



HURST CASTLE SAILING CLUB

Hurst Castle Sailing Club is a small but lively and friendly club where the emphasis is on enjoyment rather than competition.

It is to be found at Keyhaven, a tranquil hamlet a few miles west of Lymington in Hampshire in a scenic position at the head of a small estuary facing the Isle of Wight. There is a large public car park adjacent to the Clubhouse.



We give a warm welcome to people of all ages, with a range of boating interests and levels of experience. We are very much a family oriented Club, almost entirely run on a mutual-help basis. Our new Clubhouse, completed in 2013, offers modern changing facilities and a well-equipped galley. It enjoys splendid views out across the creeks to the Solent.



Where we sail

Sailing conditions are ideal for beginners in the Keyhaven River as Hurst Spit provides shelter from the wind and the waves. The lagoon on the landward side of Hurst Castle is a good place to beach a dinghy for a picnic.



More experienced sailors find the harbours of Lymington and Yarmouth within easy reach. With the right tides, a variety of creeks and beaches on both sides of the Solent can be attained.

What we sail

The Club caters for dinghy, yacht sailors and also canoeists. The most common dinghy sailed is the Scow numbering some forty boats. There are also Mirror, Gulls, Enterprises, Wayfarers, Skippers, Wanderers, Lasers, Toppers and others.

For those who do not yet own their own boats, the Club has several dinghies available to members for a nominal fee. These include Hartley 12.2 dinghies, a Keyhaven Scow and 3 Optimist dinghies for junior sailors.



Regular activities

The Club has a full summer sailing programme each year with something most weeks and at weekends for the racing, cruising or “pottering” sailor.

Racing

Racing is run on Saturdays and Wednesdays through the summer, generally coinciding with High Water in the middle of the day. Handicap races are run using the Portsmouth Yardsticks so any dinghy can take part.

Racing is open to all members and at weekends courses are set to suit the ability of the youngest and/or least able competitors. This is especially to encourage junior members to take part.

The Club’s Annual Regatta provides a range of events for dinghies.

Pottering

This dinghy sailing programme runs from early April to the end of October. The potterers’ activities aim to enable people to enjoy sailing *in company*, especially those not confident to venture alone around the Solent.

Cruising

We have over forty cruising members with boats ranging from 18 to 45 feet. Cruising is generally a very sociable occupation. Moorings in the river and creeks are administered by the New Forest District Council.

Cruises are organised throughout the season, as far as Weymouth or as near as Yarmouth. Where possible, non-cruising members are encouraged to join the evening social events by road (or ferry), as appropriate.



Training

The Club runs a programme of training, delivered by RYA-qualified instructors for both adults (beginners and improvers) and junior members

The Dinghy Park

The Club has space for over 100 members' dinghies and tenders and racks for smaller craft and canoes There is currently a waiting list for spaces. Some space can be provided during summer for visitors holidays. In winter, canoes, dinghies and larger boats are stored. Further space is available in a nearby boatyard.

Social events

Open air BBQs and informal dances/discos are held through the summer months and indoor suppers are arranged to open and close the sailing season.

There is a Coffee Morning every Tuesday throughout the year which provides a social meeting place with scope for arranging impromptu sailing and for finding crews.

Talks, walks etc, are organised from time to time during the colder months. The Club has a kitchen but no bar.

Membership fees and Subscriptions 2016

(For more details on these and other categories see club website: www.hcsc.org.uk)

<i>Entrance</i> Fee	<i>Annual</i> Subscription	
Ordinary	£50	£6*
Family (1)	£70	£9*
Junior (2)	£nil	£2*
Student (3)	£nil	£5

Charge for temporary visitors is £10 per week

1. Two partners and children up to 10 years
2. Young people 11 – 17
3. Young people 18 -25 and in full time education

*As the Club is registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club, our subscriptions are set very low, to cover the most basic running costs of the Club, however we ask members to top up their payment with a voluntary donation

Contacts

Commodore: Jim Page; commodore@hcsc.org.uk
Hon. Secretary: Ralph Long; secretary@hcsc.org.uk
Membership: Membership@hcsc.org.uk

Interested in joining?

Come to meet us to learn more about our facilities and activities. To talk with Committee Members and others you could drop in at the weekends or join a coffee morning gathering at 10.30 a.m. on any Tuesday. Alternatively email the Membership Recorder (see contacts earlier) giving your name and contact details.

There is no waiting list for membership. When you are ready to apply:

- Study the Club Rules and obtain an application form (both available from the Clubhouse or web- site);
- Obtain a Proposer and a Seconder from Club members;
- If you do not already know Members to propose and second your application we will arrange for you meet with members of the Committee instead.

Your application will be considered by the Committee. You **should not** enclose fees with your application.

