



International OK Dinghy Sustainability Policy and Action Plan



The International OK Dinghy British Class Association (IOKDBCA) supports the Royal Yachting Association's initiative The Green Blue because, as dinghy sailors, we are privileged to sail on rivers, lakes, reservoirs, estuaries and the open sea. We need to preserve this environment so future generations can enjoy it also.

IOKDBCA is committed to upholding the principles of sustainability and minimising the impact of our activities on the environment.

Our objectives are:

- To promote sustainability and environmental best practice amongst our members, our suppliers and our hosts at events at the sailing and yacht clubs we visit
- To minimise emissions through the promotion of sustainable activities and travel
- To reduce the use of resources and encourage recycling and reusing
- To support the protection of biodiversity in the marine, coastal and freshwater environments in which we sail

Our reasons for adopting a sustainable approach to our environment are:

- To meet the expectations of our members, those with whom we come into contact and the wider community
- To lead by example
- To manage our resources as efficiently as possible through recycling and reusing
- To comply with the environmental legislation which covers the areas in which we sail

Our action plan:

- We will publish this document in a prominent position on the website and send an email link to all members to draw their attention to this policy and action plan
- We will encourage competitors to double / triple trail where possible by adding to our website / Facebook pages the opportunity for potential attendees to show interest in attending forthcoming events.
- We will avoid printing NOR and SIs. We will aim to display one copy on the notice board only and provide the appropriate links on the website / Facebook.
- We will ensure the bulk of our communication is via the website, email and Facebook to reduce the use of paper and the environmental cost of delivery
- The welcome packs will comprise recyclable and reusable products only
- Where feasible at longer duration events, we will look into transporting competitors to and from the venue in minibuses rather than individual cars.

- We will encourage the use of dedicated slipways so banks and beaches are not unduly disturbed or eroded
- We will endeavour to set up wash off facilities so the boat and trolley can be thoroughly cleaned after sailing to remove flora and fauna. This reduces the likelihood of cross-contamination by invasive species. We will have a check-in system on arrival and check-out system on departure.
- We will check there are trigger controlled ends to hoses at events which last longer than two days
- We will supply reusable water bottles or ask competitors to bring their own water bottles. We will supply water butts for refilling drinking water bottles; their locations will be clearly labelled.
- We will encourage competitors to tie to their dinghies water bottles, snacks, sponges etc so these items don't get washed overboard
- We will check refuelling of RIBs is carried out safely eg. Use a funnel, wipe up spillages, tighten cap on both tank and petrol can
- To make sailors aware that a shower uses 8 litres of hot water per minute! Water is a finite resource and, with the prediction that rain will fall more erratically in the future, we need to conserve water in our rivers and reservoirs.
- We will encourage sailors to thoroughly wash their kit in cool water to ensure all flora and fauna is removed so there is no risk of contamination at the next venue.
- If the room is not in use, ask the last person to leave to switch off lights
- At events where we are in control of catering we will encourage the use of locally sourced food, use reusable / recyclable plates, cups and cutlery and ensure the provision of bins for the disposal of waste in accordance with the local council's recycling policies.
- We will encourage litter picks at end of an open meeting and dispose of litter appropriately
- We will measure progress and review our action plan annually

25th January 2022