



## The UK RS Aero Class Association: Sustainability Charter

*The UK RS Aero Class Association is committed to minimising the impact of its activities on the environment. As a Class we have decided to join up with The Green Blue to adopt the following charter to promote environmental sustainability.*

*The Green Blue is the joint environment programme created by the [Royal Yachting Association](#) and [British Marine](#). It helps boat users, boating businesses, clubs, training centres and associations to reduce their environmental impact on coastal and inland waters to keep them in great shape for now and the future.*

### **UK RS Aero Class Association/Class Association Members actions:**

- *Communicate with all members on how they can be more environmentally friendly.*
  - *Remind members at events to recycle, to prevent littering and to turn off lights and water when not in use.*
  - *Make all members aware of World Sailing's Rule 55 which states that 'A competitor shall not intentionally put trash in the water.'*
  - *Provide guidance on how bow stickers or decals should be applied to stop them from peeling off during an event and littering the shore or ending up in the water.*
  - *To use reusable water bottles whilst afloat and to ensure they are secure to prevent loss.*
  - *Encourage travelling members to follow the Check Clean Dry guidance. This includes the wash down of boats paying particular attention to trolleys, daggerboard cases, equipment, clothing etc. to prevent the spread of invasive species around the UK.*
  - *Encourage lift share and multi boat transportation to events.*
- *Run an annual sustainability event promoting the initiative to the membership and hosting club with a sustainable boating educational activity on shore.*
- *Use email, social media and website as much as possible to reduce the quantity of paper communications sent to members.*
- *Work with RS Sailing (as the manufacturer and supplier of RS Aero boats and components) and The Green Blue to reduce RS Sailing's impact on the environment.*
- *For the Sustainability Representative to complete an evaluation form provided by The Green Blue to record environmental improvements and opportunities for the future for the class and hosting club for events.*

## **Recommendations for UK RS Aero Class Event Hosting Clubs**

*Where the UK RS Aero Class is participating in an event we would encourage the hosting clubs to work with The Green Blue to promote sustainability. Such areas to consider:*

- *Identify what measures should be taken to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species relevant to the event's location and type.*
- *Reduce/remove the need for printed material by using email and website instead, and providing online entry for events as well as all supporting documents including NoR and SI's.*
- *Identify water filling stations for refillable drinks bottles.*
- *Improve energy efficiency.*
- *Provide recycling.*
- *Source products with less packaging to minimise waste.*
- *Include details of sensitive habitats/wildlife to be avoided in Sailing Instructions and briefings.*
- *Promote sustainable boating by displaying The Green Blue posters and leaflets.*
- *Reduce/remove the need for printed material by using email and website instead, and providing online entry for events as well as all supporting documents including NoR and SI's.*
- *Review with The Green Blue environmental improvements and opportunities for the future.*

### **During each event the UK RS Aero Class Association will:**

- *Brief all competitors, staff and officials on this Sustainability Charter and how they can help the event to be more environmentally friendly.*
- *Remind participants regularly throughout the event to recycle, to prevent littering and to turn off lights and water when not in use.*
- *Make all participants aware of World Sailing's Rule 55 which states that 'A competitor shall not intentionally put trash in the water.'*
- *Provide guidance on how bow stickers or decals should be applied to stop them from peeling off during the event and littering the shore or ending up in the water.*

