

RVSC DOG POLICY

HISTORY

Prior to the new clubhouse development the reservoir perimeter path passed in front of the clubhouse across the slipway and dog walkers frequently let their dogs roam across the rigging area. This created a lot of conflict between the public and club members. An agreement was made with UU that the path would be diverted around the back of the clubhouse removing the conflict with the public. It was decided at the same time to include a club rule to exclude dogs from the entire club site – Bye Law No 6. The topic of dogs is invariably divisive so it was decided by the Council at that time to be the only enforceable rule.

CURRENT SITUATION

The above rule has not been rigorously enforced and the presence of dogs on the site is becoming more commonplace. Members come to sail and their dogs are frequently left unattended. As usual with these things the initial encroachment is carefully managed by the owners and no objection is raised, but due to the precedent others bring dogs to site with less care and nuisance occurs. This cycle of events ultimately leads to the conclusion that total exclusion is the only enforceable rule.

All members who join agree to comply with this rule included on the back of the membership application form. History shows that compromising on this rule will bring members into conflict at some point. Not compromising may disappoint some members but will not create conflict.

PROPOSAL

The proposal made at Tuesdays meeting (19 March 2013) that: bye-law 6 be relaxed until the AGM to allow members to bring dogs onto site providing they are **under control** and only permitted on the car park. “Under control” was described as; inside a vehicle, attached to a short tether attached to a vehicle or held on a short lead. It was agreed that Council will monitor the effectiveness of this relaxation and decide on whether to recommend a permanent change to the 2013 AGM.