

Greystones Sailing Club

Appropriate Clothing & Footwear Policy

Greystones Sailing Club is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable sailing environment for all participants. Appropriate clothing and footwear are essential to ensure safety, comfort, and wellbeing during all junior sailing activities.

1. General Principles

- Sailors must wear **suitable clothing and footwear at all times** during club activities, both ashore and afloat.
- Clothing should be appropriate for the **weather conditions**, the **activity being undertaken**, and **water temperature**.
- Instructors may refuse participation if a sailor's clothing or footwear is deemed unsafe.

2. Required Clothing (Afloat)

All junior sailors must have:

- A **properly fitted buoyancy aid** (provided by themselves)
- **Wetsuit** suitable for conditions
- **Thermal layers** (rash vest, fleece, or thermal top) when required
- **Waterproof top** (Cag/Spray Top) when appropriate
- **Sun protection** in warm weather (hat, sunscreen)

Cotton clothing (e.g. jeans, hoodies) is **not suitable** for sailing activities.

3. Footwear

- **Closed-toe footwear** must be worn at all times (e.g. wetsuit boots, sailing shoes).
- Flip-flops, Crocs, sandals, or bare feet are **not permitted** during sailing activities due to risk of injury.

4. Ashore & Changing Areas

- Appropriate footwear must be worn around the club, slipways, pontoons, and boat parks.
- Sailors should arrive with **dry spare clothing** for after sailing.
- The club recognises that some sailors may require **alternative arrangements** (quiet changing areas, additional time, or support), which can be accommodated where possible.

5. Cold & Adverse Weather

- Extra layers, hats, and gloves may be required in cold or windy conditions.
- Instructors will assess conditions and may modify or cancel activities if safety cannot be ensured.

6. Responsibility

- Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring juniors arrive **properly dressed and equipped**.
- Instructors are responsible for monitoring suitability throughout the activity.

7. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion



The Harbour, Greystones, Co. Wicklow

Greystones Sailing Club recognises that some sailors may have additional needs relating to clothing or sensory comfort. Reasonable adjustments will be made in consultation with parents/guardians, in line with Irish Sailing's EDI principles.

Reviewed By:

Mark Hanley – Centre Principal

Date:

08/02/2026