsibility of each member to act appropriately towards all members of the public and, whenever possible, during organised events an appropriate area should be cordoned off with a notice stating "AUTHORISED PERSONS ONLY".