**CSC Novice Induction &   
Sea Sailing Transition**

**Friday 9th March**

*Who does what in the Club. Where is stuff stored. Tips to reduce the challenge of sailing in the tide. Where to go for help. What to wear.*

1. **Planning**
   1. Weather forecast
      1. Interpretation of forecast- onshore / offshore and launching, sea state and likely wind ‘quality’
   2. Tide
      1. Launch time, HW time, HW height = tidal strength
   3. Kit
      1. Dependant on weather- better too warm
         1. Drysuit or thicker wetsuit for winter sailing
      2. Do you have all your own kit? (club has spares)
         1. Buoyancy aids in Bosun’s Store
      3. Watch, water bottle
   4. Dinghy
      1. Which dinghy, where is it stored (ease of access)
      2. Rigging process and readiness
2. **Preparation**
   1. Arrive minimum one hour before start time
   2. Listen in on the discussion on the proposed course, buoy positions, weather etc.
   3. If unsure of conditions, ask advice, but be confident in your decision
   4. Get the dinghy ready before getting changed
      1. Check for crossed lines, bungs in, etc.
      2. If unsure, ask one of the experienced sailors
   5. Rig the dinghy and take down to the slip (not too far !)
   6. Get changed and sign on
   7. On the slip, ready to launch 15 mins before the start
3. **Launching**
   1. Don’t be at the front of the queue (or the back) and watch the more experienced sailors launch
   2. Look at the conditions and assess which side of the slip to launch
      1. Typically, the pier side so that tide and wind direction carry you away from the slip
   3. Watch the more experienced sailors launch to help you assess conditions
   4. Pull trollies up above the HW mark until your turn
   5. Be nimble when launching and ready to lower your dagger board/centreboard and rudder as you launch
   6. When clear of the slip, tack back away from the pier
   7. Keep well away from the pier
   8. Assess strength of tide by looking at pier legs and buoys
   9. Sail around near the start line to get used to conditions
   10. When racing, you have ‘right of way’ as other sailors
   11. If ‘out for a sail’, let the OOD and Rescue Boat know and keep away from the racing line
4. **Racing**
   1. Be sure of the course and direction, look around
   2. Keep near to the line, but let the experienced sailors get away first
   3. Be ready to set your watch at the 5-minute mark
   4. While racing, if in doubt, keep clear
   5. …. Racing process should be another session ??
5. **Sea Conditions** 
   1. Tide
      1. Sailing in a straight line at Clevedon (often) means not pointing where you are aiming
      2. The strength and direction of the tide will change
      3. You need to make a judgement of the course to steer to give the required course over the ground
      4. Look ahead to the next buoy and behind to the previous, use a transit line on two ‘landmarks’
   2. Sea state
      1. Sail within your abilities, considering tacking at gybe marks
6. **Recovery** 
   1. At the end of the session, aim to be one of the later dinghies back on the slip so that you will get help
   2. Assess slip conditions and watch how people approach
   3. Due to limited space on the slip and assistance needed to recover each dinghy, we need to approach the slip in an ‘orderly fashion’, meaning do not come onto the slip until asked to do so or the slip is clear
   4. Typically aim to approach on a broad reach from the pier side of the slip
      1. The ebbing tide will carry you on to the slip
      2. If approaching from clubhouse side in light winds, you can struggle to reach the slip
   5. Be ready to ready to turn head to wind and depower as you come onto the slip with rudder and dagger board lifted
      1. Lifting foils is less important when getting off in deeper water
   6. Once off the dinghy, depower the rig and be ready to float or lift dinghy onto the trolley, with help
   7. Pull dinghy clear, then help the next dinghy
   8. When all dinghies are recovered, help with RIBs
   9. When all recovered, pull you dinghy back to oatstore and rinse before derigging and packing away
   10. Get changed
   11. Have a drink 😊

**Key Points**

* Assess the conditions and know the forecast and tide height
* Check your dinghy is correctly rigged
* Consider the best direction to launch
* Assess the tide and allow for the tide when aiming for the next mark, keep looking and adjusting, don’t leave it too late
* Do not come back onto the slip until the slip is free
* Turn head to wind and depower when on the slip
* Help recover other sailors and the RIB once back on the slip