



How Belwood Lake Sailing Club (BLSC) works – 2024

BLSC is a not for profit, volunteer run club, of sailors, paddlers, windsurfers and those who enjoy Belwood Lake. The club has no employees. This means that all members are expected to help other club members when at the club. Members are also expected during each visit to the club to do things like taking their garbage and recycling home, stacking the plastic Adirondack chairs after use, giving the dock a scrub if the geese have left a mess, putting a new roll of toilet paper on the dispenser if they empty the roll, washing any dishes used, assisting with pushing the docks out and cleaning the BBQ after they use it.

To keep the club in good order, each member must select a volunteer duty (participation task) each year. Those members participating in the Wednesday and/or Sunday races must select at least two race duty days. Members that pay the \$100 participation exception fee when paying their yearly membership do not select a volunteer duty.

The club does NOT have any rental boats, in water slips to moor boats nor does it offer lessons. The club has a number of cameras in place to protect the safety of members and discourage vandalism and trespassing.

If you have a question or see something isn't working: email publicity@blsc.on.ca

Safety requirements:

1. Consumption or intoxication by any substance, including but not limited to alcohol, cannabis, legal or illegal drugs, is prohibited while operating any type of pleasure craft, and while on the docks or near the water.
2. Smoking and vaping is prohibited inside all of the club's buildings and on the Club's committee boats, and while on the docks or near the water. Smokers and vapers must take all materials home with them including cigarette butts.
3. All boats shall be secured in their berths in a manner acceptable to the Club and, if not acceptable, Club volunteers will adequately secure the boats and may assess appropriate service fees.
4. No refuse or food of any kind will be thrown overboard, on the ground, or left behind in any of the Club's buildings. Do not feed any animals or birds at the club. Garbage and recycling material must be taken home.
5. All applicable environmental laws shall be adhered to.
6. Keep noise levels to a minimum at all times and exercise care in the operations of generators, engines, radios, music etc., so as not to cause a nuisance to others. Fireworks are not permitted.
7. Swimming is not permitted off the club's docks. Swimming is permitted in the designated area – no lifeguards so swimming is at your own risk. Water shoes are required
8. Young children must be accompanied by adults at all times.
9. Closed toed shoes and approved personal floatation devices to be worn by all members and guests while on the docks and along the waterfront property while launching/recovering boats.
10. Pets shall always be leashed, 2M or shorter leash, and will not be left unattended on the club's property or in vehicles, trailers and/or boats. Pet waste is to be picked up immediately and taken home.
11. Members will not accumulate supplies, accessories, debris or other materials in their assigned parking space and will use a locker and/or boat storage box for such items.
12. If a boat sinks at the dock or elsewhere in the Club area/lake, the member agrees to remove such wreck immediately. If the member fails to do so, the Club will remove the wreck at the member's risk and expense.
13. Boaters are to be mindful of their wake (minimum wake) along the shoreline. No wake zone at all Club docks.
14. At sunset or as the only member at the club, the member will close doors and turn off lights in buildings not in use. The last person leaving the club is responsible for securing the club prior to leaving.

WATERFRONT & BOAT LAUNCH

SAFETY AT BLSC



- You are using the waterfront, docks and ramp which may be wet, uneven and slippery - Use at your own risk
- You are responsible for your own safety
- Check the weather prior to use and be prepared to change your plans
- Use the swim platform, not the docks and surrounding area, for swimming and sunbathing.
- No lifeguards on duty – swim at your own risk and never swim alone
- Children and leashed pets must be supervised at all times
- Wear personal flotation devices (PFDs) and close toed shoes on the docks and ramp and along the waterfront
- No alcohol, cannabis or drug use while boating or at the docks or ramp
- Keep roadway and access to the boat ramp clear of cars and trailers
- Use the EZEdock for launching and retrieval of watercraft only
- Use the black dock for tying up boats



BLSC HAS MANY AMENITIES

Secure locked gate: At the entrance to the club is a secure metal gate that is kept locked at all times. Members use their key to open the lock, swing the gate open, drive through, and then **close and lock the gate.**

Guests: Guests, accompanied by a member, are welcome at the club. Many guests learn about the club while first visiting it with family or friends. In fairness to other members, guests who are coming multiple times (>3 times per season) are expected to purchase an associate membership. Guests can't bring their own boat to the club but may use the boat of a member. Guests must be accompanied by the member who takes on the responsibility of ensuring their guests are informed of club requirements and follows

them, as per the GRCA license and the signed member participation risk acknowledgment. Guests can not participate in racing activities – a membership must be in place due to insurance, Ontario Sailing and the GRCA Regatta (Racing) Risk Acknowledgement.

If a member wishes to have multiple guests (beyond one family) for an event, please contact the club to ensure this activity can be scheduled. The club has hosted family reunions, wedding showers and other celebrations and will work with the member to arrange the event.

Key: Upon joining each member is issued a club key. This opens the gate lock and all buildings as well as the propane cage. There is a \$10 charge for each key and a family can request more than one key.

Clubhouse: Directly in front of you as you drive into the club is the clubhouse. The clubhouse door is unlocked by the first person arriving for the day. The last person leaving ensures the clubhouse lights are turned off and the door is closed and locked. The clubhouse has washrooms with hot and cold running water. The water is from a deep well and is tested each May with the test results posted in the kitchen area. The clubhouse also has a fully stocked kitchen, ping pong table, and a good-sized gathering area for meetings and social



occasions. Please do not bring pets inside the clubhouse and no smoking/vaping in the clubhouse. There is a ramp for wheelchair access and a spacious deck on the lakeside. The section of the clubhouse away from the lake is a storage and workshop room (see below), and also has a curtained off change area for members. At the rear of the clubhouse is the tile bed for the septic system, which is roped off as a reminder that it must not be driven over. The clubhouse is stocked with toilet paper, cleaning supplies, plates and cutlery, and complimentary coffee, tea, hot chocolate, sugar, and coffee whitener is in the kitchen. During the season one fridge is for short term member use while at the club. The other fridge is stocked with complimentary assorted free drinks – members are asked to take the drink containers home and recycle them. The small freezer beside the clubhouse door is stocked with free frozen treats June until the end of August.

First Aid Kit: A fully stocked first aid kit is kept in the clubhouse for emergencies. There is an AED in the clubhouse, located beside the first aid kit - both are on the wall between the two washrooms. There is also a first aid kit in the club's committee boats.

Phone: There is NO phone at the club but there is cell phone reception available at the club. Members should bring a full charged cell phone when coming to the club so that they can call 911 in case of an emergency. Members can also access the Emergency Procedures that are posted around the club.

Parking: The main parking area is to the left of the driveway as you drive into the club. There are accessible parking spots by the clubhouse for use by members who have an accessible parking pass. Members may also park near their boats if there is room and it won't block the access to other members' boats. Please do not park near the kayak racks or along the waterfront. Later in the season, as the lake level drops, members may park on the exposed gravel to the right of the ramp.

Fishing: Members have always been asked not to fish on the club property because:

- boats are coming and going and could get tangled in the lines (it is difficult to allow someone to fish when there are no boats around because that rule will evolve into "it's OK because there were only two boats around")
- fish hooks get separated from the line and become a hazard under foot, and there is a new emphasis on foot safety (see Waterfront Safety sign)
- swimming and fishing are not compatible activities
- casting could accidentally catch a person or boat or pet

Members can fish from their boat and there are many good places to fish on the lake. To fish in Ontario, you need a valid Outdoors Card and a valid fishing license - more information [here](#).

Docks: There are two docks. The brown EZE ramp dock is for launching and has a concrete ramp.





Once your boat is in the water, please move it to the black mooring dock as soon as possible to leave the ramp available for others to launch or remove their boat. Please do not tie up your boat to the brown EZE ramp dock or block the kayak/canoe EZE launcher. Swimming off the docks is not permitted. Please use the designated swim area including swim platform. Children under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult while swimming. Water shoes are required while swimming.

The beach front is rocky and there is often broken glass or fishhooks found there. The water at the lake, like all lakes, does contain bacteria and other things that can cause infection especially if you cut your foot. A water shoe or sneaker greatly reduces the risk of a slip, trip or fall and cuts.



Garages: There are two garages next to each other on the left as you turn into the field. The first garage has lawn mowers, electric and gas powered weed trimmers and grounds maintenance supplies like rakes and shovels and an air compressor. Safety glasses are provided in the garage for use by members or members may wear their own. The wearing of safety glasses and shoes is required to reduce the risk of injury. Please be careful when cutting grass and other members are nearby. The second garage is used to store the committee boats and racing equipment. The committee boat trailers have hitch locks as required by the club's insurance policy.

Boat parking spots: The GRCA limits boats to 21 ft and under, and no power boats. All members have an assigned boat parking spot. Please do NOT move your boat into a spot that is not assigned to you. Do not park your car in a boat parking spot that is not assigned to you. Members are strongly encouraged to have hitch locks on their trailers and secure all removable items like paddles, motors, gas tanks, seat cushions etc. Members are also encouraged to have a boat box that locks behind their boat to store items. Please put this boat box on a raised platform to help with grass trimming. Please ensure your boat parking spot concrete marker is kept clear of items and grass. Members are responsible for insuring their boat(s) and trailer/dolly and the club's insurance company strongly encourages every member to have at least a \$1 million personal liability coverage policy in place. The club's insurance does not cover members' possessions or personal liability. Members who have a motor of any kind, including electric, on their boat must have a PCOC which is on file with the club.

Boathouse and Racks: Behind the clubhouse is the boathouse where canoes and kayaks can be stored indoors for an additional fee. There is limited space here. All canoes, kayaks, SUPs and windsurfers at the club must be stored on the club's provided racks, on the member's assigned rack. Racks are located in three different areas on the club grounds. Please secure your boat to the rack.

BBQs: There are three propane BBQs next to the clubhouse deck which may be used by members. Brush them off well after use. Spare propane tanks are located in the yellow propane cage behind the clubhouse.

Picnic Tables & Adirondack chairs: There are many picnic tables and plastic Adirondack chairs scattered around the entire property. Trees provide good shade in the area facing the lake. Members are asked to stack the chairs after use to prevent them from being damaged by wind or storms.

Play Equipment: Swings, teeter-totter, naturalized play area and a sand box are under the trees in the picnic area. There is a Siren sailboat located near the sandbox. Children may use any of these but must be under active parental supervision.

Fire Ring: In the central grassy area, members will find a steel fire ring with wood stacked nearby. As per the GRCA license this is the only location at the club that can have an open fire. The yearly fire permit is posted in the clubhouse. Please bring your own newspaper and lighter to start the fire. The use of gasoline or other flammable liquids to ignite a fire is not permitted. Members are requested to bring their own tools to roast marshmallows or cook other food – please do not cut branches off trees at the club. When done with your fire, please fully extinguish it using the provided bucket and water. If the county announces a fire ban, the fire ring will be closed, and a notice posted.

Camping: Appendix A of the license Belwood Lake Sailing Club (BLSC) signed with the GRCA, states:

11. The parking or placing of any tent, tent or other camper trailer, mobile home, or similar vehicles or equipment on the Subject Lands or the Lake shall be prohibited without the express written consent of the Licensor, which consent may be unreasonably or arbitrarily withheld. The Licensee shall deliver to the Licensor on or before the beginning of the season each and every year during the term and the renewed term, if applicable, a letter requesting camping during special events scheduled for that year and Club procedures and policies governing member camping at other times.

Camping has been approved by the GRCA for 2024 with the following requirements.

Camping will only be permitted from the May long weekend through to the October long weekend. Only members of the club are permitted to camp. Members must be staying overnight during the time their tent/trailer is in the designated camping area and display their member number. Members may have accompanied guests camp with them.

1. Members place their camper/tent in one of the two signed and designated member camping areas. One is behind the clubhouse and the other is in the open grassy field about 200 metres from the clubhouse. Note that both of these areas have enough space

to accommodate several members and their families while ensuring lots of space between campers. There are no formal serviced or unserviced sites or pump out facilities.

2. Members may stay for only a few days with the maximum stay being one week.

3. Members take all garbage and recycling home with them, which is what all members do when they visit the club on a day use visit.

Programs: The club offers a variety of programs such as racing, paddling and casual cruising and social events, at no additional fee, for members. Additional information about location, dates and requirements for participation are provided to members on the secure section of the website as well as in the messages to all members.

Storing your Possessions - STORAGE ROOM GUIDELINES

Lockers: There are lockers in the clubhouse storage room which are used by members on a first-come first-serve basis. Members need to put their member number and/or their member number on the locker. Only one locker per member. Members are strongly encouraged to put a lock on their locker. Please do not store food of any type in these lockers.

- You may only store your belongings in the rafters or in a locker. Please do not store anything on top of the lockers or block access to the electrical panel.
- All life jackets/PFDs, tarps, bumpers and sails in bags must be stored in lockers.
- Do not store personal items that are not boat related, such as lawn chairs or bicycles in the storage area, or large items like dollies or tires.
- You may store long, thin items like mast, booms or spinnaker poles and paddles neatly in the rafters. Smaller masts, booms and spinnaker poles and paddles maybe stored in the racking on the bottom shelves. Please make sure that each item is clearly marked with your name. Sails that are rolled up are to be stored in builder tubes in the racking.
- Lockers must be identified with a label showing your name and/or member number. Lockers without names or member number on them will be opened and the contents removed.
- Items that are not labelled with a member's name and/or member number will be removed from the storage area.