WALDRINGFIELD FAIRWAY COMMITTEE
RULES & REGULATIONS

Waldringfield Fairway Committee ('WFC' or 'the Committee') holds a lease of the river bed from Methersgate Quay to Early Creek from the Crown Estates Commissioners and lets sites to Licensees, so that moorings shall be properly controlled. Its other main function is to maintain a Fair Way for navigation as required by the Department of Transport, to whom it is responsible in this matter. To satisfy these conditions the following principles have been agreed:-

a. Unlicensed moorings are not permitted in the area operated by WFC, a map of which can be seen at the Harbourmaster's Noticeboard on Waldringfield Beach. Any unauthorised mooring may be removed without notice and at the cost of the owner of the mooring.
b. The number of moorings is limited by the space available and the requirements of others to navigate on the river. WFC is concerned that the best use is made of the sites available.
c. In order to satisfy as many people as possible WFC runs a Waiting List and matches the sites that become available with the most suitable boats highest up the Waiting List. All new applicants should write or e-mail the Secretary and request a Waiting List Application Form, which they should return as soon as possible. Moorings are allocated at the absolute discretion of WFC, but the following guidelines shall be applied:-

    i. First consideration shall be given to requests by existing Licensees for a change of mooring site;
    ii. Priority shall next be given to former Licensees who have surrendered their licence in accordance with these rules;
    iii. Priority shall next be given to village residents,
    iv. Priority shall next be given to members of WSC;
    v. If a Licensee would like WFC to consider the future reallocation of his allocated site to his spouse, civil partner or one of his offspring, then this shall be indicated on the mooring application form each year. After a minimum of 4 years WFC will consider a written request to transfer a mooring to the said family member provided the family member:-
        1. Is either a village resident or member of WSC for 2 years
        2. Owns or intends to purchase within the next 12 months a craft of suitable proportions for the site and
        3. is not a current Licensee.

d. Since it is not possible to establish precisely the position of each mooring a plan for Licensees guidance can be seen by reference to The Secretary, WFC. When WFC allocates a mooring site the applicant will be informed of the position and number of the site he is licensed to occupy. Sites will be outside the navigable channel with shallow water sites defined as being above low water springs and deep water sites defined as being below low water springs. If, in the opinion of the Harbourmaster the mooring laid is not in the correct allocated position, or has moved from the allocated position, it shall be the responsibility of the Licensee to correct the positioning of the mooring, unless the mooring is in a position of immediate concern to other river users and in the opinion of the Harbourmaster, requires immediate and direct action. If this is the case, the Harbourmaster has the right to move the mooring at the cost and expense of the Licensee. If this is not the case, but the Licensee fails to take steps within 14 days to correct the positioning of the mooring, the Harbourmaster may take steps to reposition the mooring correctly. In all cases involving direct action by the Harbourmaster, all costs incurred shall be the responsibility of the Licensee and if not paid within 14 days of demand, WFC will terminate the licence forthwith but preserving any outstanding debts and claims against the Licensee. If a Licensee wishes to be allocated a different mooring site, he shall write to the WFC Secretary giving his reasons. The request of allocations of alternative sites will be considered before the allocation of sites are made from the waiting list.

e. Mooring Sites shall not be let for commercial gain other than the Trade Moorings (see below).

RULES

1. Licences are issued for a 12 month period, commencing 1st March. Licences are not transferable. Renewal will be at the Committee's discretion. The Secretary shall serve an application renewal form on existing licence holders no later than 31st January, which shall be completed and returned by the Licensee no later than 1st March.

2. Licences are granted for the site only and are personal to the Licensee. The Licensee shall provide, and maintain, his own mooring tackle which shall be suitable for the agreed craft and location, and to the satisfaction of the requirements laid down in these Rules.

3. The Licensee must limit the scope of his mooring to prevent contact with other craft or moorings or obstruction to the navigable channel. Whether a boat is obstructing the navigable channel will be decided by the Harbourmaster, whose decision will be binding.

4. Should the mooring drag the Licensee must reposition it promptly, failing which the Committee may arrange for this to be done, at the Licensee's expense and risk. If natural deep water channel moves, the mooring holder is responsible to move site as requested.

5. The Licensee shall hold the Committee free from any responsibility for any collision or damage to his or any other boat or mooring. Notwithstanding this condition the Licensee shall maintain minimum third party liability insurance in the sum of £2,000,000 for his craft, or such sum as the Committee deem adequate. He must produce proof of such insurance cover on request and promptly notify the Committee of any circumstances which become known to him which might or have caused collision or damage to his, or other, craft or moorings.

6. The Licensee must ensure that his mooring tackle is approved by the Harbourmaster.

The Harbourmaster has the authority to require a change in the mooring tackle if he considers it unsafe or unsuitable for use and causing risk of interference with other craft.

7. The Licensee must pay to the Committee such fees, or other charges, as shall be determined by the Committee for the period of the Licence. Failure to pay such fees within 30 days of demand may result in the termination of the licence, or withdrawal of the offer of a Licence.

8. The craft to be kept on the mooring must be single hull, and not exceed 11 metres in length, unless 'grandfathers rights' apply, meaning the licence was granted at a time when such craft were allowed.

9. Any change of craft, whether temporary or permanent, must be notified to, and approved by WFC.

10. At the termination of the Licence the Licensee must remove his mooring from the site, and from the area leased by WFC, unless otherwise agreed. In the event of failure to comply with this condition the Licensee will be liable to reimburse WFC for any expenditure required to remove the mooring.

11. Casual short term lending, up to one month, is permissible without notification to the Harbourmaster, providing that the boat using the mooring is no larger than the boat approved, no commercial gain results, and the borrower adheres to these Rules.

12. If a Licensee's mooring is to be vacant for one to three months or more, but less than a season, the Licensee must notify the Harbourmaster and he may be let the site for occasional use by visiting yachts at such fee as WFC decide.

13. If a Licensee's mooring is to be vacant for a season only, the Licensee must notify the Secretary and he may let the site to a person from the Waiting List, proposed by WFC and agreed by the Licensee, at a rent agreed between the two parties, but which does not constitute a commercial gain.

14. If a Licensee's mooring is to be vacant for more than a sailing season he must notify the Secretary and may be required to relinquish the site. Voluntary relinquishing of the site under these circumstances would give the Licensee priority access to another site on his return. WFC reserves the right to cancel a Licence if a mooring is not used for an extended period of one season or more without the agreement of WFC.

15. If a Licensee proposes being away for an extended period leaving his boat on the mooring, or lives at some distance it is recommended that he appoint a responsible person to whom the Secretary &/or Harbourmaster may apply in case of any trouble.

16. If an applicant on the Waiting List is unable to accept, or use, a mooring offered by WFC during the current season (or if offered in the winter months, during the coming season) then he must so inform the Secretary. Another may be offered the site but the applicant's name will remain at the same priority position on the Waiting List. Any applicant who accepts a mooring site when he is not in a position to use it within the period referred to above will be in breach of these Rules and may lose his mooring site and his position on the Waiting List.

17. Mooring sites may not be sub-let except as in Rule 11- 14 above.

18. The Trade Moorings that exist at the time of these Rules to Waldringfield Boatyard ('WB') and the moorings that exist at the time of these Rules to WSC shall be valid but the following conditions will apply to the use of Trade Moorings:-

    a) The mooring site may be used as a mooring that is permanently let to a customer of WB. WB need not notify WFC of the boats on their moorings but must comply with the size conditions agreed with WFC. Both WB and his customer(s) shall behave, in all matters concerning any liability against WFC, as if they were normal Licensees of WFC. Overnight casual customers boats may exceed the normal rules as to length and hull but must not, in the opinion of the Harbourmaster, interfere with safety of other users and boats, nor the free traffic of boats.

    b) WB shall keep the Secretary informed of those as a "stopover site" and the others let to customers on a permanent basis.

19. If a Licensee's boat is sold during the licence period WFC must be notified immediately. The purchaser has no right to the mooring site, and shall move the vessel as soon as reasonably possible, or as otherwise agreed with WFC, who may, in short term cases, be able to assist with temporary accommodation on the site. If the Licensee retains an interest in the vessel, shown on the bill of sale, and continues to use the vessel, WFC may allow the Licensee to retain the mooring.

20. Save as set out above, any licence issued is personal to the Licensee and cannot be assigned. Failure to comply with these Rules may result in the cancellation of the licence, at the Committee's discretion, at two months' notice, or without notice if, on the recommendation of the Harbourmaster, the Committee deem it so necessary. This will be considered valid if sent to the last address notified by the Licensee to the Committee. In the event of any problems of interpretation of, or compliance with, these Rules, applicants or Licensees are encouraged to contact the Committee either through their respective representative or the Secretary, who will be happy to consider any particular situations or problems.

Dinghy Licences

21. A dinghy is only licensed to lie on the foreshore from 1st March to 30th November. No dinghy is entitled to be on the foreshore during December, January and Febuary without express permission of WFC. A dinghy on the foreshore shall have near all round fendering which shall be adequate to prevent damage to other dinghies. It shall not have an engine, bowsprit of mast, and shall not exceed 11 ft in

length. Rowlocks must be removed from the boat. Licences will only be issued to Village Residents, and to owners of craft moored in the area covered by the Lease.

22. All dinghies must be licensed, and exhibit their licence labels. WFC reserves the right to remove any dinghy which does not comply with these regulations and to charge for such removal and storage, and to dispose of such dinghies which have not been reclaimed within 3 months. The charge for recovery of an impounded dinghy will be £20 plus a storage charge of £2 per week.
23. Any breach of these rules in relation specifically to dinghy licences, shall entitle WFC to rescind a licence without return of payment.

Foreshore

24. Anchors are not permitted on the foreshore.
25. No mechanically propelled vehicles are allowed anywhere on the foreshore , without the express permission of WFC.
26. No bait digging is permitted on the foreshore, or anywhere within the land and seabed controlled by WFC.

Reporting of Damage and Incidents

27. It is incumbent upon all individual Licensees to report any damage caused, or witnessed to the Harbourmaster, who shall keep an incident book . Incident report forms are kept at WSC.

General Conditions & Charges

28. The annual charges payable to WFC are currently

Deep water sites (Yachts and Motorboats)	£110 per site
Shallow water sites (sailing dinghies and other small craft)	£75 per site
Rowing dinghies tethered to the foreshore	£35 per dinghy
Use of scrubbing posts	£20 per tide

(the Posts are restricted to craft of not more than 10.6 metres overall)

These charges and rules shall be reviewed and amended annually by WFC.

As approved WFC AGM 2018
amended 2023