



# **Rules & Bylaws**

2025

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# Introduction

These Club Rules and Bylaws have been developed over many years to ensure the smooth running of our Club. Each member is expected to observe and enter into the spirit of them so that fellow members are not inconvenienced.

These Rules were last changed at the AGM in October 2025. The Bylaws were updated by the Board and ratified by the AGM in October 2025.

Changes to both Rules and Bylaws are governed by Article 31.

Article 31.1, Rules, states:

“Any proposal to pass new Club Rules or to abolish or alter existing ones shall be put into the form of a resolution and shall be discussed at either the AGM or an EGM. To carry such resolutions a majority of two-thirds of the members voting at such a general meeting will be required and there shall be at least 75 voting members in attendance.”

Article 31.2, Bylaws, states:

A majority of two-thirds of the Board of Directors may make, suspend or alter Club Bylaws. Such changes must be ratified by a majority of two-thirds of the members voting at the next AGM as per article 31.1 above. During the intervening period the new, suspended or altered Club Bylaw shall be posted on the clubhouse notice board.

For reference, a more robust process for managing change to and the publication of the constitution documents by the Office would be as follows:

- Standard typeface for existing/unchanged wording.
- *Italic typeface* for changes approved at the last AGM. These would revert to standard typeface following the subsequent AGM.
- *Underlined italic typeface* for agreed changes made by the board in the intervening period that require subsequent AGM approval.
- Agreed board changes to be deleted, will be ~~underlined and struck through~~, again subject to subsequent AGM approval.
- Each amended document will include a version and date reference in the footer, as will the corresponding file reference maintained by the Office.

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# Club Rules

## 1 Structure of the Club

- 1.1 The Club burgee shall be a light blue triangular flag incorporating and superimposed thereon a Royal Air Force roundel. (To be flown as in Bylaws 3.1 to 3.6)
- 1.2 The Club ensign shall be the blue ensign of H.M. Fleet with the Royal Crown and a Royal Air Force Eagle superimposed on the fly. (To be flown as in Bylaws 2.1 to 2.8 and 3.6)
- 1.3 The Admiral's flag shall be a rectangular light blue flag incorporating superimposed red, white and blue discs with, in gold, The Royal Air Force Eagle holding an anchor in its claw.
- 1.4 The Flag Officers' flag shall be a rectangular swallow-tailed flag with markings as follows:
  - Commodore:  
Light blue swallow-tailed pennant with red, white and blue discs superimposed
  - Vice-Commodore:  
As Commodore's pennant, but with one white ball
  - Rear Commodore:  
As Commodore's pennant, but with two white balls
  - Past Commodore:  
As Commodore's pennant, but with a white cross in the first Canton

(All to be flown in place of the Club burgee, see 1.1 above)

- 1.5 The Membership Flag shall be a light blue rectangular flag incorporating superimposed red, white and blue discs over The Air Force Eagle in gold looking towards the hoist and to be flown as in Bylaw 3.6.

## 2 Visiting Sailors

- 2.1 A Visiting Sailor is defined as:

- 2.1.1. Persons owning or skippering boats (and their crew members) competing in races and rallies organised by or in conjunction with the Club. The use of Club facilities may extend to the day before and the day after the event in question.
  - 2.1.2. Visiting sailors arriving in Hamble by boat.
  - 2.1.3. A member of a club with whom formal reciprocal arrangements have been made may be authorised by the Board to use the Royal Air Force Yacht Club premises as a Visiting Member under the terms of that arrangement, with the proviso that

proof of membership of the other club may be required (whether or not such Members arrive in Hamble by boat).

- 2.2 Visitors who are not members of reciprocal clubs as per 2.1.3 shall be limited to an aggregate of 14 days in any 12 month period.
- 2.3 The name and address of those persons using the Club as a Visiting Sailor shall be entered in the book provided for the purpose.

### **3 Subscription and Entry Fee**

- 3.1 An entry fee where appropriate shall be fixed by the Committee from time to time at their sole discretion.
- 3.2 No entry fee shall be charged for Under 35 members.
- 3.3 A member resigning and subsequently wishing to rejoin is required to be proposed and seconded and pay the entry fee unless there are special circumstances in which case the Committee may waive all or part of the entry fee.
- 3.4 The amount of the annual subscription for each class of member in respect of each subscription year shall be fixed by the voting members in the Annual General Meeting and posted on the Club notice board together with the entry fee.
- 3.5 Overseas subscription applies to any member who resides permanently overseas (which shall include Ireland, Isle of Man and the Channel Islands) or who is continuously cruising outside UK waters and who expects to remain overseas for a period of six months or more in any subscription year.
- 3.6 Any member wishing to avail himself of an overseas subscription shall give due notice to the Secretary in writing stating the facts upon which the member claims the privilege. In the event of an overseas member returning to the United Kingdom for a period of 6 months or more, he shall forthwith be liable for the full appropriate subscription.
- 3.7 The subscription rate payable by members of the age of 35 or above shall be known as the basic subscription. Subscription rates for other categories shall be set as follows:
  - 3.7.1 Up to 35 years of age the percentage of the basic subscription will be determined by the directors from time to time and may be split into age bands
  - 3.7.2 A member shall be entitled, upon written application to the Honorary Secretary for approval by the directors, to pay 75% of the basic subscription from the commencement of the next subscription year provided that all three of the following criteria are met before the start of that subscription year:
    - The sum of the member's age in whole years plus the number of whole years of membership exceeds 79 and

- the member is aged 65 years or older and
- the member has been a full member for a minimum of ten current consecutive years.

3.7.3 A member shall be entitled, upon written application to the Honorary Secretary for approval by the directors, to pay 50% of the basic subscription at from the commencement of the next subscription year provided that all three of the following criteria are met prior to the start of that subscription year:

- The sum of the member's age in whole years plus the number of whole years of membership exceeds 99 and
- the member is aged 75 years or older and
- the member has been a full member for a minimum of twenty current consecutive years.

3.7.4 Overseas subscription is 33.33% of basic subscription.

3.8 All subscriptions shall be due on the first working day of January in each year. Any member who wishes to do so, may, after notifying his intention to the Office, pay in ten equal instalments by direct debit, commencing on 1st January and finishing on 1st October each year. Payments by monthly direct debit will not be eligible for early payment subscription discounts if available.

3.9 If any member shall fail to pay their subscription in full or establish a monthly direct debit by the 1st February, a notice of such non-payment shall be sent to them by the Office to the last recorded address. If the subscription is not then paid by 1st March the defaulter shall cease to be a member unless they can excuse their default to the satisfaction of the Board.

## 4 Membership Responsibilities

4.1 Members personally introducing guests shall write their names in the book kept for the purpose and shall be responsible for them in every way.

4.2 An individual may be introduced as a guest on not more than SIX different days in any one calendar year, irrespective of whether such introductions are made by the same or by more than one member.

4.3 No member shall introduce as a guest a person who has been suspended, rejected, required to resign or expelled, or whose name has been struck off the register of members either for non payment of subscription or for any other reason. The Committee has the right to advise that a guest or guests should not be invited without stating any reason.

4.4 No member of the Club shall act in any way so as to involve the Club in any claim by any third party for any loss, damage or injury. No member shall, unless duly authorised by the

Committee in writing, charge the Club property or pledge the credit of the Club in any manner whatsoever and any member purporting to do so shall be personally liable therefore.

- 4.5 No member shall at any time run, use, promote or otherwise operate a private business venture from any part of the Club premises, but members may use the mid-week conference facilities for private business by prior arrangement with the Secretary and on payment of the fees agreed.
- 4.6 Smoking is not permitted anywhere in Riverside House
- 4.7 It is a requirement that members of the RAFYC will comply with all Rules and Bylaws of the Club. Membership of the RAFYC implies acceptance of the Rules and Bylaws of the RAFYC.

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# Club Bylaws

## 1 General

- 1.1 All members and guests shall pay for every expense they incur to the Club, before leaving the Club House.
- 1.2 Members who cancel from functions less than 24 hours preceding the event or who fail to attend, having booked, will be liable for the full cost of their original booking.
- 1.3 The Secretary or Honorary Secretary shall by virtue of his office may be invited to attend Committee and sub-Committee meetings.
- 1.4 No pet animals are permitted in bedrooms, the dining room or other Club rooms except the Bar, where they are permitted provided they are always under the control of the owner and are on a lead. They must not be allowed to create a disturbance or nuisance or to foul Club premises and must be removed if requested to do so by either another member or the Secretary. Any damage caused by animals will be charged to the member bringing the animal into the Club. The Club does not accept any liability for any personal injury caused to members by an animal on the Club premises, from whatever cause. Such liability rests firmly with the owner of the animal.
- 1.5 No member shall take away from the Club any article belonging to or hired by the Club unless authorized to do so by a Flag Officer.
- 1.6 Any member who shall wilfully or negligently damage any property of the Club shall make good the same at his own cost.
- 1.7 All Boats (definition of type includes, but not limited to Dinghy, Kayaks, SUPs, Outboard, Trailer, Trolley, Related Gear or Other Item) kept ashore shall be registered and on payment of an annual fee appropriate to its type, as determined by the Board from time to time, shall be required to visibly display a coloured sticker of entitlement.  
Any Boat not registered and remains for two months or more after being recorded by the club on the premises as abandoned and/or fees remain outstanding may be disposed of in accordance with the RAFYC Abandoned Boats Procedure.
- 1.8 Use of Riverside House parking is at the vehicle owners own risk. All vehicles must display a permit:
  - 1.8.1 Members vehicles must be registered with the Club Office who will issue a permit
  - 1.8.2 Each member may park only one vehicle concurrently. Children of family members do not have parking rights, see Article 3.6.6.4
  - 1.8.3 Members away on their boats for 21 days or more must register parking in advance and may be directed to park in a specific location. Parking for greater than 56 consecutive days between April and October inclusive requires specific approval

- 1.8.4 Member's use of the car park must allow equitable use of spaces for all members
- 1.8.5 Non-members may apply to the office in advance for a short term parking permit, the issue of which is discretionary
- 1.8.6 Vehicles must have valid tax, MOT (as required) and insurance when parked at Riverside House
- 1.8.7 Road trailers shall not be kept in the car parks or Dinghy Park. They may be kept in the Upper Dinghy Park or in the designated area of the Dinghy Park as specified in the application form on payment of the appropriate fee determined by the Board.
- 1.8.8 Eligible members should only park in the designated disabled parking bays for a maximum of 3 consecutive days. Wherever possible eligible members are encouraged to use the main car park for longer stays and treat the disabled parking bays as short-term parking for visiting the Club and loading/unloading.
- 1.9 No member shall give a drink or any gratuity to any staff employed by the Club, except through the staff fund.
- 1.10 Members shall not reprimand the Club staff.
  - 1.10.1 All complaints about staff, members, service or other domestic arrangements of the Club shall be made to the Secretary in writing. The Secretary shall deal with these complaints as quickly as possible, referring them, together with a note of the action taken, to the next meeting of the appropriate sub-committee or to the appropriate Flag Officer.
- 1.11 The permitted hours for the supply of intoxicating liquor to members shall be decided by the Committee as permitted by the licensing authorities and will be posted on the Club notice board.
- 1.12 Except for members and guests staying in the Clubhouse, the Club shall be open and closed as the Committee determined from time to time. Such times will be shown on the Club notice board.
- 1.13 The terms and condition for booking accommodation will be as defined on the relevant website page.
- 1.14 *Numbering has been retained to align with other documents.*
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- 1.16 *Numbering has been retained to align with other documents.*
- 1.17 *Numbering has been retained to align with other documents.*

1.18 Members wishing to entertain a party or more than 12 guests at one time, must notify the office in advance and agree the necessary arrangements in order that members shall not be inconvenienced.

1.19 Children under the age of 14 shall be allowed in all bar areas until 21:00hrs. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Between 21:00hrs and closing time, children will not be allowed in the bar areas. Bar areas are defined as being from the restaurant partitions to the main door and back to the door from the entrance hall. The secondary bar area being the Riverside Room to the restaurant partition.

Children are not permitted at the bar at any time.

1.20 Members of the club, including temporary and affiliated members, their guests and visitors, may use the Club premises, and any other facilities of the Club entirely at their own risk and accept that:

- 1.20.1 The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to members, their guests or visitors to the Club. For the avoidance of doubt this includes any motor or other vehicle left in the Club's car park or dinghy, outboard motor or other equipment stored on Club premises.
- 1.20.2 The Club will not accept any liability for personal injury arising out of the use of the Club premises, and any other facilities of the Club, or out of participation in any race organized by the Club, whether sustained by members, their guests or visitors, or caused by the said members, guests or visitors, to the maximum extent permitted by law.
- 1.20.3 Before inviting any guests or visitors onto the premises or to participate in events organized by the Club, members will draw their attention to this rule.

1.21 Private notices or advertisements relating to yachts, boats, ships gear, wanted or for sale, members requiring crews, crew members requiring berths, and notices of a similar nature, must be handed to the Office for exhibition on the notice board specifically kept for that purpose. The Office may refuse to exhibit any such notice without stating the reason for so doing and shall then refer the matter to the Board. No notices or advertisements shall be accepted from any yacht broker, agent or other person in the nature of their business under this Bylaw. No other notice, petition or advertisement shall be placed or exhibited in the Club without the authority of the Board. No wall mounted picture, photograph, or similar are to be moved or affixed to the Club walls without the express permission of the Board.

1.22 Every member who owns a yacht should ensure that his vessel has adequate insurance protection for Third Party and Passenger liabilities.

1.23 Only Full, Life and Honorary members are entitled to wear the Club insignia.

- 1.24 The charterer of a yacht belonging to a member is entitled neither to Club privileges nor to fly the Club burgee, unless he is a member of the Club in his own right
- 1.25 When a yacht is chartered partially by a member and partially by a non-member a member's burgee may only be flown when the member is aboard.
- 1.26 A member chartering his yacht for hire, or lending her to anyone other than a member shall remove all Club papers, books, burgees, ensigns and regulations governing defaced Blue ensigns.
- 1.27 A number of mid-stream moorings for vessels on the Hamble River are rented by the Club. Available moorings are allocated to members annually by ballot in the month of November or December. To be eligible for the initial mooring ballot, applicants must have been members for three years at the time of the draw. In the event of any unallocated moorings after the initial ballot, Members of less than three years will be entered into a second ballot. In the event of joint ownership, all owners must be a member of the Club and meet the above conditions.

Once a mooring is allocated to a member(s), that member will automatically be offered a new annual license for a maximum consecutive period of three years. At the end of this three-year tenancy the member(s) will be placed back onto the waiting list and enter the subsequent mooring ballot, should vacant moorings be available.

One of these moorings shall be allocated each year for the use of the Commodore if required.

*Any moorings coming vacant after the ballot will be offered on a first refusal basis to the first eligible member on the Mid-Stream mooring waiting List, on acceptance the mooring is allocated to that member for the remainder of that period, they will have first refusal on the subsequent first, second and third periods, if it is declined, the member goes to the bottom of the Mid-Stream waiting list.*

*If the berth is not accepted by any members of the Mid-Stream waiting List it shall be made available to any eligible members on a temporary basis until the next annual ballot. This temporary allocation will be approved by Rear Commodore Sailing.*

1.27.2 The Club leases the equivalent of twelve walk ashore berths from the Royal Southern Yacht Club. Seven berths are sub-let to members on an annual basis. Three for casual booking by members and two for club use.

1.27.2.1 Current berth holders as of 1st November 2022 have the option to renew annually until such time as they decline to renew the annual license or they terminate the license.

1.27.2.2 Available berths after 1st November 2022 will be allocated to members annually by ballot in the months of November or December.

Prior to the ballot, eligible members on the original PPYH waiting List (now closed) will be offered first refusal of an appropriate berth, on acceptance by the member the berth is

allocated to that member, if it is declined, the member is removed from the original waiting list. If the berth is not accepted by any members on the original PPYH waiting list it will go to ballot.

To be eligible for the berthing ballot, applicants must have been members for three years at the time of the draw. Members of less than three years will be balloted in the event of any unallocated moorings after the initial draw. In the event of joint ownership, all owners must be a member of the Club and meet the above conditions.

Once a berth is allocated to a member(s), that member will be offered first refusal on new annual license for a maximum consecutive period of three years. At the end of this three-year tenancy the member(s) will be placed back onto the current waiting list and enter the next annual berthing ballot, should vacant moorings be available.

Any moorings coming vacant after the ballot will be offered on a first refusal basis to eligible members on the original PPYH waiting List (now closed), on acceptance the berth is allocated to that member for the remainder of that period, they will have first refusal on the subsequent first, second and third periods, if it declined, the member is removed from the original PPYH waiting list. If the berth is not accepted by any members on the original PPYH waiting list it shall be made available to any eligible members on the current waiting list on a temporary basis until the next annual ballot. This temporary allocation will be approved by Rear Commodore Sailing.

- 1.28 When using the Club House, restaurant, bar or lounge areas, the dress of members shall be conventional, clean, tidy, shore-going wear. Shorts will be not be allowed after 1900 hrs between 1<sup>st</sup> October and 30<sup>th</sup> April. During the summer months (1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> September) members may wear tailored shorts. No sports shorts will be allowed. For Club formal and social occasions the Board shall advise the mode of dress required for each event at the time of publishing the advance programme. At no time will swimwear, bare feet, oilskins, sea-boots, anoraks, outer garments or similar sea-going apparel or the wearing of hats or caps be allowed in the bar, restaurant or lounge areas.
- 1.29 Members of the Club, including temporary and affiliated members and their guests, acknowledge that when taking part in any and all waterside activities organised by the Club that is it up to them to personally assess whether any event or activity on the water is within their capability, and to ensure that their personal safety or that of their crew will not be endangered. They acknowledge that the safety of their boat and her entire management including insurance is solely their responsibility, and they must be satisfied the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the event. By putting to sea they imply the suitability of their boat and the competence of skipper and crew for the expected or forecasted conditions.
- 1.30 Whilst purchasing drinks and items from the bar, members on production of their membership card shall be entitled to membership discount on the non members bar price list.

- 1.31 The use of mobile phones and electronic games that emit noise in the bar and restaurant areas is forbidden. Members and visitors to these areas who need to keep their mobile phones turned on should ensure that their phones are in vibrate mode only and if receiving an incoming call take the call outside of the bar or restaurant areas. Initiating a call in these areas is forbidden.
- 1.32 As a facility to members the Club maintains a Crew List. The Club notifies all applicant crews and skippers that in providing this list the Club is not warranting the seaworthiness of the boats or the competence of crew and skippers. Applicants should satisfy themselves as to seaworthiness and competence and should make their own insurance arrangements.
- 1.33 Use of the bar:
  - 1.33.1 As a senior representative of the license holder the Duty Bar Manager has the absolute discretion to refuse to serve any member at any time
  - 1.33.2 Young people under the age of 18 are not allowed at the bar, except that before 21:00 they may approach the bar to purchase soft drinks, crisps and confectionery
  - 1.33.3 Young people under the age of 18 are not permitted to purchase alcohol for their own or consumption by others, either on or off Club premises
  - 1.33.4 Young people between the ages of 16 and 18, when eating a meal and accompanied by an adult, may have purchased for them a single alcoholic drink so long as that is limited to half a pint of beer or cider or a small glass of wine

## 2 Admiralty Warrants

All members holding an Admiralty Warrant must comply with this section of the Bylaws

- 2.7 The Ministry of Defence will grant, subject to approval, a warrant to fly the defaced blue ensign to members owning yachts of 2 tons gross registered tonnage and above. Members wishing to apply for a warrant should apply to the Secretary.
- 2.8 The attention of members is drawn to the under mentioned notes regarding Admiralty Warrants:
  - 2.8.1 Return of Warrant. When the Yacht is sold or the owner ceases to be a member of the Club, the warrant must at once be sent to the Secretary of the Club, who is responsible for its immediate return to the Ministry of Defence (Navy).
  - 2.8.2 Presence of the Owner. The special ensign authorised by the warrant may not be flown unless the Owner is on board or in effective control of her when she is in harbour or at anchor near the shore.
  - 2.8.3 Tenders. The ensign may be flown by any boat which belongs to the Yacht for which the owner holds the warrant and can conveniently be hoisted on board her in the same configuration as a yacht.
- 2.9 Separate Warrant for each Club. If the owner belongs to more than one Club to which warrants to use special ensigns are granted, he must apply for a separate warrant from each Club.
- 2.10 Commercial Use. A yacht which is ever used for any commercial purpose is ineligible for a warrant.
- 2.11 Houseboats, etc. A yacht which is never used for cruising is ineligible for a warrant.
- 2.12 Charter or Loan. If the yacht is lent or chartered to another member of the same Club, the ensign may no longer be flown under this warrant.
- 2.13 Alterations. No alteration may be made in the warrant without the authority of the Secretary of State for Defence. If the name of the yacht is changed, or any alterations are made in her which affect the Register, the warrant must be returned to the Ministry of Defence for correction or re-issue.
- 2.14 Foreign Cruises. Owners of yachts cruising in foreign waters should take care to avoid any action which might result in complications with a foreign power. To this end it is requested that owners intending to visit foreign waters affected by war or serious disturbance will give particulars of their proposed voyages to the Secretary of the Club.

## 3 Ceremonial

- 3.7 The flagstaff on the lawn at the Clubhouse, Hamble is the main flagstaff of the RAFYC.

3.7.1 The flagstaff comprises:- mainmast, topmast, yard and gaff. The flagstaff is orientated by looking at it from the river, with the yard parallel to the riverbank. The gaff is taken to point aft with port and starboard yards designated accordingly. The point of attachment of the standing rigging to the ground is the 'deck'.

### 3.8 Daily Routine

3.8.1 In the absence of the Commodore from the vicinity of the Club, the ordinary Burgee of the RAFYC will be hoisted to the head of the topmast and the Blue Ensign of Her Majesty's Fleet, defaced in accordance with the Admiralty Warrant granted to the RAFYC will be hoisted to the gaff. All flags will be hoisted at 0800 hrs. BST and lowered at 2100 hrs. BST from 1<sup>st</sup> May until 30<sup>th</sup> September, and hoisted at 0900 hrs. lowered at sunset from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> April (or at such time as flags are hoisted and lowered by a vessel of HM Royal Navy when present in the river Hamble and visible from the Clubhouse).

3.8.2 The Commodore's broad pennant will be hoisted to the head of the topmast in place of the Club Burgee when the Commodore is present in the Clubhouse, on board his yacht in the river or when the Commodore is known to be within the confines of the village of Hamble. The Commodore's pennant is to be raised and lowered at the times previously stated or raised on his arrival and lowered on his departure if within those times.

### 3.9 Procedure on the arrival of foreign yachts to the Port of Hamble:

3.9.1 When a foreign yacht arrives in the river, the Club Manager, or a person acting under his instruction, is to hoist to the starboard yardarm, as early as possible, the National maritime flag appropriate to that yacht. On the arrival of other foreign yachts of different nationalities, the appropriate National maritime flags will be hoisted on the other halyards on the yardarm in sequence from the right.

3.9.2 Ensigns will be lowered on the departure of the appropriate foreign yacht or when all flags are lowered, whichever is the earlier.

### 3.10 Procedure for the dressing of the mast on National and other special occasions.

3.10.1 The flagstaff will be dressed on the following National days:

- Her His Majesty the Queen's King's natural birthday
- Her His Majesty the Queen's King's official birthday
- The birthday of H.R.H. Prince Philip

3.10.2 The flagstaff will be dressed on other days at the discretion of the Committee, when requested by members or considered necessary.

3.10.3 When the flagstaff is dressed, the Commodore's pennant, or Club Burgee will be hoisted to the head of the topmast and the ensign to the gaff in the usual way.

3.10.4 The flagstaff is dressed by hoisting the signal flags, in sequence, commencing at the port shroud attachment to the deck:

E, Q, p3, G, p8, Z, p4, W, p6, P, p1, I, Code flag, T, Y, B, X, 1<sup>st</sup> sub, H, 3<sup>rd</sup> sub,  
Masthead, D, F, 2<sup>nd</sup> sub, U, A, O, M, R, p2, J, p0, N, p9, K, p7, V, p5, L, C, S

3.10.5 These hoists will be made up permanently and kept for this purpose. The Club Secretary is to make the necessary arrangements for these flags to be cleaned and repaired as necessary, and available before the days stated.

### 3.11 Procedure for dressing the flagstaff on Battle of Britain Day

3.11.1 On this day and this day only, the Blue Ensign of Her Majesty's Royal Air Force will be hoisted to the head of the flagstaff. The Blue Ensign of the RAFYC will be hoisted to the gaff. No other arrangement of flags, ensigns or bunting of any description is to be hoisted to the RAFYC flagstaff.

### 3.12 Members Flag Etiquette

3.12.1 No flags to be flown when the vessel is not in commission

3.12.2 In harbour the ensign and burgee will be hoisted at 0800 hrs. in the summer (March 25<sup>th</sup> – September 20<sup>th</sup>) and 0900 hrs. in the winter time (September 21<sup>st</sup> – March 24<sup>th</sup>) or later when the sun rises, if possible taking the time from any vessel from the Royal Navy or Yacht Club ashore. The ensign is always lowered at Sunset

3.12.3 The defaced blue or the red ensign will always be worn in the after part of the vessel preferably from the ensign staff whilst under way, in port, moored in a river or at anchor. Alternatively yachts gaff rigged aft may wear the ensign from the peak of the gaff, but only when under way.

3.12.4 Sailing yachts racing; no ensign will be worn.

3.12.5 The blue defaced ensign will only be worn at the same time as the Club burgee.

3.12.6 The Club burgee is always worn at the main masthead, unless it is impracticable then it may be flown as a Senior burgee from the starboard spreader.

3.12.7 When a member of the RAFYC is a member of another Club or Clubs, he may fly the burgee of that Club at the principal masthead and the appropriate ensign, but should then fly the members flag of the RAFYC at the starboard signal halyard. The members flag should not be flown in isolation. It is normal to observe this procedure when in the waters of the Club concerned.

3.12.8 Courtesy ensigns of the countries being visited will be flown from the starboard crosstrees or yardarm when foreign visiting.

3.12.9 When flagstaffs are dressed yachts should be dressed overall, in the same sequence as detailed for the Club flagstaff but only when anchored, moored, etc. Ensigns should be hoisted to the masthead in addition to the normal position of the ensign when the vessel is under way. Vessels should not be dressed overall when under way.