

Channel Sailing Club

Guidelines for Introducing New Members to the Club

Note: This information is generally for the benefit of Committee members; however it is also useful for all Club members so that they know what should happen.

- New members on joining the Club are offered the assistance of a Mentor (optional) to help them get involved with Club activities as easily as possible.
- New (or prospective) members should be welcomed when they first come to the clubhouse. This is the responsibility of either a Mentor (assigned by the Membership Secretary) or one of the Committee
- The member should be offered a briefing about the Club, the length of which will depend on what they already have had explained or read about. This is best done by using the Club display board (brought out each Tuesday) which has all the main information on it. This includes; the Club Handbook & Rules, the sailing programme, the social programme, the latest Wavelength, a run through about boat crewing, the message board facility, the website, etc.
- Much of this material should also be given to the new member as a Welcome Pack (either sent by post or email by the Membership Secretary)
- Further discussion is likely to cover their sailing experience and qualifications, what sort of sailing they are looking for and their training needs. All the while it is best to focus on what is most relevant to the member.
- A key aspect of getting new members involved is to sort out their first sailing event with the Club. This could be an informal offer of an invitation to go sailing with a skipper or else getting them to fill in a Club event application form for a specific event.
- The other priority is to introduce them to other Club members. These could be the Flag Officer Sailing, the Training Officer, an event organiser or someone with a similar background or interests.
- Many new members cannot easily get to the clubhouse on a regular basis. Therefore for them the briefing about the Club is probably best given by a Mentor over the phone using the Welcome Pack the member will have received.