

The Bristol Gulls Sustainability Policy

Date: 17 April 2020

RESPECT OUR WATERS

Four women (the *Gulls*) from Bristol taking on the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge in December 2020 raising money and awareness of the sustainability issues of our time.

Mission:

To make our Atlantic crossing as sustainable as possible, raising awareness of pollution of our waters and drowning prevention, promoting a safe and healthy relationship with our waters.

Bristol Gulls' Values:

- Love of the oceans and love of rowing
- Women empowerment
- Inspiring change in the rowing world
- Inspiring change in people's everyday behaviour

The big 'issues' issue statement

The Bristol Gulls identify that there are a number of factors that are leading to **climate chaos**, **ecosystem loss** and **world inequality** including:

- Political and financial lobbying to prevent radical change and ignore scientific warnings
- Human superiority and assumed dominance over other species
- Excessive production and consumption
- A lack of urgency and education leading to societal ignorance

The Bristol Gulls also acknowledge that their mission will have both positive and negative **social**, **financial** and **environmental** impacts including:

Positive:

- Pushing sustainability boundaries in day to day lifestyle and in the marine industry and setting standards for the ocean racing community
- Inspiring people to make changes in their personal lifestyles
- Supporting the RNLI and Clean Up Bristol Harbour to do their work
- Positively benefitting the Antiguan community and finding ways to address their waste challenges

Negative

- Use of finite resources to make the boat and equipment
- Carbon impacts of transport and travel to join the race across the Atlantic
- Food production, packaging and waste impacts
- Impacts on the local community in Antigua from the volume of people and waste

The Bristol Gulls Vision

On completing the 2020 race, the Gulls will have:

- No bin bags or food packaging going to landfill in Antigua or anywhere in the world
- Raised enough money to fund the RNLI fleet and Clean Up Bristol Harbour plans for 2021
- Commitments from:
 - supporters to change their lifestyles
 - the racing community to minimise the impacts of future races, and use Eco Boats from 2021
 - boat makers to build Eco Boat across other marine sports
- And most importantly the team are all still friends and continue to row after the race

Scope of policy:

The Bristol Gulls have defined the scope of their policy and strategy as:

- Demonstrating and inspiring change in their race preparation and lifestyles to the networks they can influence
- Reducing the impacts of their material choices
- Reducing the impact of their food choices
- Financially supporting charities with ethical donor choices

Commitments:

For 2020 these are the areas the team will focus on:

Team's impacts:

- Clothing choices and number of uses
- Food supplements
- Charity support
- Financers ethics and values
- Food air miles
- Food Production
- Carbon balancing
- Food packaging
- Meat and dairy

Opportunities for influence:

- Demonstrating and sharing possibilities for change
- Race organisers
- Team's networks of friends, family and colleagues
- Locals in Antigua

Their wider concerns include:

- Inspiring society, their local rowing and national rowing communities, the adventure sports world, financiers and donors making sustainability changes
- The boat manufacturing and end-of-life considerations
- Food waste onboard
- Financial donations
- The travel impact from the freight and flights from the trip
- Legislation change within the marine industry
- Environmental impacts of the safety equipment

This Sustainability Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by **The Bristol Gulls**

Signed by *Chloe Guyon*

Date 17/04/2020

Signed by *Lorna Carter*

Date 17/04/2020

Sarah Hunt 16-April-2020

Hunt, Sarah
(WMAN)

Digitally signed by
Hunt, Sarah
(WMAN)
Date: 2020.04.16
12:15:39 +01'00'

Signed by

Date 16/04/2020

Signed by *Sofia Deambrosi*

Date 17/04/2020

SUSTAINABILITY TARGETS

On completing the 2020 TWAC, the Gulls will:

- Have no bin bags or food packaging going to landfill in Antigua or anywhere in the world
- Have raised enough money to fund the RNLI Portishead fleet and Clean Bristol Harbour project for 2021
- Have inspired others and received commitments from:
 - supporters to change their lifestyles
 - the ocean rowing community to minimise the impacts of future races, and use more Eco Boats from 2021
 - boat makers to build Eco Boats
- All still be friends and continue to row and investigate ways to make this planet a better place

Targets (1 - 5 years):

(Specific, Measurable, Achievable, RADICAL, Timely)

Clothing

To choose clothing that is not made from virgin materials or is second-hand and wear until they can no longer fulfil their purpose. For all new clothing have a criterion that ensures the manufacturers are aligned in sustainability values.

Food supplements

To work with a local, vegan brand with compostable and recyclable packaging to ensure high quality ingredients that support the team's nutrition.

Charity support

To donate £5,000 to Clean Up Bristol Harbour, £11,000 to RNLI Portishead by End of April 2021

Financers ethics

Look at companies' history and future plans to evaluate them before accepting sponsorship money. Ensure there is an alignment of values.

Food air miles

To source at least 50% of food from a 10-mile radius of Bristol, and to source at least 80% of food from the UK.

Carbon balancing

The team will balance their flight carbon by Feb 2021.

Food packaging

To use food packaging that is plastic monolayer for 100% of the food and can be recycled in the UK

Meat & Dairy

To choose a high vegetable-carbohydrate based diet for main meals. To agree a % of meat and dairy needed in diet for the row and aim to limit this to a minimum. Not to choose intensively farmed products.

Community Impact

Sharing mission and struggles regarding the sustainability campaign. Producing at least one blog/engagement piece on each topic by Mid-2021.

Influencing race organisers

- to have sustainability criteria and advice for race crews for future races from 2021
- to have one out of five 'sustainable / Eco boats', through stringent sustainability criteria for racing boats within the next 3 years of races
- to get funded for providing a guidance report and best practice
- for 100% of crews to agree to no single-use plastic bottles in the race through the rules by 2021 for drinking water

Inspiring change

Influence personal networks. Aim for 1,000 people to have made 3,000 pledges on a simple to use platform by Mid-2021. Aim to use DoNation and JustGiving to capture these stats.

Impact in Antigua

To organise a litter-pick in Antigua.

To support the development of better recycling and waste management facilities in Antigua and Barbuda. To use network of sustainability focused organisations to support this project and make a positive impact in Antigua.