

## **Check, Clean, Dry...and relax!**

Hirers of RYA East training boats and fleets are requested to ensure they wash down the boats or boards thoroughly on arrival and again before they leave the club site to return to our base at Otley. The wash down on site and before returning to us is vital to ensure no nasties, such as *Dikerogammarus villosus*, the dreaded Killer Shrimp, are moved around the region on our boats and trailers. Anyone failing to do this simple hygiene process is not only endangering other clean waters, but is in danger of being refused use of the regional fleets in the future.

For full details and guidance please go to [this link](#).

An alien species could result in the temporary restrictions on our activities, such as those experienced last year at Grafham Water, when Killer Shrimp were found. Grafham Water Sailing Club subsequently set up a comprehensive system for checking and washing down all boats meaning the temporary restrictions could be lifted. Go to [this link](#) for more information.

It's therefore very important that we all do our bit to limit the spread of these unwelcome visitors. There are three simple steps what we can all do on our training boats to prevent the spread:

- Check equipment and clothing for live organisms - particularly in areas that are damp or hard to inspect before moving to a new location.
- Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothing thoroughly. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them.
- Dry all equipment and clothing - some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

For more information visit: DEFRA's Check, Clean Dry Campaign  
For further information on how to deal with NNIS visit The Green Blue Website.