



## **POLICY FOR MEMBERS' USE OF SOCIETY BOATS**

**Amended on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.**

Boats owned by the Society will be managed by a member or members appointed by the Committee. These members will be responsible for ensuring that the boats are properly maintained and used in accordance with the Society's policies, including Health and Safety policy.

Ordinarily, priority will be given to use by the Society for participation in public events attended or organised by the Society, such as pageants, boat shows and Port Fonty Boating Days. On these occasions, the cost of entering and bringing the boat(s) to the events will be covered by the Society. A proportion of the crew may need to have a level of experience, but all members will be advised of such events in *Scull, Pole and Paddle* or a TTBS Bulletin, and will be welcome to apply for a place in the boat(s).

All members of the Society are entitled to an equal opportunity to use Society boats on loan informally, including for suitable organised cruises or other events, subject to certain conditions detailed below. The Society will be mindful of its aim to encourage young people and newcomers, and to encourage members without their own boats to participate in events.

The Society makes no hire charge for the use of its boats, but may apply an appropriate level of donation as a contribution towards their upkeep, based upon the Society's estimate of average maintenance and running costs. This should be significantly less than the cost of hiring a similar boat from a commercial operator.

There will be no donation charge for outings by water from and to Port Fonty of up to two consecutive days, where no road transportation is involved.

For longer journeys, and those involving transportation by road the following levels of donation will apply:-

|                       |                     |                               |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Sgian Dubh</b>     | (quadruple shallop) | £25 per day or £150 per week. |
| <b>Thomasina</b>      | (double skiff)      | £20 per day or £120 per week. |
| <b>Running Waters</b> | (canoe)             | £10 per day or £60 per week.  |
| Trailer               |                     | £ 5 per day or £30 per week.  |

These figures reflect the donations previously made informally by most users, and now provide a level playing field. It will be appreciated that when shared among a complete crew, this represents around £5 per head per day, which compares well with a number of other boating organisations.

### **Terms and Conditions of loan**

- (1) The boat must be booked in advance through the Boats Officer in order to avoid double-booking, maintenance work, etc.
- (2) A proportion of the crew must have a level of experience appropriate to the boat to be used.

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- (3) If the boat is to be towed by road, this must be undertaken by a suitably experienced person using a suitable vehicle. Check-ropes, and carpet or similar padding, must be arranged so as to prevent damage to the boat from unprotected surfaces, straps and slings.
- (4) Ownership stays with the TTBS. A suitably competent member must take responsibility for the boat, contents and trailer and be present at all times when it is in use.
- (5) The insurance remains with the TTBS
- (6) The inventory and condition of the boat, equipment and trailer must be checked by the Boats Officer (or other appropriate Committee member) and the user, and signed for, at the start and end of the loan. And all must be returned in the same condition as at the start. The user must clean and wash the boat inside and out as necessary, to remove dirt, residues and environmental contaminants.
- (7) In the case of damage or accident, the member using the boat must inform the Boats Officer at the earliest opportunity, and will be responsible for either (a) any excess payable by the Society if the damage is subject to an insurance claim, or (b) the cost of repair work carried out by a professional boatbuilder arranged by the Society if a claim is not made.
- (8) No member shall carry out unauthorised work or repairs to a Society boat.
- (9) The member is responsible for collecting and returning the boat, and for complying with all Society policies including Health and Safety policy, and with all relevant external regulations. For example, a lighting board is supplied with the Society's trailer, but the member must supply the correct number plate. Also, **the Society's insurance policy precludes use by non-members except as guests of the member to whom the boat is loaned, who must be present at all times.**

***Approved by the Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016.***