



Hello Everyone

There have been a number of new joiners in the past weeks so I would like to say a warm welcome to you and hope you enjoy your membership with us. In the past, Newsletters have been posted out to our members but due to time constraints and to some degree the cost of mailing, newsletters will now be solely distributed by email and notifications and reminders will be sent via text messages to mobile phones or landlines if preferred, so it is imperative we have all your correct contact information so you don't miss out on important club news.

Camping Weekend

As you all know August brings on another camping weekend for our club and hopefully the lightning experienced last camping weekend will be a distant memory, although I must admit it was quite an experience to be out on the water that day watching the hail hit the water and the calm after the storm. This months camping weekend will follow a similar format (excluding the storm) to the last camping weekend with regard to food and tides although please take note of a few changes and additions.

Lydia Spencer-Smith, a trained instructor and sponsored by Mastercraft, will be on hand to provide tuition on Saturday and Sunday for those wanting to learn new skills or those just getting started skiing, so this is a great opportunity for beginners to get professional coaching right at the beginning of your newly chosen sport. Please note that all members are welcome to get coaching and is not only reserved for campers. Time and tides are limited so it is important you let us know you are interested in training so that Lydia can meet and greet those named on the Friday night at the BBQ. Clements Creek will be closed for training but the rest of the river is available to other users not participating in training or for those trying out their freshly learned skills. At this point we are allocating fifteen minutes to each person getting trained, there will also be land time training where Lydia will be showing DVD's and chatting to those taking training and anyone else who would like to watch the DVD's will be more than welcome.

So the format for the weekend will be as follows:

Friday

- Arrive and pitch your tents or set your caravans
- BBQ Dinner
- Enrol with and meet Lydia Spencer-Smith

Saturday

- Early morning skiing with lessons taking place in Clements Creek (Please note the Creek will be closed for training)
- Full English Breakfast
- Lydia will show DVD's and chat to members wanting advice
- Afternoon skiing with lessons taking place in Clements Creek (Please note the Creek will be closed for training)
- Fish & Chip dinner (£5 per adult, kids free)

Sunday

- Early morning skiing with lessons taking place in Clements Creek (Please note the Creek will be closed for training)
- Full English Breakfast

As always we ask you to let us know of your attendance, whether you are camping or not **every member is welcome**. The Saturday night meal (Fish & Chips) there is a £5 charge per adult, kids eat free, all other meals are supplied by the club. Please call or text Rob Carvall on 07802 497 392 or email events@wfwsc.co.uk . If you do not let Rob know you will be there for a meal, he cannot cater for your food requirements so **please please please** let him know.

As the camping weekend is a bank holiday weekend, campers are welcome to stay on the Sunday night but you will be responsible for your own catering and cleaning up after using the club facilities, so please ensure you tidy up after yourselves.

Safety Matters

This section is intended to be a general reminder to all members using the river that it is in everyone's best interest to stay as safe as possible on the water to ensure that the biggest problem we have is having too much fun.

The Crouch River byelaws state that a driver of a boat needs to be 18 years of age or older to operate a ski boat. WFWSC and BWSF require that the driver of a boat needs to be 16 years of age or older to tow a skier (driving a ski boat). The committee's decision is that no person under the age of 16 should be in sole command of a ski boat at anytime on the river. We are a family club and understand that it is fun for younger children to drive the boat at times but we ask that if you are letting young children drive your boat, you are in a position to take immediate control of the boat if a situation were to occur. Please note you do this at your own risk. Those training for an SBDA must be older than 16 years of age to tow a skier for training purposes whilst accompanied by an SBDA holder.

A observation has been made on a few occasions with regard to boats entering the creek in the wrong manner, so just to clarify, you must enter Clements

Creek on the right hand side of the pink buoy at idle speed only when other boats are present in the Creek, moored or skiing.

In the main river it is essential that in busier times you tow your skiers anti clockwise following the river banks, if this is not clear please refer to the Club manual or ask another member or committee member for some help and advice.

Please also keep an eye on tide times, our website has a reasonably accurate link to calculate tide times, please remember to add an hour for BST, the tide tables given out to members, records tides for South End Pier and has a variance of nearly an hour on our tide at South Woodham Ferrers. There is also a low tide indicator on the pink buoy in Clements Creek, if you see the little buoy next to the big pink buoy at the entrance of the Creek, you should start heading back to the slipway.

Member Courtesy

In the club manual it states that your time allocation for the use of the creek is six passes or the equivalent time. A time of 5mins 30secs was recorded for six passes without any falls and at a higher speed than most of us ski (no names mentioned although his shoulder is now much better). The committee decided that 10 mins was a fair amount of time to use the creek for each session so please be aware of the time you spend in the creek if others are waiting to ski. This is not something that is going to be monitored strictly but we would like to encourage fair usage for all members.

Media, Website and Clothing

We are asking for photos to be put on our website, in some cases we will need consent to display your photos but those we can display without consent please send them along to Peter Holman on membership@wfwsc.co.uk. Rob Carvall is the man to contact if you want any WFWSC Branded clothing, hats or any other branded ideas you may have. We hope to have some of the clothing for you to view on the website soon.

A number of reminders will be sent out prior to the camping weekend via text so keep an eye out for any possible changes.

Happy Skiing Everyone

Sue Morrell
Chairperson

