

Announcement of new Home Waters

Hi 5 are a water sports based, team building & corporate events company who have kindly agreed to share their lake with our club. They are based at Kirtons Farm Road, Reading. RG30 3UN and offer water skiing and wake boarding activities on the lake. These days the boats used for water skiing are designed to produce a minimal wake but wake boarding does involve a boat producing a large wake. However for our calendar events they have offered to shorten their normal turning area so the boats will turn before they get near the area we are using.

Initially, we can use the end of the lake where a large hotel is situated. This hotel has suffered a fire and it is partially demolished waiting on planning permission to be rebuilt. At some point in the future, the hotel will be rebuilt at which time we can transfer to the other end of the lake (it may take months or years before this is necessary). At that end of the lake is a large floating breakwater which will block any large waves from the area we could use.

If all goes to plan we should be starting boating activities at the beginning of April 2020 but there is a lot of work for us to do before then. To gain access to the water we will require work parties to clear brambles so we can decide the best way of getting down to an existing wood platform at the water's edge to launch and recover boats. It is intended to have a pontoon made of 500mm x 500mm plastic cubes located in front of the existing wood platform to enlarge the useable area. At the moment it is likely that a ramp with handrails will be the best way of getting from the land onto the pontoon which will allow members with heavier models to trolley them to the boat hoist for lowering/raising from the water. (This is the same hoist currently used at Beale Park.)

Occasionally the lake has a weed problem but Hi 5 have a weed cutter they usually use around April and again later in the season, if required, as they hold open water swimming events in the area we will initially use at the hotel end of the lake. These events mean we will probably have to deploy and recover most, or all, of our marker buoys each session but a radio-controlled boat could be used to put them out. They can be recovered by pulling them back to the shore in the same manner as the Fast Electric buoys.

At this early stage, while we are establishing a good working relationship with the guys from Hi 5, please do not visit the site en masse and please don't disturb the locals.

Membership fees will remain the same at £20 MTMBC membership & £30 per annum fee for Hi 5.

Toilet facilities are available to club members, hard standing car park and access to a vending machine for drinks.

We expect to run our usual activities with the same weekend layout we currently have and SAGA sailing will remain on every Thursday afternoon. There may be the odd date to be moved around for Hi 5 events but this is no different from how we operated at Beale Park.



Water area approx. 160 m x 60m

Hard standing parking is available, toilets and vending machine.

Weed is normally a problem around April, but a weed cutter is used to clear the area and often again later in the summer.

There are no available storage facilities, but we hope to use a van type trailer 10' x 5' floor area to store our equipment close to hand.

A pontoon 2.5m x 7m with ramp access will be our launching facility the boat lift will be mounted on the pontoon for heavier boats.

Our rowing rescue boat will be kept on the water with oars and buoyancy aids in our trailer.



Water area approximately 130m x 40m

