

Becoming a Member at ELSC

Frequently Asked Questions



Some clubs have a joining fee as well as a membership fee, do you?

No. We don't have a joining fee, and our membership fees are remarkably competitive in the region.

Is there a fee for berthing (storing) my dinghy at ELSC?

Yes. As some members don't have their own dinghies we split membership and berthing into separate fees to be as fair as possible to all. The total cost for a member with a dinghy is still lower than most clubs.

If I become a Family Member do my children still need Junior Membership?

No. Children up to the age of 21 and living at home are included in your family membership.

Is there a waiting list?

No. There is currently no waiting list to become a member and there are some spaces left on the dinghy park too.

Can I be a member of ELSC without owning a dinghy?

Yes. You don't have to own a dinghy to enjoy sailing at ELSC. We do occasionally have members who need crew and that's one way, or you can sail one of our club dinghies for a small donation towards maintenance.

Can I sail any boat at ELSC?

Yes. There is no restriction on types of dinghy but anything bigger than 15 feet (4.5m) is probably going to be a lot of trouble for a small reservoir.

Can children sail?

Yes. Although no dinghy sailing can be deemed to be totally safe, when the appropriate safety precautions are taken then sailing at ELSC can be fun for children of all ages. Children must be supervised by a parent or another responsible adult at all times.

Can I sail at ELSC without becoming a member?

Yes. If you have your own dinghy you can purchase a visitors day membership. You wouldn't want to do that too often or it would be better value to become a full member, but the possibility is there if you fancy trying the place out.

My partner and family don't sail. Will they be welcome at the club?

Yes. ELSC is a family friendly club and we are always pleased to welcome non-sailing members of your family, or friends. There is a large deck where non-sailors can relax and watch the sailing or just soak up the Lancashire sun!

Can I bring my friends to the club?

Yes. You are welcome to bring friends to sail at the club. However, if they are regular visitors, we would encourage them to become full members. If you need to know how many times is 'regular' then we'd probably say a person coming three times in a season is probably about right.

When are the club days?

Club Days are within the sailing season and are Wednesday Evenings and Sunday's. At Club days there should be a safety boat and more people to help you if you need assistance.

Can I sail and use the facilities when it isn't a club day?

Yes. Access to the toilets and showers is keypad controlled so you can get in there. However, when there is no club day, the clubhouse area is locked and alarmed. Therefore you will not have access to the galley or bar.

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Outside club days there is often no safety boat so you need to be confident in your own abilities to right capsize and self rescue.

Do I have to race if I join ELSC?

No. We welcome anyone who enjoys sailing no matter whether their preference is for racing or cruising. However, we do believe that the best way to improve your sailing abilities is to sail in a fleet with other boats and club racing gives you the ideal opportunity to do this. A number of our current members who joined with no intention to race are now regulars at races so 'never say never'.

Is safety cover available?

Yes. During club days, there is normally a safety boat on the water. This is in radio contact with the Race Officer on the shore. The Race Officer is constantly on the lookout for boats in difficulty and will direct the safety boat accordingly. This safety cover is available to all sailors on the reservoir whether racing or cruising.

What are club duties and do I have to do them?

'Club duties' sounds terrible the first time you hear it - what could that possibly mean! Well it means helping out and assisting with the smooth running of the club so everyone benefits from its existence. They could be operating the safety boat occasionally or being the officer of the day for racing, helping with grass cutting, weed control, tidying the club house just lots of small things like this which add up to a huge workload if only a few people do them. At ELSC we manage to keep our membership fees so low because we avoid paying large amounts to third parties to carry out routine maintenance. All members are expected to participate, and as many as possible to attend the two maintenance days we hold each year. Just play to your strengths it's easy enough and always generates a good team atmosphere.