



Safety Policy for Hunter Sonata “Fingal” – to be read in conjunction with the Risk Assessment

“Fingal” is a 23’ Hunter Sonata keelboat with a draft of 1.4m. It is fitted with a 4hp 2-stroke outboard engine. A reserve 2.3hp engine is also carried when not accompanied by a rescue boat. There are 3 sails carried, Jib, Main and Spinnaker.

“Fingal” will be sailed by Adventures Unlimited Scotland CIC from Cromarty harbour, between April 1st and September 30th, in winds of Force 4 or less. When setting reefs in winds above F3 the sails should be lowered at least partially.

The usual sailing area will be the Cromarty and Moray Firth, although we may move “Fingal” to the Caledonian Canal and other sheltered coastal areas. The sailing area will always be within MCA Category C waters. In the Cromarty Firth the outer limit of sailing will be the Red (Port hand) marker buoy known as the ‘Bus Buoy’.

Note will be taken of all shipping movements and Cromarty Port Authority safety briefings.

“Fingal” will be accompanied by a safety RIB whenever young people under 18 are on board. The RIB will be driven by persons holding as minimum RYA Level II powerboat certificate ( See separate policy for RIBs).

Fully automatic lifejackets must be worn by all crew both on-board Fingal and on the jetty.

The minimum qualification required to sail “Fingal” is RYA Dinghy Instructor with Keelboat endorsement and approval of the Directors, and a valid First Aid Certificate. The ratio of instructor to pupils is a maximum 1:3, or maximum crew of 4.

Equipment to be carried on board “Fingal”:

1 Fire extinguisher and blanket		
“Man Overboard” rescue Sling		Throw Line
1 VHF hand held or fixed VHF		1 Knife                      Waterproof Mobile Phone
Flares	Survival Blanket	Spare Clothing                      First Aid Kit
Relevant Charts	Compass	Re-arming kit for life jackets                      Toolbox

Cromarty Harbour is difficult to negotiate. Care should be taken at the entrance where tides are strong, and in the harbour at low water when there is very limited depth.

Fingal is normally kept on a swinging mooring at Cromarty. Tides run at up to 4 knots here. When transferring between Fingal and the RIB great care must be taken,( see Risk Assessment). When

rigging and de-rigging Fingal with young people the RIB must always be in attendance in the event of a MOB.

When moving on deck crew must always be clipped on, even in calm weather.

May 2014

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