

# **Sedgemoor Model Boat Club**

## **Blue-Green Algae Outbreak Policy**

(adopted July 2018)

On occasions, growth of the blue-green algae becomes excessive and can cause blooms and scum. Bloom and scum-forming algae are capable of producing toxins which can be harmful to people and fatal to animals.

Once the club is informed of an outbreak of Blue-Green Algae on the Apex Lake we will immediately inform all club members.

Club members are advised to wash and thoroughly dry all models and any other items that have been in contact with the water. Items should not be stored wet or damp.

The use of any RC model boat that may produce “spray” from the water will be banned for the duration of the outbreak. This will include any amphibious model.

For all club meetings held at Apex Park we will provide at least two hand wash dispensers for use by our members plus a fresh water container for cleaning models.

We will also have warning signs on display by the launch areas being used, attached to the rescue boat, rescue boat trailer and with the hand wash dispensers.

Launching and recovery should only take place in areas away from thick aggregations of algae or scum.

This policy will remain in place until the Environment Agency and/or Sedgemoor District Council have given the lake the all clear and confirmed this to the club.

**This will only come into effect during an outbreak of Blue-Green Algae (also known as Cyanobacteria) once the Environment Agency have confirmed it is present in the Apex Park Lakes, Burnham-on-Sea.**

To run in conjunction with the current Risk Assessment No.5

## Sedgemoor Model Boat Club Risk Assessment

**Date;** 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Names of Assessors;**

Chris Locke (Vice-Chairman)  
Russ Chilcott (Secretary)

**Risk Level; S = Severity (1 to 5) L = Likelihood (1 to 5) P = Priority (Low, Medium, High)**

Area of concern	Hazards found	Precautions already in place	Risk Level			Measures to reduce or eliminate the risk
			S	L	P	
Risk of water borne disease from Blue-Green Algae	Potential for stomach related problems, or infection through open cuts or abrasions when handling boats from the water.	All Club members will be informed of the potential risk as soon as an outbreak is discovered. At all club meetings held in the park warning notices will be on display at the launch areas being used, attached to the rescue boat and on the rescue boat trailer. Hand wash dispensers will be provided.	5	2	H	There will be a ban by all club members on the use of any models that might produce spray from the water. This will also include any amphibious models.
Member falling into the lake or accidentally ingesting water from the lake	Potential for infection from the Blue-Green Algae.	Members are continuously warned of the hazards from slips or falls into the water.	2	1	H	The member concerned will be told to immediately seek medical advice.