



SAILORS FOR THE SEA CLEAN REGATTA AT ESC EMSWORTH REGATTA 2026

On Saturday 12 September 2026, sailors of all ages came together at Emsworth Sailing Club for the annual Emsworth Regatta, with 101 sailors taking to the water in 70 boats for a day of competitive racing in Chichester Harbour. With excellent weather, a strong turnout and enthusiastic support from families and volunteers on and off the water, the regatta was a lively celebration of sailing and the club community.

The regatta also provided an opportunity for Emsworth Sailing Club to build on the success of its Platinum accredited Junior Regatta earlier in the year and once again demonstrate its commitment to environmental stewardship through the Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas programme. With a wider range of participants, including both adult and young sailors, the event offered an opportunity to extend the club's Clean Regatta approach to a different audience while continuing to put sustainable practices into action.

By implementing the programme's Best Practices, the club sought to reduce the environmental impact of the

event, raise awareness of sustainable behaviours and encourage everyone involved to play a part in protecting the marine environment.

Located within Chichester Harbour National Landscape and an internationally important area for wildlife, Emsworth Sailing Club recognises its responsibility to safeguard the waters and habitats that support both recreational boating and the wider ecosystem. The measures outlined in this report reflect the club's commitment to delivering sailing events responsibly while helping to preserve the harbour for future generations.

“

Emsworth Sailing Club are proud to support the Sailors for the Sea Clean Regatta programme. By taking simple, practical steps to reduce our environmental impact, we are helping to preserve the waters and environment we cherish while setting a positive example for the wider sailing community and the next generation of sailors.

Craig Summers
Commodore
Emsworth SC



About Emsworth Sailing Club

Founded in 1919, Emsworth Sailing Club is a volunteer-led sailing and water sports club, located on the northern shore of Chichester Harbour in Hampshire. For more than a century, the club has provided opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to participate in sailing and other water-based activities while fostering a strong connection with the harbour and coastal environment.

Today, the club supports a wide range of activities including dinghy racing, cruising, rowing, paddleboarding, kayaking and swimming. Youth development forms a key part of the

club's mission, with an active programme of training and racing that encourages lifelong participation in water sports and promotes environmental awareness from an early age.

With 1691 members, including 332 junior members, many of whom reside within the local area, the club plays an important role in the community.

Through the dedication of its volunteers and members, Emsworth Sailing Club continues to promote safe, inclusive and environmentally responsible participation in water sports while helping to protect Chichester Harbour for future generations.

“

I represented the Green Team at the Emsworth Regatta and found it a really fun and rewarding way to engage with the sailing club community. The safety boat briefing and Harbour Oysters stall generated lots of interest and conversation about the actions we can all take to protect our marine environment.

Pippa Gawley
Estates Committee
Emsworth SC

“

We were delighted to be involved with the Emsworth Regatta. Emsworth was where it all started for us and Emsworth Sailing Club has been an amazing supporter and host of one of our local restoration sites, home to 4,000 native oysters. There is such a strong heritage of both oysters and sailing here and it is wonderful to bring together so many people who care deeply about our local marine environment.

Lottie Johns
Harbour Oysters



Evidence of Compliance with the Clean Regatta 20 Best Practices

The following section outlines how Emsworth Sailing Club implemented the Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas Best Practices during the Emsworth Junior Regatta and provides supporting evidence for each criterion.

Elimination of Single-Use Items

Best Practice 1

Eliminate Single-Use Water Bottles and Provide Water Refill Stations

Emsworth Sailing Club has actively promoted the use of reusable water bottles for a number of years and reducing single-use plastics is increasingly embedded within the culture of the club. A permanent drinking water fountain provides members, competitors and visitors with easy access to free drinkiung water throughout the year. Members regularly use the fountain to refill their

reusable water bottles as part of their normal activities at the club.

The refill station is clearly labelled and signposted to encourage its use and ensure that everyone can readily identify the facility. As part of the club's wider commitment to reducing single-use plastics, single-use plastic water bottles have not been sold at the club since 2021.

This established approach was continued throughout the Emsworth Regatta. Competitors, families and volunteers were encouraged to bring reusable bottles and make use of the permanent refill station. As a result, the event built on an existing culture of reuse rather than introducing a temporary measure specifically for the regatta.

Evidence

- Permanent water bottle refill station available on site and throughout the year.
- Refill station clearly labelled and accessible to members and visitors.
- Single-use plastic water bottles have not been sold at the club since 2021.
- Competitors, families and volunteers used reusable water bottles throughout the event.





Elimination of Single-Use Items (continued)

Best Practice 2 Eliminate Plastic Straws

Emsworth Sailing Club has not used plastic drinking straws since 2021 as part of its commitment to reducing single-use plastics and preventing plastic waste from entering the marine environment.

Any straws provided within the clubhouse and bar facilities are made from paper and can be disposed of responsibly after use.

This policy was in place throughout the Emsworth Regatta, ensuring that competitors, families, volunteers and visitors were not provided with single-use plastic straws during the event.

Evidence

- Plastic drinking straws have not been used at the club since 2021.
- Paper straws are provided as an environmentally responsible alternative.
- No plastic straws were available or distributed during the regatta.





Elimination of Single-Use Items (continued)

Best Practice 3

Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware

Emsworth Sailing Club serves food using reusable crockery and has long avoided disposable plastic dinnerware.

Since 2021, biodegradable bamboo cutlery has occasionally been used for larger events and takeaway catering where reusable cutlery is not practical.

For the Emsworth Regatta, food was served using the club's existing

reusable crockery, reflecting the club's established approach to reducing single-use items. The club also avoided the use of cling film when preparing and storing food for the regatta tea, using reusable tea towels to cover prepared food instead.

In addition, hot drinks purchased from the on-site drinks machine were served in recyclable cups. Members,

visitors and event participants are encouraged to bring their own reusable cups and water bottles for use at the club, helping to reduce the need for disposable items and support the club's waste reduction objectives.

These measures support the club's commitment to reducing waste and minimising the environmental impact of catering activities.

Evidence:

- Reusable crockery and cutlery used as standard in the clubhouse.
- Biodegradable bamboo cutlery occasionally used for larger events and takeaway service since 2021.
- Recyclable cups used for hot drinks from the on-site drinks machine.
- Tea towels were used to cover prepared food instead of cling film.
- Staff served food using reusable tableware throughout the event.





Elimination of Single-Use Items (continued)

Best Practice 4

Avoid Bags or Use Recyclable Alternatives

Emsworth Sailing Club has chosen to eliminate the use of bags at event registration, including for the Emsworth Regatta. Participants are encouraged to bring and manage their own equipment and personal belongings without relying on disposable bags or packaging. This simple approach avoids

unnecessary single-use materials and reduces waste associated with event registration.

Where bags are required for operational purposes, such as the occasional provision of lunches for on-water volunteers, paper bags are used as a

recyclable and more environmentally responsible alternative to plastic.

This approach ensures that single-use plastic bags are avoided across both participant-facing and operational aspects of the event.

Evidence:

- No bags provided at event registration.
- No use of single-use plastic bags at any point during the regatta.
- Paper bags used only where operationally necessary (e.g. volunteer lunches).
- No distribution of plastic or branded giveaway bags.





Elimination of Single-Use Items (continued)

Best Practice 5

Award Practical Items or Use Perpetual or Upcycled Trophies

Emsworth Sailing Club prioritises the use of reusable and practical awards to reduce waste and avoid unnecessary consumption. The club has established a system of perpetual trophies which are retained by the club and presented to winners each year.

For the Emsworth Regatta, the club's reusable trophies were presented to the relevant fleet winners. The trophies remain the property of Emsworth Sailing Club and are reused for future regattas, avoiding the need to

purchase new trophies each year. This approach maintains the tradition and sense of achievement associated with regatta trophies while supporting a more sustainable approach to awards.

In addition to the perpetual trophies, engraved glassware was awarded to the top three competitors in each of the seven fleets. The glassware was deliberately chosen as a durable and reusable alternative to conventional one-off prizes or medals, providing competitors with a lasting memento

of their achievement that can be used beyond the event. These practical prizes avoid creating the waste associated with disposable or single use awards.

By choosing reusable trophies and durable prizes that can be kept and used beyond the event, the Emsworth Regatta demonstrates that sustainable choices can be incorporated into traditional prize giving without compromising the recognition and celebration of competitors' achievements.

Evidence:

- Annual perpetual trophies used for regatta awards.
- Trophies retained by the club and reused for future regattas.
- Engraved reusable glassware awarded to the top three competitors in each of the seven fleets.





Community Involvement

Best Practice 6 Publicise Sustainability Efforts

Emsworth Sailing Club again actively promoted its participation in the Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas programme through both digital and on-site communications. Building on the approach used for the Junior Regatta earlier in the year, the message 'We are proud to be a Clean Regatta' featured on the official event poster and was shared in advance through club communication channels, including the weekly newsletter. This helped

to inform members, competitors and families about the club's sustainability commitment and the actions being taken as part of the event.

On the day of the Emsworth Regatta, Clean Regattas posters provided by Sailors for the Sea were displayed prominently throughout the clubhouse, including key operational areas such as registration and the bar area. This ensured that the club's

environmental commitment remained visible throughout the event and provided an opportunity to engage competitors, families and volunteers with the Clean Regattas message.

Continuing these communications across different club events is helping to make environmental responsibility a visible and increasingly familiar part of the club's event culture.

Evidence:

- 'Clean Regattas' message included on official event poster.
- Weekly club newsletter used to communicate participation in the accreditation programme.
- Digital event poster shared through club communication channels.
- Sailors for the Sea posters displayed throughout the clubhouse during the event.
- Posters positioned at key operational points.
- Social Media posts following the event.





Published 05:53 on 10 Sep 2026

Following our success at the Junior Regatta earlier this year, when Emsworth Sailing Club achieved **Platinum accreditation** through the **Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas programme**, we are delighted to be applying for accreditation again for this weekend's Emsworth Sailing Club Regatta.

It is great to see so many members interested in what we can do to make our club and our events more environmentally sustainable. Look out for a range of initiatives taking place during the regatta, many of which reflect the priorities in our **Environment Action Plan**.

We will also have a stall featuring information about **Harbour Oysters**, a local community marine conservation project working to restore native oysters and support the health of Chichester Harbour.

So, whether you are **competing, supporting or simply passing through**, please come along and support on Saturday 12 September.

If you would like to learn more about the environmental initiatives that contributed to this award, you can read our **Clean Regattas Report** and view our **Platinum Certificate** below.

Sailors for the Sea News

Help tackle plastic pollution. Find out more [here](#).

Downloads

- [SFS: Platinum 2026 ESC Junior Regatta.pdf](#)
- [ESC Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas accreditation \(2\).pdf](#)

[Older](#) [Newer](#)



[Live link to Facebook post](#)



[Live link to Instagram post](#)



Community Involvement (continued)

Best Practice 7 Involve Local Organisations

Emsworth Sailing Club invited Harbour Oysters to take part in the Emsworth Regatta as part of its commitment to working with local environmental organisations and connecting the club community with practical marine conservation taking place within Chichester Harbour.

Harbour Oysters is a community led marine conservation initiative founded by local sisters Charlotte (Lottie) and Poppy Johns. The project restores native oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) by installing oyster baskets beneath existing pontoons and jetties within Chichester Harbour and neighbouring South Coast harbours, including the drying pontoon at Emsworth Sailing Club. Native oysters are a keystone species that naturally filter water, support biodiversity and provide habitats for a wide range of marine life.

A single native oyster can filter more than 150 litres of water each day. At full filtration capacity, the approximately 26,000 oysters currently established by Harbour Oysters have the potential to filter around 4 million litres of water per day, demonstrating the potential environmental benefits of oyster restoration.

Since the first installation at Emsworth Yacht Harbour in 2025, Harbour Oysters has established approximately 26,000 native oysters across 68 baskets at 10 sites. Alongside practical conservation, the project works with schools, Scout and community groups, sailing clubs and other volunteer groups to raise awareness of marine conservation and encourage local people to become actively involved in caring for their coastal environment.

Throughout the Emsworth Regatta, Harbour Oysters hosted a manned information table in the main clubhouse area. This provided competitors, families, members and visitors with an opportunity to meet the project team, learn more about native oyster restoration and discover how the work taking place beneath the club's own pontoon contributes to the health of Chichester Harbour.

The presence of Harbour Oysters also helped to make the connection between the club's sustainability commitments and practical environmental action within the local harbour more visible to the wider regatta community.

Evidence:

- Harbour Oysters invited to participate in the Regatta.
- Manned Harbour Oysters information table throughout the event.
- Direct engagement between Harbour Oysters representatives and competitors, families, members and visitors.
- Information provided about native oyster restoration and marine conservation in Chichester Harbour.
- Opportunity for participants to learn about the oyster restoration taking place beneath Emsworth Sailing Club's drying pontoon.
- 23 members registered interest in scrubbing events
- Harbour Oysters information and promotional materials available to visitors.
- Testimonial: "We were delighted to be invited to the Emsworth Regatta..."





Community Involvement (continued)

Best Practice 8 Post Educational and Reusable Signage

All operational signage used during the Emsworth Regatta, including bin instructions, water fountain signage and spill kit information, is part of the club's permanent year-round environmental communications and is used at all events and throughout regular club activity.

In addition, Emsworth Sailing Club maintains ongoing environmental education signage and information

displays around the clubhouse. This includes guidance from RYA Green Blue covering key topics such as antifouling best practice: 'Protect, Collect and Dispose', biosecurity measures including 'Check, Clean, Dry' procedures to prevent the spread of non-native species, and wider environmental considerations such as the use of non-toxic sunscreen and responsible water use when washing boats and using shower facilities.

Environmental information is displayed on a dedicated environment noticeboard within the clubhouse and is also shared through the club website and monthly environmental updates in the weekly newsletter. Further guidance is provided to members on respecting local habitats, particularly sensitive areas such as nesting bird sites within Chichester Harbour.

Evidence:

- Permanent signage for bins, water fountain and spill kit used year-round.
- RYA Green Blue environmental guidance displayed in clubhouse.
- 'Check, Clean, Dry' biosecurity information displayed in clubhouse and on the website.
- Environmental noticeboard dedicated to sustainability messaging.
- Monthly environmental updates included in weekly club newsletter.
- Environmental guidance published on club website.
- Information on protecting local habitats and nesting birds shared with members.
- Reusable course chart.



[Live link to Emsworth SC environment pages](#)





Community Involvement (continued)

Best Practice 9

Serve Local Food or Source Seafood Sustainably

Emsworth Sailing Club works closely with its franchise catering provider to encourage the sourcing of local and responsibly sourced food. All seafood served at the club is purchased through the local fish market, supporting short supply chains and ensuring freshness.

Meat, fruit and vegetables are sourced locally where possible, with the caterer actively encouraged to prioritise local suppliers as part of the club's environmental expectations for food provision.

The club's Environment Lead works directly with the catering franchise to promote sustainable sourcing practices and to strengthen alignment with the club's environmental objectives. This includes ongoing discussion around reducing food miles and increasing the proportion of locally sourced ingredients.

Evidence

- Seafood sourced through the local fish market.
- Meat, fruit and vegetables sourced locally where possible.
- Sustainable sourcing encouraged as part of catering franchise arrangements.
- Environment Lead actively engages with caterer on sustainability practices.





Responsible Waste Management

Best Practice 10 Organise a Green Team

A Green Team was established for the Emsworth Regatta, with representatives drawn from across the club, including junior members. The team was introduced during the regatta briefing and remained active throughout the event, supporting the delivery and promotion of sustainability measures.

The Green Team played a visible role on the day, engaging with competitors, families, visitors and volunteers to raise awareness of the club's environmental initiatives and encourage positive behaviours.

To avoid unnecessary consumption, existing high visibility vests owned by the club were repurposed and clearly marked as 'Green Team' rather than sourcing new branded clothing. This approach reinforced the club's commitment to reuse and minimising waste.

Evidence

- Green Team established with representation from junior and adult members.
- Introduced during the official regatta briefing.
- Active engagement with participants and visitors throughout the event.
- Repurposed high visibility vests used instead of purchasing new items.
- Visible presence across the event site promoting sustainability.





Responsible Waste Management (continued)

Best Practice 11 Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement and Signage

Emsworth Sailing Club provides clearly labelled waste and recycling bins throughout the site, both inside the clubhouse and in external areas used by members, visitors and event participants. These bins are permanent fixtures and are in place year-round, not solely for the regatta.

Bin locations are intentionally positioned in accessible, high-traffic areas to encourage correct waste disposal and support consistent recycling behaviour. Clear signage is used to identify waste streams and reduce contamination, ensuring effective waste separation across all club activities and events.

During the Emsworth Regatta, bin usage was actively monitored before and after the event. Waste generated throughout the day was minimal, comprising half a bag of general waste and one small bag of recycling, mainly comprising drink cans and bottles.

Evidence

- Permanent waste and recycling bins located inside the clubhouse.
- Permanent waste and recycling bins located in external areas.
- Bins in place year-round, not installed specifically for events.
- Clear signage used to identify waste streams and support recycling.
- Bin usage monitored before and after the regatta.
- Half a bag of general waste collected during the event.
- One bag of recycling collected during the event.





Responsible Waste Management (continued)

Best Practice 12 **Divert Food Waste from Landfill**

Emsworth Sailing Club collaborates closely with its franchise catering provider to minimise food waste through careful portion planning and operational procedures. The caterer has extensive experience at the club and routinely reviews portion sizes to reduce surplus food while ensuring adequate provision for all participants.

For the Emsworth Regatta, a regatta tea comprised sandwiches and cakes for all participants and attendees. All food left over was shared amongst staff with no waste on the day.

Looking ahead, the club's House Committee is exploring options with local authority waste services to introduce formal food waste collection schemes, including potential conversion of food waste into biofuel. This initiative is planned for future implementation in 2027.

Evidence

- Portion sizes routinely reviewed by experienced catering provider.
- Catering cost structure supports controlled production and reduced waste.
- Surplus food offered to staff after service.
- Investigation underway into council food waste to biofuel scheme (planned 2026).



Responsible Waste Management (continued)

Best Practice 13 Use Paperless Event Management

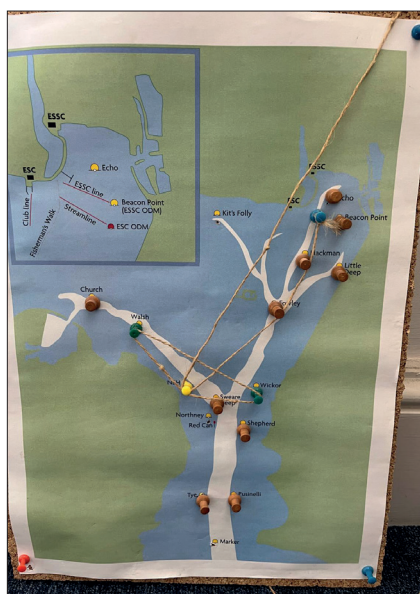
Emsworth Sailing Club has operated a paperless approach across club administration and event management wherever possible since 2021. This includes digital distribution of Sailing Instructions, event information and routine club communications.

For the Emsworth Regatta, registration was completed online and all Sailing Instructions and event documents were issued digitally in advance. Event communication, including race management updates, were managed through the club website and WhatsApp groups, ensuring timely and accessible communication for participants and volunteers.

Results were published on the club website within 12 hours of racing, providing prompt and accessible access to event outcomes without the need for printed materials.

Evidence

- Paperless administration approach in place since 2021 where possible.
- Digital Sailing Instructions and event information issued pre-event.
- Online registration system used for all competitors.
- WhatsApp groups used for race management and event communication.
- Results published on club website within 12 hours.



19/09 17:00 ESC - Streamline	17:35 (3.7m)
To Be Confirmed 2 Ribis from ESC	4 boats / 4 sailors (ESC - 3, ESSC - 1)
SORT	
David Patterson (ESC) CONTENDER	693 On
Jon Powell (ESC) CONTENDER	2720 On
Gareth Tweedle (ESC) FINN	71 On
Andrew Gould (ESSC) MUSTO SKIFF	584 On

Emsworth Sailing Club Regatta 2026										
Hugh and Sam Watson win the Jubilee Cup for the Fast fleet Patrick Bonner wins the Fowley Trophy for the single-handers fleets Paul and Grace Pisk win the Inshore Challenge Cup for the Medium fleet Clare Musgridge wins the Solo Bowl for the Slow fleet										
R1 - Fast fleet Fleet - 12-09-2026 at 12.15										
Start: Start 1, Finishes: Finish time, Time: 12.15.00, Course: RC, Wind dir: SW, Ave wind: 15-20 knots										
Rank	Class	Fleet	SailNo	HelinName	CrewName	Club	Rating	Elapsed	Corrected	Point
	RS600	Fast fleet	1746	Hugh Watson	Sam Watson	ESC	983	1,04.38	1,07.07	1.0
1	RS400	Fast fleet	1545	Matt Johnston	Clare Power	ESSC	945	1,03.40	1,07.22	2.0
2	MUSTO SKIFF	Fast fleet	584	Andrew Gould		ESSC	830	0,55.56	1,07.23	3.0
3	MUSTO SKIFF	Fast fleet	646	Christian Reynolds		ESC	830	0,56.49	1,08.27	4.0
4	ISO	Fast fleet	815	Mike Lillywhite	Emma Pethbridge	ESSC	940	1,04.55	1,09.07	5.0
5	RS400	Fast fleet	1418	Simon Townsend	Sara Townsend	ESC	945	1,05.36	1,09.25	6.0
6	OSPREY	Fast fleet	1329	Anthony Reeves	Fiona Reeves	ESC	932	1,05.18	1,10.04	7.0
7	OSPREY	Fast fleet	1387	Rob Southern	Adam Southern	ESC	932	1,08.35	1,13.35	8.0
8	ISO	Fast fleet	827	Colin Snook	Allison Revitt	LSC	940	1,23.04	1,28.22	9.0
9	RS400	Fast fleet	657	Dog Star	Peter Arnold	ESC	945	DNF		12.0
10	ISO	Fast fleet	1019	Harry Slight	Max Devonport	ESC	940	DNF		12.0
R1 - Single-handers 1 Fleet - 12-09-2026 at 12.15										
Start: Start 2, Finishes: Finish time, Time: 12.20.00, Course: RD, Wind dir: SW, Ave wind: 15-20 knots										
Rank	Class	Fleet	SailNo	HelinName	CrewName	Club	Rating	Elapsed	Corrected	Point



Environmental Stewardship

Best Practice 14 Host a Beach Clean

As part of the Emsworth Regatta, Emsworth Sailing Club organised a targeted litter pick within the club dinghy park and adjacent foreshore areas. This location was selected because of its proximity to a popular harbour side walkway and the waterfront, where litter can be deposited by passers-by as well as generated through sailing and other club activities.

The litter pick provided an opportunity for competitors, members and volunteers to take practical action to help protect the local environment. By removing litter from areas close to the water, the activity helped to prevent waste from entering Chichester Harbour

and the wider marine environment. The litter pick collected 2 bags of waste, including discarded tape, crisp packets, plastic bottles, drinks cans and rope. This provided a practical demonstration of how small actions by members and participants can help prevent waste from entering the harbour.

The club maintains its own litter picking equipment which is available for members to use throughout the year. This enables members to take action whenever they identify an area requiring attention and demonstrates that environmental stewardship extends beyond organised events.

The litter pick carried out during the regatta also builds on wider measures taken by the club to recover litter from the waterfront and surrounding waters. Rescue boats are equipped with bamboo fishing nets and litter pickers which can be used throughout the year to retrieve floating litter and items accidentally lost during sailing activities, such as water bottles, bottle caps and other debris following capsizes.

Together, these initiatives support the club's commitment to maintaining a clean and safe waterfront environment while helping to protect the sensitive coastal habitats of Chichester Harbour.

Evidence

- Targeted litter pick carried out in the dinghy park and adjacent foreshore areas during the Emsworth Regatta.
- Permanent litter picking equipment available for members to use throughout the year.
- Active participation by club members, competitors and volunteers.
- Bamboo fishing nets and litter pickers carried on rescue boats to recover floating litter and items accidentally lost during sailing activities.
- Targeted clean-up of areas affected by public access and sailing activity.





Environmental Stewardship

Best Practice 15 Prevent Toxins from Entering the Water

Emsworth Sailing Club is committed to reducing the risk of pollutants entering Chichester Harbour through operational procedures, member education and environmental partnerships.

To support rapid response to accidental spills, the club has recently invested in an upgraded spill kit that is clearly labelled and located in an accessible position for use by members, volunteers and staff if required.

The club also follows RYA Green Blue guidance on antifouling management. Maintenance of club boats is carried out in accordance with the principles of 'Protect, Collect, Dispose' to minimise the release of harmful substances

into the environment. Information promoting these best practices is displayed around the club and shared with members as part of ongoing environmental communications.

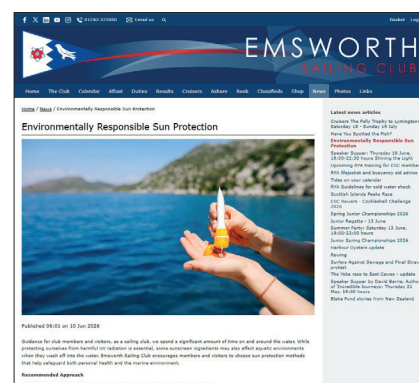
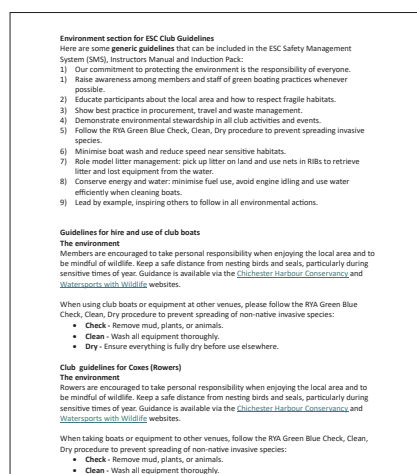
As part of the club's Environmental Strategy, Emsworth Sailing Club has researched the environmental impacts of sunscreen products and identified non-toxic alternatives that are less harmful to marine ecosystems. Information and guidance on the use of non-toxic sunscreens has been shared with members through the weekly newsletter, club noticeboards and the club website, helping to raise awareness of simple actions that can reduce pollution entering Chichester Harbour.

Emsworth Sailing Club also supports local initiatives aimed at improving water quality. In partnership with Harbour Oysters, a pilot oyster basket has been installed beneath the drying pontoon at Emsworth. The oysters are currently thriving and are being monitored as part of an ongoing project exploring the role of oyster filtration in supporting healthier coastal waters. Water quality monitoring is continuing alongside the project.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate the club's commitment to preventing pollution and supporting the long-term health of Chichester Harbour.

Evidence

- Spill kit clearly labelled and accessible to members and staff.
- Club boat maintenance follows RYA Green Blue "Protect, Collect and Dispose" antifouling guidance.
- Antifouling best practice information displayed and shared with members.
- Research undertaken into non-toxic sunscreen alternatives.
- Non-toxic sunscreen guidance shared through weekly newsletter, club noticeboards and website.
- Partnership established with Harbour Oysters.
- Pilot oyster basket installed beneath Emsworth pontoon.
- Ongoing water quality monitoring associated with oyster project.



[Live link to Emsworth SC newsletter](#)
– Environmentally responsible sun protection



Environmental Stewardship

Best Practice 16 Increase Awareness of Wildlife and Habitat Protection

Emsworth Sailing Club recognises the importance of minimising disturbance to the sensitive habitats and wildlife that make Chichester Harbour an internationally important coastal environment. The club therefore actively promotes awareness of local wildlife and habitat protection among members, visitors and participants in sailing events.

Environmental guidance is provided to members and visitors to encourage responsible behaviour on and off the water. The club's member, visitor and race management guidelines include information on local wildlife, habitat protection and best practice when using the harbour. This guidance is shared with sailors, visitors and RIB crews to help minimise disturbance to wildlife and protect sensitive habitats. It includes information on avoiding sensitive nesting bird areas, particularly during key breeding seasons and respecting designated conservation zones.

Race management decisions for the Emsworth Regatta also sought to minimise unnecessary activity and disturbance on the water wherever possible. For fleets 1 to 6, existing harbour fixed marks were used for racing rather than deploying additional temporary marks. This reduced the need for additional mark laying and retrieval while helping to minimise unnecessary boat movements within the harbour.

Temporary marks were used only for the fleet of less experienced sailors, who were kept closer to the club area to support safe participation in the prevailing wind conditions. This approach balanced the environmental benefits of minimising additional activity on the water with the safety and accessibility needs of participants.

The club has also explored alternative technologies, including robotic marks, which could potentially reduce the environmental impact associated with conventional race mark deployment.

However, their use within Chichester Harbour remains limited at present because of the harbour's strong tidal conditions and budget constraints.

To help prevent the spread of invasive non-native species, the club promotes the RYA Green Blue Check, Clean, Dry campaign. Information is displayed around the clubhouse and shared with members to encourage the cleaning and inspection of boats, launching trolleys and equipment when travelling between sailing venues.

The club also works with local environmental partners, including Chichester Harbour Conservancy and Harbour Oysters, to raise awareness of initiatives that support water quality, biodiversity and marine habitat restoration within Chichester Harbour. Harbour Oysters also attended the Emsworth Regatta, providing an opportunity for competitors, families and visitors to learn directly about native oyster restoration taking place within the harbour.



Evidence

- Environmental guidance provided to members, visitors and race management RIB crews.
- Information provided on protecting local wildlife and sensitive nesting bird areas.
- Existing harbour fixed marks used for Fleets 1 to 6, reducing the need for additional mark laying and retrieval.
- Temporary marks used only where necessary to support the safe participation of less experienced sailors.
- RYA Green Blue Check, Clean, Dry guidance promoted throughout the club.
- Environmental information displayed on club noticeboards..
- Harbour Oysters invited to the Emsworth Regatta to raise awareness of marine habitat restoration.
- Wildlife and habitat protection messages shared with members and visitors.



Welcome to Emsworth Sailing Club



Information for the event

Environmental Stewardship
Emsworth Sailing Club is committed to protecting the natural environment and promoting sustainable practices throughout all club activities and are proud to be hosting a clean regatta. Our location within Chichester Harbour, one of only 46 National Landscapes in the United Kingdom, makes this commitment especially important.

For the Junior Regatta, the Club will be applying for the prestigious Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas accreditation. We ask all competitors, club members and visitors to support this initiative and help minimise the environmental impact of the event.

Representatives from the Club will be available throughout the event to support competitors and visitors in following environmentally responsible practices. By working together, we can help protect the harbour environment and demonstrate good stewardship both on and off the water.

Participants, visitors and members are:

- Asked to respect wildlife and protect the environment within Chichester Harbour. Please keep clear of nesting birds, seals and sensitive habitat areas.
- Encouraged to walk, cycle, use public transport or car share wherever possible when travelling to Emsworth Sailing Club.
- Encouraged to minimise engine use where practical and avoid unnecessary idling within the harbour.
- Encouraged to support sustainable boating initiatives including The Green Blue Boating Pledge and the Sailors for the Sea Green Boater pledge.



Please help our coastal birds

Did you know?

- Fowley Island is one of the few sites in Chichester Harbour where coastal birds breed
- Disturbance can cost birds a whole day's feeding energy
- Wildlife disturbance is an issue year-round
- Wildlife is most sensitive in quieter areas
- Flapping sails scare birds as they resemble predators
- Dragging equipment damages habitat
- Kayakers can help by keeping a low paddle angle
- Paddleboarders can help by kneeling and keeping a low profile

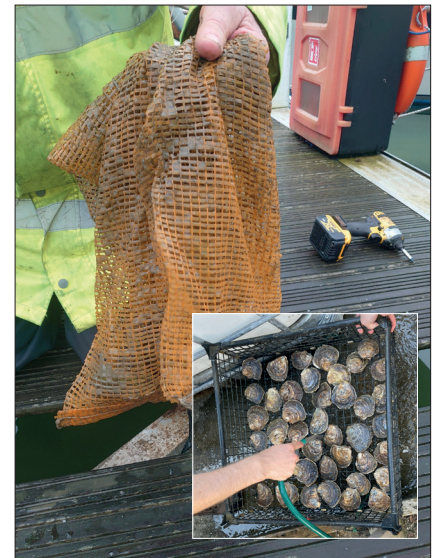


We can all help by avoiding Fowley Island

- From April to early August as birds are breeding
- From November to April as birds are resting

For more information, visit www.conservancy.co.uk and www.birdaware.org

With thanks to Kate L'Amia, Chichester Harbour Conservancy and Richie Angier, Bird Aware Salient



harbouroysters.com





Environmental Stewardship

Best Practice 17 Offer Vegetarian and Vegan Alternatives

Emsworth Sailing Club ensures that vegetarian and vegan meal options are available as part of its regular catering provision and for club events.

Vegetarian and vegan alternatives were offered at the Emsworth Regatta tea, allowing participants to choose foods that met their dietary preferences and helping the caterer prepare appropriate quantities in advance.

This approach supported both inclusivity and food waste reduction by matching catering provision more closely to demand.

Evidence

- Vegetarian and vegan options available through the club catering service.
- Vegetarian and vegan alternatives included on the event menu.
- Pre-order system used to improve catering accuracy and reduce waste.





Climate Awareness

Best Practice 18 Promote Alternative Transportation

Emsworth Sailing Club encourages members and visitors to consider sustainable travel options where practical. As a small club with limited parking capacity, walking, cycling and car sharing have long been encouraged as part of club culture, particularly for local members travelling to and from club activities and events.

Recognising that sailing equipment and clothing can make alternative transport more challenging, the club promotes car sharing as a practical way of reducing the number of vehicle journeys associated with sailing activities. Members are also encouraged to walk or cycle where feasible.

To support this approach, the club has updated its member and visitor guidelines to include information on sustainable travel choices and the environmental benefits of reducing vehicle use. This guidance was available to participants attending the Emsworth Regatta and forms part of the club's wider commitment to reducing its environmental impact.

Evidence

- Walking and cycling encouraged where practical.
- Car sharing promoted for members, volunteers and event participants.
- Limited on-site parking supports consideration of alternative travel options.
- Sustainable travel information included within updated member and visitor guidelines.
- Environmental travel guidance communicated to regatta participants.





Climate Awareness

Best Practice 19 Reduce Day of Emissions

Emsworth Sailing Club reviewed race management and safety boat operations to minimise fuel use and reduce emissions during on water activity wherever operationally feasible.

Updated race management and safety boat guidelines recognise that engines cannot be switched off while on the water due to tidal conditions within Chichester Harbour and the safety requirements of rescue operations. However, within these constraints, measures are taken to reduce unnecessary engine use wherever possible.

Race management and safety boat operations are also conducted in accordance with Chichester Harbour speed restrictions. These measures help to reduce unnecessary fuel consumption and emissions while also limiting wash and wake, which can contribute to erosion and disturbance of sensitive coastal habitats.

Evidence

- Updated race management and safety boat guidelines include consideration of fuel use and emissions.
- Operational constraints relating to tidal conditions and safety requirements are recognised.
- Measures taken to minimise unnecessary engine use where operationally feasible.
- Chichester Harbour speed restrictions followed during race management and safety operations.





Climate Awareness

Best Practice 20 Inspire Future Action

Emsworth Sailing Club used the Emsworth Regatta as an opportunity to encourage ongoing environmental engagement and inspire future action among members, competitors and visitors.

Posters featuring QR codes from Sailors for the Sea and The Green Blue were displayed at the club during the event and remain permanently available

within the clubhouse and on the club website. These resources provide access to environmental guidance and allow individuals to make personal environmental pledges, supporting continued awareness beyond the regatta itself.

Participation in the Clean Regattas Best Practices has also informed the club's wider Environmental Action

Plan. This plan has been developed using the 11th Hour Racing Toolbox model as a guiding framework, which has helped structure the club's environmental strategy and prioritise actions. Several actions identified through the accreditation process have already been incorporated into club planning, while others have prompted further review and development of sustainability initiatives.

Evidence

- Sailors for the Sea and The Green Blue posters displayed during the regatta.
- QR codes provided to access environmental guidance and pledge platforms.
- Posters retained permanently within the clubhouse and on the club website.
- Clean Regattas Best Practices informed updates to the club Environmental Action Plan.
- Ongoing review of sustainability initiatives prompted by accreditation process.





“

It is really encouraging to see growing engagement from our members and an increasing interest in what we can all do to reduce our impact on the harbour. The Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas programme is helping us turn that interest into practical action. While the accreditation focuses on our regattas, many of the ideas are relevant to all our club activities and are helping to build environmental responsibility into everyday club life.

Caroline Fisk
Environment Lead
Emsworth SC



Emsworth Sailing Club
55 Bath Road
Emsworth
PO10 7ES
United Kingdom

Tel. +44 (0)1243 372 850
emsworthsc.org.uk

Company no: 14957451
© Emsworth Sailing Club 2026. All rights reserved.