



MEMBERSHIP RULES – MRC MEMBERS

Membership Rules apply to ALL Members. Respecting them will ensure enjoyable, safe rowing and racing for everyone

We are all members of the one club. No one is paid to run the boathouse. With our limited resources and very limited funds we can still operate the boathouse smoothly if we all pull together - just like rowing. Don't watch others pull more weight than you and don't let anyone pull less!

ALL MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR TIME IN THE RUNNING OF OUR CLUB. THIS WILL INCLUDE WORKING BEES, ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES, COMMITTEE WORK, COACHING AND FUND RAISING.

1. WHAT DO I GET AS A MEMBER?

Depending on your level of membership you get access to boats and oars (limited by category), personal insurance while rowing, use of the gymnasium (limited by category), coaching when organised by the Club or funded separately, social facilities at Pearl Bay and access to the best rowing water in Sydney. If you pay to join the NSW Rowing Association (NSWRA) and you are a current member of the club you can race and represent your club in all local, state and national regattas.

2. RELEVANT CLUB OFFICERS

For those of you not aware, the main Club Officers are:

President:	Jim Battersby
Vice President:	Tim Sheridan
Captain:	Michael Burns
Treasurer:	Em Barac
Secretary:	Jenny Wilson

3. WHEN CAN I TRAIN?

- During the week the boathouse is usually open from 5.15am to 5pm. On weekends the boathouse is usually open 5.30am to 10am.
- On rare occasions, such as in mid winter, the boathouse may not be open during these times. If in doubt, check with a key holder or call to ensure access.
- Keys and alarm codes are only available to coaches and senior members with the Captain's approval and a \$50 deposit. LAST TO LEAVE MUST ALWAYS LOCK UP THE ROLLER DOORS (CLOSE AND PADLOCK), AFTER PUTTING AWAY THE MOBILE SCULLING RACKS, TINNIES, MOBILE RIGGER RACK AND OTHER EQUIPMENT, CLOSE AND LOCK WINDOWS AND DOOR UPSTAIRS, TURN OFF LIGHTS AND CLOSE THE BACK DOOR. THE SHED AND GYM AUTO ALARMS AT 10PM, SO JUST CLOSE THE DOOR. ALSO ENSURE THE COMPOUND BETWEEN THE TWO SHEDS IS LOCKED.
- The same applies to the new boathouse. IF YOU ARE LAST TO LEAVE THE GYM/CHANGE ROOMS MAKE SURE ALL LIGHTS ARE OFF, AND DOORS AND GATE IS LOCKED. THE ALARM WILL BE

AUTOMATICALLY SET FROM 10PM. If you activate the alarm without a code the club gets a \$90 call out fee from the security company.

- If you are at risk of being locked out while rowing, it will only be because you have failed to sign out your boat. All boats must be signed out.
- Always train with someone else or tell someone you are going out and your estimated time of return.
- Junior Members, LTR and RFF rowers may only row under the direct physical supervision of a coach.
- All members will need to bring down their magnetic key to gain access to the kitchen and change rooms in the old shed, and the gym and change rooms in the new shed. The doors are self-locking for security. If you have lost your magnetic key please advise the Captain and a new key will be issued with a further deposit of \$10.

4. BOAT BOOKING AND SIGN-OUT PROCEDURES

Boat Booking System

MRC boats fall into four categories: Elite, Squad, General and Private. MRC's online boat booking system enables members to reserve boats, but only from the category that applies to them. The boats are labelled within the system.

The majority of new members will be using general boats.

Members may only book ONE BOAT. The boat cannot be reserved, and then not used.

Boat Bookings must be checked before taking out a Club boat to ensure that Club coaches or other members have not reserved that boat.

Any member may use the Booking System to reserve a boat provided it is a category of boat allowed for that member. A boat can only be reserved **5 DAYS** in advance.

Any conflict or dispute regarding the reservation or use of boats may only be resolved by consulting the Captain or the Head Coach.

If boats are required for regattas or camps they must be booked for the period well in advance. If already booked you must call the booking party and negotiate with them.

Boat Log

NO RECREATIONAL, PRIVATE OR CLUB BOAT, OR CLUB TINNIE MAY BE USED UNLESS THE PERSON OR CREW USING IT SIGNS IT OUT IN THE BOAT LOG (located in the middle bay on the South side of the roller door) AND SIGNS IT BACK IN ON RETURN.

THE ENTRY IN THE LOG MUST NOTE THE NAME OF THE USER OR STROKE OF THE BOAT AND THE TIME

THE BOAT IS TAKEN OUT AND RETURNED, ALONG WITH ANY DAMAGE SUSTAINED OR IDENTIFIED DURING THE OUTING. THIS INFORMATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR MAINTAINING OUR FLEET AND IS AN INSURANCE REQUIREMENT OF THE CLUB.

5. **BOAT WASHING AND STORAGE**

All boats are to be washed inside and out after use, then dried inside and out with the towels provided, and put back in the correct rack the correct way around.

NO BOATS ARE TO BE LEFT ON TRESTLES OUTSIDE THE SHED. Only fixed racks or mobile trolleys are to be used to store boats. NO BOATS TO BE STORED ON THE CLUB TRAILER OR IN THE COMMON AREA BETWEEN THE BOATHOUSES.

Permission is required from the Captain to rack or store any private equipment in the shed.

6. **WHAT IF THE BOAT IS BROKEN OR DAMAGED?**

Breakages and damage are each crew's responsibility. Fix it yourself or advise the Captain, and ensure it is noted in the Boat Register. Depending on the cost and the manner of the breakage or damage, the crew may be charged for the repair.

If you damage a Club boat you will be required to provide an Incident Report to the Club Captain, who will refer the matter to the Club Committee. Depending on the circumstances, the Committee may require you to pay for all or part of the cost of repairs.

Spare and replacement parts are located under the stairs and at the end of the Middle Bay or ask the Head Coach or the Club Captain. Other boats are NEVER a supply source for ANY temporary parts.

Notify the Captain PERSONALLY of all major breakages or accidents particularly if insurance may be involved.

If you are involved in an accident you must complete a New South Wales Maritime Vessel Incident Report and submit it to the Club Captain. See

http://www.maritime.nsw.gov.au/docs/forms/vessel_incident_report.pdf

You should also leave a note on the boat pointing out the damage so another crew does not take the damaged boat and do further damage.

7. **WHAT ABOUT A SPEEDBOAT/TINNIE?**

MRC'S tinnies are reserved for the club's coaches. LTR and RFF coaches must defer to the Head Coach before launching any tinnie. For any boat over 8hp, coaches will need a current NSW Maritime Licence number.

Ensure the boat has a bailer, life jacket (ONE FOR EACH PERSON IN THE BOAT WHICH MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES ON THE WATER), oar and petrol before taking it out. Petrol is stored in the Yellow Fuel Store in Trailer area and MUST be put back in the store after use. As a club policy, all fuel is oiled as it arrives at the compound.

Please note that tinnies are limited to a maximum of 3 people. You must ensure you have the correct lighting including a white surround light 1 metre above the water level.

When using a speedboat, keep your wash down, and manoeuvre through the moored vessels on leaving or approaching the pontoon (i.e. well to the north or the south of the 300 metre clearway zone from the pontoon). The 300-metre clearway zone from the pontoon is a “no wash zone”.

8. CAN NON-MEMBERS ROW IN CLUB BOATS?

Non-members may use club equipment on a casual basis IF AND ONLY IF the following conditions are satisfied:

- where the non-member intends to row in a crew with members, the members must be responsible for the actions and behaviour of the non-member and will be responsible for ensuring that the non-member pays the casual rowing fee referred to below;
- where the non-member intends to row in a single scull or in a crew where none of the crew are members, the non-member must first obtain the permission of the Head Coach or Captain. and
- the non-member must pay a casual rowing fee of \$30 per outing and enter his or her name and address in the Boat Log and the receipt book kept in the First Aid Box on the bench under the stairs. **This is essential as without it there is no insurance on the rower or boat.**

9. WHAT IF IT IS DARK?

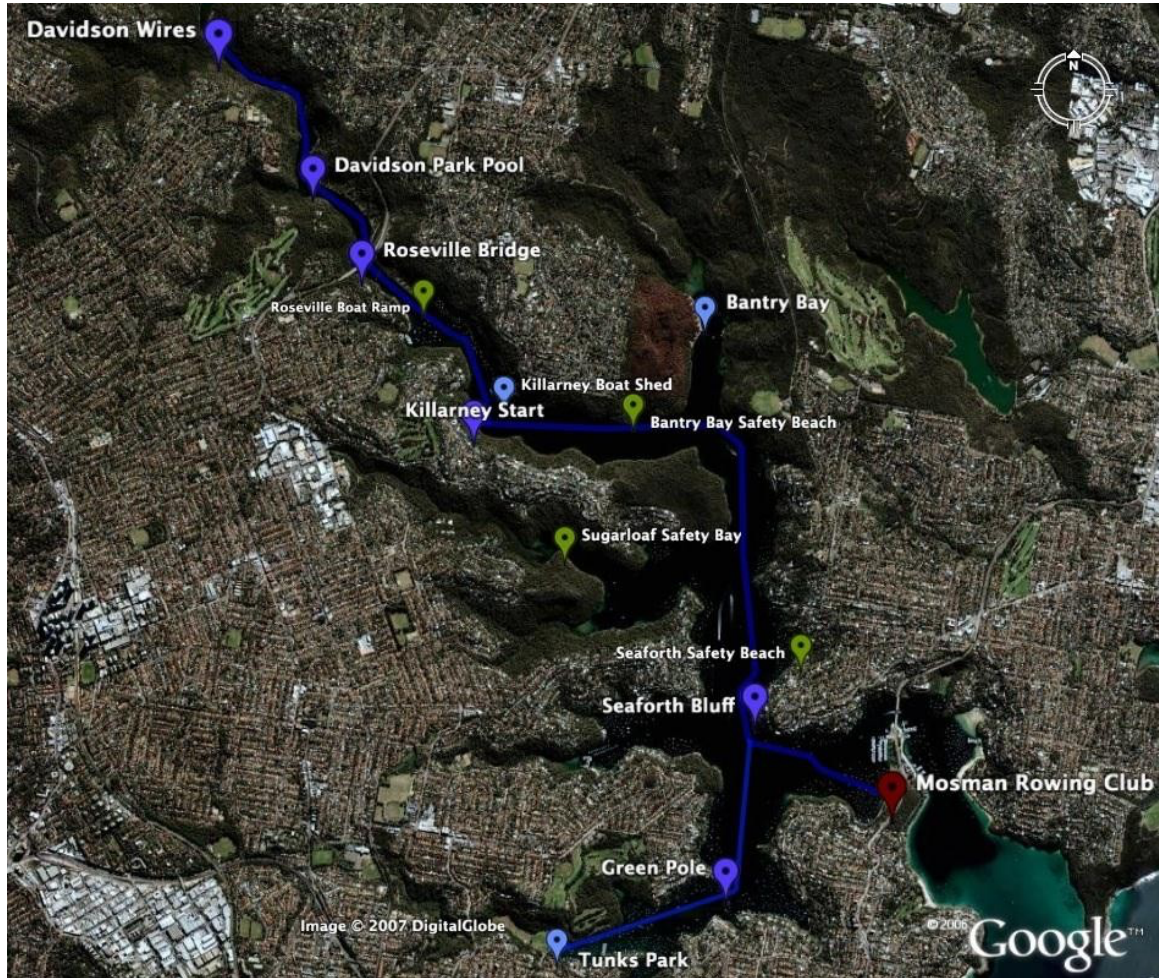
No boat, club or private, including speedboats will be used before sunrise or after sunset without NSW Maritime approved lights (see <http://www.waterways.nsw.gov.au/CodeOfConduct.html> for details) - that is a fixed white light on BOTH the bow and stern of the boat. At least one of these lights must be visible from a kilometre. Please note a flashing red light is a Port Hand marker which indicates to other boats that you are fixed object and advising boats coming from behind you to pass you on the bow side of your rowing boat!!!! – EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN - **SO ONLY WHITE (NON FLASHING) LIGHTS.** Read and understand Waterways Rule 25. NOTE THIS HAS CHANGED IN RECENT YEARS AND SIGNIFICANT FINES APPLY.

Please note that the failure to use lights or the use of inappropriate lights may void the club’s insurance, particularly on you the rower and third parties. **If coaches allow rowers to go out without correct lights they will be held personally responsible and if caught by NSW Maritime will be subject to a heavy fine. MRC will not be held responsible for any person or crew that does not adhere to Rule 25 which is involved in an accident and remind coaches that they may be held personally liable for any damage that might occur.**

If you don’t have the appropriate light you will be asked to wait until daylight or put your boat away.

All occupants of tinnies must wear a life jacket in the dark. This includes the half hour before sunrise, and from the beginning of sunset.

10. WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MIDDLE HARBOUR?



- Keep to the right (bow side) bank at all times (opposite to driving a car) and stay west of the Spit Bridge.
- Beware of boat-eating pylons / moored boats / land / other boats / anything hard.
- Keep a good look out at all times (if rowing coxless or unaccompanied by a coach, look around every 5 strokes ON THE LEFT AND THEN ON THE RIGHT), especially when racing. Be considerate of faster crews and give them plenty of room. Always assume they haven't seen you. Call out to be sure.
- Be quiet close to houses especially near the Bluff, early in the morning. The residents don't like us yelling or using megaphones while they are asleep! (Remember we are the weird ones).
- No use of megaphones before 7am on weekdays and 8am on weekends (NSW Maritime rules).
- Do not stop in the 300 metre clearway due west from the pontoon. If you have to stop pull over well to bow side so you don't get run over.
- Junior or novice crews should train toward Cammeray - that is turn left at the Bluff. This will avoid congestion and possible accidents around the Bluff.
- All forms of watercraft share middle Harbour. Therefore the earlier you row probably the better.

- When turning up the Killarney 2000m course heading upstream pull right over to bow side and then look and do a turn to stroke side – DO NOT CUT THE CORNER. Similarly, when heading downstream from the Roseville Bridge, stay well over to the bowside all the way to the Killarney course and row into the start of the course – DO NOT CUT THE CORNER when rowing back onto the Killarney Straight.
- When returning to the Bluff row down to within 100 metres of the Northbridge Sailing Club, Sailors Bay (the green shed on your bow side directly visible from the Club House), stop, look around, and then turn to YOUR right (to stroke side) looking out for boats going North and South and row into the Club straight. DO NOT CUT THE CORNER.

Use of Pontoons. As a general rule Club members will use the Northern Pontoon. Particular care will be necessary when entering and exiting the pontoons to ensue you do not collide with boats coming from and going to the other pontoon. AS A GENERAL RULE BOATS COMING BACK WILL HAVE RIGHT OF WAY, BUT ALL PARTIES ARE RESPONSIBLE TO LOOK OUT. When coming in to the pontoon stop rowing, AND STOP THE BOAT, 150 metres from the pontoon, look around and then row in slowly.

11. HOW CAN I GO IN A RACE?

- Make sure you are a current club member and join the NSWRA - joining forms are on their web site. Remember membership starts from 1 July each year.
- Set up a regatta account with the Club Treasurer for your entry fees. You must have a positive balance at least as high as the entries to be entered at least a week before the regatta. The Club will not provide credit for your entries.
- Check the regatta program on the NSWRA web site, note the closing date and eligibility for the event and advise the Club Secretary by the weekend before the NSWRA closing date.
- Get a racing uniform from the Regatta Shop website, or Oarsome.
- Check with the Coach or Captain/Vice Captain that boat transport is available or make your own arrangements.
- Any racing fines (failure to start, failure to withdraw, wrong uniform etc) that you incur (accidental or not) will be debited from your regatta entry account.

123. HOW DO WE GET BOATS TO THE REGATTA?

- Check with the organiser for boat loading and unloading times. ALL MEMBERS GOING TO THE REGATTA MUST PARTICIPATE IN BOAT LOADING AND UNLOADING. YOUR BOAT WILL NOT BE LOADED UNLESS YOU DO IT.
- Bring tools (at least a 10 and 11 ml spanner and screwdrivers to rig and de rig boats). Make sure you know what is happening to your boats at all times. ANY DAMAGE DONE TO BOATS WHILE AT REGATTAS WILL BE CHARGED TO THE CREW.
- Boats to be re-rigged, washed INSIDE AND OUT, THEN DRIED INSIDE AND OUT, and put away after regattas ready for rowing the next morning (NOT THE DAY AFTER).

Thank you for your consideration of your fellow members and school tenants, the Club and equipment. Finally, use your brain and some logic or, if all else fails, ask. MRC will only stay the best place to row in Sydney if we all pitch in. Let's keep it this way.

I have read the Member Rules and recognise my role as an active rowing member at the Mosman Rowing Club and agree to follow them.

Signature: _____

Name: _____