

Sailability Sunshine Coast Queensland (SSCQ) Dinghy Sailors P&P 2026

Responsibilities

- Sailing time per client is 30 minutes, unless directed otherwise by OOD.
- All skippers to be fully aware of Sailability sailing zone (see map)
- Skippers will GIVE WAY TO ALL CRAFT within SSC/Mooloolaba Harbor sailing zone.
- Skippers should keep Sailability One or Two in sight during every sailing session
- Volunteer sailors may refuse a client for any reason but should be sensitive to the feelings and needs of others.
- Reefing of sails is at the discretion of the OOD
- Skippers to wear 2 way radio (channel #77). Life jacket belt should be fed thru radio lanyard, then clipped to life jacket belt. Do NOT attach radio to mast or boom.

Pre-departure

- Check that all boat equipment is present and all systems are working correctly. ie. Tiller, rudder, sheets, paddle, watch, and radio
- Sit on the side furthest from the pontoon to allow easy entry for the client
- Check that the client's lifejacket is securely fastened.
- Check that the client is sun protected and comfortable.
- Introduce yourself to the client and carer as he/she comes aboard
- If your client is overweight and you feel it will interfere with your tiller, or the carer feels the client needs head support, ask pontoon staff for a 'divider' and/or head support. Check with the carer re specific needs or potential problems of which you should be aware.

Leaving the pontoon

- Pontoon volunteers should not release the boat until the sailor requests it.
- .Note the time you leave the pontoon
- Outgoing tide and little wind may require assistance from the safety boat.
- Be aware of the concrete boat ramps – 303 boats have a draft of 1 metre.
- Some clients will like to 'skipper'. This is allowable if you feel they are capable

Sailing

- Sail with other dinghies where possible to make monitoring easy for the safety boat.
- If uncomfortable with wind conditions, or client behaviour radio 'Sailability One' or pontoon for assistance.
- Endeavour to return to the pontoon on time, especially when other clients are waiting.
- Light wind and outgoing tide can be difficult – stay clear of the Marina and if uncertain, request a tow from the safety boat.
- Where possible, keep to the right on the main channel.
- Keep a good lookout for traffic, especially behind you. Sail out of the path of traffic as EARLY as possible.
- Not all watercraft obey the "6 knots, No Wash" signs

YOU DO NOT HAVE RIGHT OF WAY.

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Docking

- Approach the pontoon upwind where possible.
- Await your turn to dock. Boats unloading at the personnel crane can take a little longer.
Be patient,
- As you arrive, release all sheets, the pontoon volunteers will catch you.
- Be sure clients' arms and hands are inside the boat.
- Wait for the carer to arrive at the side of your boat. It is not your responsibility to help the client leave/get out of your boat.
- If your client is a lift and wearing a lifting sling, wait for the carer to make sure the lifting clips are properly reattached on the sling the client is wearing so they can be lifted safely back onto the pontoon.
- Skipper to make sure the bow is tied off and the stern securely hooked, before the client attempts to exit
- Then wait for your next client.

IN ALL THINGS, CLIENT SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT