

DCC Private Boat Storage Policy

Document record	Date	Signed
Existing Policy	March 2021	
Draft	March 2023	
Reviewed	August 2023	NP
Due Review	March 2024	

Aim

To enable and manage allocation of boat storage to private members at the club.

Background

The club has limited storage available to private members which needs to be allocated fairly and managed in everyone's best interests. The Club committee set policies for the allocation and use of private boat storage. The storage is managed operationally by a volunteer boat storage manager reporting to the main committee.

Policy

We allocate boat storage annually from 1st April in line with our membership year. We currently have 54 spaces but requests for storage exceed available spaces. The procedure for allocating boat storage for the next calendar year will be as follows:

1. Allocation will be considered based on one storage space per club member provided that:
 - a) they have renewed their membership for the 2023/24 membership year;
 - b) they have completed an application for allocation and
 - c) they have deposited the fee for boat storage.
2. Eligibility for storage includes junior members who are part of a valid and paid-up Family Membership for the boat storage year.
3. Storage fees are £72 per annum or part thereof per boat. All sizes/types of boat are liable to the same charge.
4. Your fee will be returned if a space cannot be allocated.
5. Applications for boat storage allocation will be made via the website shop for the 2023/24 season. Members will be informed when this shop is live. Members will be required to provide details including BC number and boat description so that we can allocate and manage racking efficiently to get as many boats in the store as possible.
6. We intend to pre-allocate one storage space to anyone with current storage space who meets the conditions above AND has made a significant commitment to volunteer to help running the club during the previous calendar year. This includes coaches, committee members and adult volunteer helpers.
7. We intend to pre-allocate to a small number of people with special circumstances, including disability, provided they meet the conditions set out above.

Conditions of storage

Our boat storage is limited and doesn't meet everyone's needs. Our rules have developed to look after everyone's interest and members are always welcome to store their boats elsewhere if preferred.

As a membership Club we cannot and do not accept any liability for loss of or damage to any boat or equipment left at the Club or stored with us and your boat is only accepted on that basis. We recommend you insure your boat as accidental damage is not covered by the Club's insurance policy.

Members storing boats must be paid up BC members. BC membership includes your licence to paddle on the waterways. The club holds nominal licences for club, not private, boats.

You may take steps to protect your boat by using a boat bag or sling in the rack space provided. Any modifications to your storage space **MUST NOT** inconvenience anyone else, restrict their storage space, remove or modify any fitting in the storage bay (including but not limited to) preventing rack rollers from moving freely or obscure the bay allocation name label.

Decisions on whether, and where, to allocate storage space will be made by the volunteer boat storage manager with support from the club committee. If we receive more than 54 applications for allocation, we will allocate space using the criteria set out in this policy. These include allocating storage to coaches who use their own boats for coaching, to local members who can then walk or cycle to club to reduce vehicle use and based on boat usage during the previous calendar year.

Pending April 2023 allocation, the existing system and spaces remain in use. The combination lock number on the private boat store will change at the start of April, a new schematic will be issued, and the new number distributed to members with a storage space. Please don't pass the boat store code on to anyone else.

Boats in the store without a 2023/24 storage agreement will be removed once we have contacted owners. Initially they will be put in either a) the top rack of the right-hand store (if space is available) or b) on the boat trailer inside the yard.

Owners without boat storage agreements will be contacted once this has taken place and will be invited to remove their boats within one week. After that they will be moved to the trailer outside the club gate, we do not accept any responsibility for them as they will be at the club without our consent.

We reserve the right to dispose of boats that remain onsite without consent.