

"I never imagined that I'd be able to control a boat independently and feel safe with my level of disability. It's amazing what is possible"

"Sailing at Whitefriars gives me an opportunity to escape and enjoy the beautiful Cotswolds countryside from the water."

"It's great to feel part of a group who understand my needs and treat me normally."

"Racing gives me such a buzz. It's a combination of strategy, tactics, and boat handling. I sometimes forget that I'm disabled."

"I find it really rewarding and humbling to help to make it possible for people with such challenges to get so much enjoyment from taking to the water."

"I thought that sailing was expensive. Whitefriars provided all the equipment to get me started, and membership was very affordable."

How to find us



Address

Lake 26, Whitefriars Lane, Swindon
Wiltshire, SN6 6QR

Do not follow the postcode, use the map!

Membership

Please see details of current membership options on our website. A Season Ticket for Sailability sessions at a much reduced cost. Taster sessions and day visits are also offered. Non-sailing volunteers are free.

Contacts

To avoid disappointment please contact us before you come.

David Durston or Louise Rounds
sailability@whitefriarssc.org
or call David on (01285) 642390

Information



WWW

whitefriarssc.org



WhitefriarsSailability



WhitefriarsSg



Where Sailing is for Everyone



**Whitefriars
Sailing Club**
Cotswold Water Park



Thought you couldn't sail? Think again!

Whitefriars Sailability Group provide support, facilities, and boats which enable people to sail who aren't as nimble as they once were, and for people with even the most profound disabilities. It is a fantastic activity for all the family to do together. **So now sailing really is for everyone!**



We are a fully integrated part of Whitefriars Sailing Club. The club's emphasis is on enjoyment; welcoming people of all abilities and disabilities to take part in leisure sailing, social events, and racing all year round. For more specialist support, the Sailability Group meet on Wednesdays from April to mid October.



Our volunteers find it extremely rewarding to give people with disabilities the freedom, independence, and exhilaration of sailing. **There are many ways that you can help!**

The Club

Situated in the beautiful Cotswold Water Parks, we have 85 acres of sailing water; most of which can be viewed from the club house, patio, and picnic lawns located on the peninsula.

Most of the club and surrounding grounds are wheelchair accessible, and there is an accessible WC. The club house is heated and is kitted out with a fitted kitchen for snacks and hot or cold drinks.



The Boats

Our boats are different to more conventional dinghies; some have more supportive seating that keeps the sailor in the centre of the boat.

The boats are also very stable and difficult to capsize, in fact some of the fleet have a heavy keel which mean that the boat cannot capsize.

If required, electronic systems may be available to control steering and for managing the sails.

Some of the boats can be sailed by two or more people, making it great for families, for more sociable sailing, or for those who need more support.

Facilities

The club also has two hoists, manned by trained volunteers, which can lift you into position if you have mobility issues.

The group will endeavour to source equipment, or adapt existing equipment, to meet individual needs and get you sailing independently.

We can provide buoyancy aids, and vigilant volunteers provide safety boats throughout sessions.

Training

It doesn't matter if you don't know how to sail, the club is an RYA Training Centre.

Sailors attending Sailability sessions will be encouraged to embark on the Sailability Achievement Scheme and Certification for Disabled Sailing, with a view to participating in club racing or leisure sailing.

Volunteering

We are also keen to hear from volunteers to help with the group. It is not only sailors we are interested in, we need people for safety boat cover, rigging and shore work on boats, hoisting, meeting and greeting, providing refreshments, marketing, fundraising, and administration.

Our aim is to give volunteers training that will enable them to complete the various levels of achievement recognised by the RYA through their Volunteer Logbook Scheme.