

# Halifax Canoe Club

## Warley Moor Reservoir Condition Policy

A **Red / Amber / Green (RAG) Reservoir status system** is used to indicate the conditions for **organised club sessions at Warley Moor Reservoir**.

Given the exposed site, the wind strength and direction are the most relevant factors for safe paddling on the reservoir. Each status outlines the relevant conditions, appropriate club activities and coach / leader requirements.

The club coach / officer leading the club activity will interpret the RAG status when arriving at site, based on the prevailing conditions and forecast weather, to make a decision on running (or cancelling) activities as appropriate. A risk Assessment for club activities is on the [club website](#).

Additionally, these levels should also be used as guidance for members 'peer paddles' on the reservoir outside of club coached sessions, and form the basis for when it is acceptable for members to use club equipment outside of coached sessions.

### Warley Moor Reservoir Site Rules

- Anyone paddling on the reservoir **must** have public liability insurance of at least £2m. Therefore, anyone paddling on the reservoir **must either**:
  - be an individual 'On the Water' member of British Canoeing
  - be a member of Halifax Canoe Club **and** taking part in an organised club activity.
- There **must** always be at least three people (boats) paddling. (*This can be reduced to 2 only when the sailing club's safety boat is on the water during sailing sessions*).
- All persons using the reservoir must wear a buoyancy aid and, due to the low water temperature, suitable clothing for the conditions.
- No canoeing or kayaking with 25m of the marked shore/ water line at any time (see map).
- Keys to access the site can be obtained the clubhouse in Sowerby Bridge (contact [seakayak@halifaxcanoe.org.uk](mailto:seakayak@halifaxcanoe.org.uk) for further information)
- Members of Halifax Canoe Club should 'sign in' using the book located in the Canoe Club Container on every visit to the sailing club.
- The last person leaving the site must ensure the clubhouse, club container and all 4 road gates to the site are properly secured. Facilities should be locked when on the water

### Other Important Notes:

1. The site is exposed and all paddlers should be aware of the effect of wind on their boat and be familiar with estimating the wind speed / force from the observable conditions.
2. **Paddlers should give way to those under sail.** Where sailing sessions are taking place please seek advice from Sailing Club members on which areas are being used for sailing or racing and avoid these areas.
3. Please remember that this system is designed as a guide to help members decide whether they should paddle or not, and provide guidance to members on the sort of activities that are appropriate in different conditions. However, paddling outside club sessions is a personal decision. Take into account your own skill level and experience when interpreting this advice. If in doubt, you should always err on the side of caution. Read and respect these guidelines which have been drawn up for the safety of you and your equipment.
4. Where there is guidance that paddlers should be of a certain ability or Personal Performance Award (formerly star award) standard, it is the paddler's skill level that is important, not that the paddler holds the award. Club coaches can provide individuals who do not hold the relevant awards with additional guidance.
5. Just because the guidance say it should be safe to paddle does not mean there is no danger. Those who paddle outside of club sessions should think carefully about their safety and ensure they are aware of the hazards and risks associated with the activity (see the clubs risk assessment).

**Further guidance can be obtained from club coaches.**

Reviewed: April 2021

Next review due: March 2022

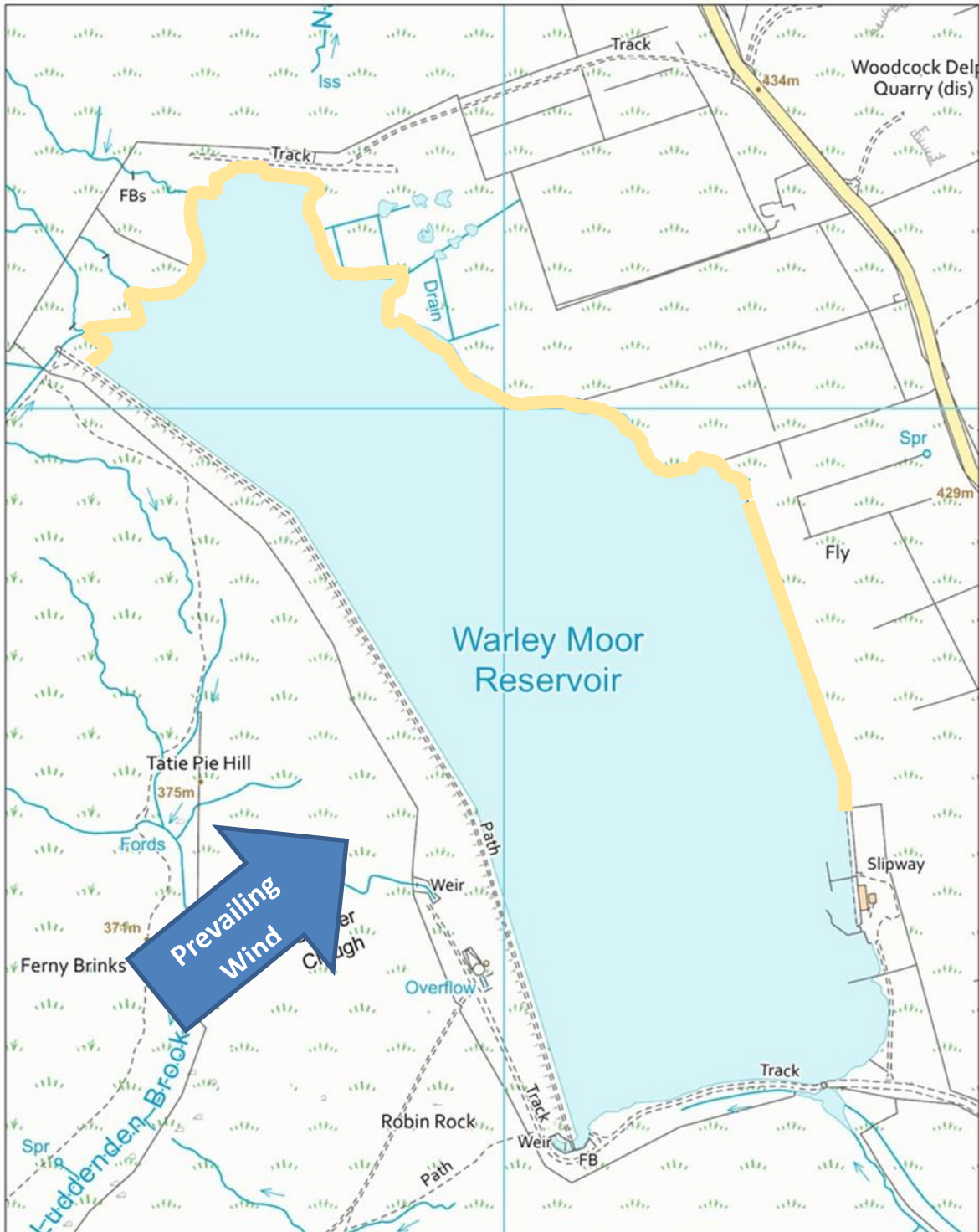
## Warley Moor Reservoir Condition Policy: Red/Amber/Green System


GREEN	AMBER	RED
<p><b>Conditions:</b> Wind not exceeding Force 2</p>	<p><b>Conditions:</b> Wind not exceeding Force 4, with the prevailing wind blowing towards the sailing club building.</p>	<p><b>Conditions:</b> Wind in excess of Force 4 <b>or</b> Wind not exceeding Force 4 and the prevailing wind blowing <b>away</b> from the sailing club building.</p>
<p><b>Club Activities:</b> All club activities can take place, with all members taking part. Club activities must be supervised in accordance with the club's Warley Moor Reservoir Risk Assessment</p>	<p><b>Club Activities:</b> <b>Intermediate and advanced paddlers only on the water.</b> (e.g. have completed a club beginners' course). All paddlers must be capable of handling their boat in the conditions.  Beginners and taster sessions should be cancelled, or relocated.</p>	<p><b>Club Activities:</b> <b>No club sessions to take place on the reservoir.</b>  Coaches should reschedule or relocate the session.</p>
<p><b>Independent Paddling Guidance:</b> Recommended that members should be BC 'Paddle Explore Award' standard (old BC 2 star). <i>FSRT course attendance is also encouraged.</i>  Under 18's <b>may</b> paddle independently in accordance with the club's <b>Young Persons Paddling Policy</b>.  There <b>must</b> always be at least three people (boats) paddling. <i>(This can be reduced to 2 only when the sailing club's safety boat is on the water during sailing sessions).</i></p>	<p><b>Independent Paddling Guidance:</b> Recommended that members should be BC 'Paddle Explore Award' standard (old BC 2 star). <i>FSRT course attendance is also encouraged.</i>  Under 18's <b>must</b> paddle under the supervision of a coach or their parent/guardian.  There <b>must</b> always be at least three people (boats) paddling. <i>(This can be reduced to 2 only when the sailing club's safety boat is on the water during sailing sessions).</i></p>	<p><b>Independent Paddling Guidance:</b> <b>Experienced paddlers only</b> - Anyone considering paddling should ensure that are comfortable in these conditions <b>and</b> capable of perform appropriate rescues in these conditions.  There <b>must</b> always be at least three people (boats) paddling. <i>(This can be reduced to 2 only when the sailing club's safety boat is on the water during sailing sessions).</i></p>
<p><b>Use of Club Equipment:</b> Members may use club equipment for independent paddling in line with the recommendations in the above guidance.</p>	<p><b>Use of Club Equipment:</b> Members may use club equipment for independent paddling in line with the recommendations in the above guidance.</p>	<p><b>Use of Club Equipment:</b> <b>No club equipment allowed on the water</b></p>

### Beaufort Wind Force Scale – Extract

Beaufort wind force scale	Mean wind speed	Limits of wind speed	Wind descriptive terms	Probable wave height (m) at sea <i>Inland waters are likely to be less</i>	Land descriptive terms
2	5	4-6	Light breeze	0.2	Wind felt on face; leaves rustle
3	9	7-10	Gentle breeze	0.6	Leaves and twigs in constant motion, light flags extended
4	13	11-16	Moderate breeze	1.0	Raises dust and loose paper; small branches moved
5	19	17-21	Fresh breeze	2.0	Small trees in leaf begin to sway, crested wavelets form on inland waters

# Halifax Canoe Club Warley Moor Reservoir Map



 No canoeing or kayaking with 25m of the marked shore/ water line at any time.