

**CLUB OVERVIEW AND INFORMATION 2020 - THEALE WATER SKI CLUB**

<b>History</b>	Theale Water Ski Club has been in existence for over 50 years. It is a voluntary, non - profit making club run by members. It has been at its present location aside the M4 between J11 &12 for the last 38 years. Nearest postcode is RG30 3TA to find the gate.
<b>Facilities</b>	We have a new clubhouse built in 2014, car park, lawns for sunbathing, BBQ and jetty. Our large lake has 2 x 6 buoy slalom courses and a circuit of 0.9 miles.
<b>Equipment</b>	We have two American Malibu Response competition class ski boats with 'Perfect Pass', towers, optional wake enhancing device for wakeboarding, training bars for beginners, and the free use of skis, boards, equipment and wet suits to get you started.
<b>Activities</b>	Water skiing, mono-skiing, wakeboarding, wakeskating, kneeboarding, barefoot skiing. Similar in fact all the things you see on snow in winter (except perhaps the bare feet!)
<b>Membership</b>	There are several levels of membership at different prices:- Family, couple, single adult, single junior (at school or college), Family with private boat (use of their own boat limited to weekdays till 6pm but members can be towed with a club boat at other times). Payment in full or by monthly Standing Order. See online or download membership form. For details and for bank transfers contact treasurer (bottom of membership form)
<b>Staffing</b>	The club has 10 duty drivers and 3 ski instructors, all voluntary, which is why this club is inexpensive. There is at least one duty driver each evening and two for Saturday & Sundays. Bank holidays operate as Sunday.
<b>Ski tows</b>	Members ski tows are £10 (or £85 for 10), £22 for guests of members/prepaid attendance and £27 cash for walk in visitors. Duration of tow is 10 minutes which gives up to 3 laps of the large lake or 5 passes at slalom (max7) depending on falls. Newcomers please note water skiing is very physical and you are unlikely to ski for more than 10 mins at a time! Equipment use and tuition is all included.
<b>The Lake</b>	The lake is one of the largest used for water skiing in the south however it is not particularly deep which means it warms up quite quickly as the season progresses. Being shallow it does benefit from the aeration caused by the boat propellers which keeps the water 'alive'. Our boats operate on Calor Gas and hence water pollution free. We enjoy seeing all the wildlife and birds around us and they seem content with us as can be seen by the sheer numbers that reside with us.
<b>Opening Times</b>	The skiing season generally begins around Easter and continues thru October, weather permitting. There is a duty driver Mon to Fri from 6pm to dusk, weather permitting, and from 1pm Saturdays (9am to 1pm is used for group bookings only – ring for details if you require one and also see website. Sundays operate from about 10am or can be earlier by arrangement. Members/Drivers use Whats-App to determine and liaise attendance. Unlike commercial establishments, where you have to book your slot, you simply add your name to the blackboard when you arrive, or after your last ski. In winter members can pre-arrange a tow by liaising with a private boat member.
<b>Visitors</b>	Members are welcome to bring guests to be taught. They are slotted between members as the day progresses. On busy days they take the members next entry on blackboard.
<b>Prospective members</b>	Use 'Contact' form on the website, or turning up (you may have to walk from the security gate in this instance so contact us before for gate code). The duty officers will be pleased to help you with your queries. If you have brought a costume and the club is not too busy, you may have a tow for £27 (see also above). After 3 visits/trials we would expect you to join as a full member as we do have rent, equipment and rates to pay for!
<b>Contacts</b>	Visit <a href="http://www.twsc.org.uk">www.twsc.org.uk</a> and fill in the 'Contact form' or phone John 01189472676 at home for the best time to visit and the main gate code. It's a good idea to contact us at least the day before to pre-arrange your visit in case the Contact person is already there!
<b>Finding the Club</b>	From M4 Junction 12 take the A4 towards Reading. Turn right at the George & Dragon traffic lights and head south towards Burghfield. Turn right into Mill Road just past the Cunning Man pub. The entrance bridge is at the end of Mill Road RG30 3TA just before the cottages. Our landlords have provided a security gate with a combination lock and CCTV, so you need to make contact as above for the code. See also downloadable map
<b>The Community</b>	We teach groups of friends, work colleagues, Scouts and other activity clubs, dedicated group bookings of 5 and up to 20 on Sat mornings 9am to 1pm, May to Oct - <b>See web</b>
<b>Affiliation</b>	Theale WSC is affiliated to British Water Ski & Wakeboard, the Federation for the sport, and members pay an annual membership fee which covers sport regulation, support for the club, a national magazine and limited personal insurance for injuries whilst partaking.