WEIL’S DISEASE A NOTICE TO MEMBERS, PARTICIPANTS AND PARENTS

Weil’s Disease is caused by an organism which is present in many rivers, lakes and estuaries and generally comes from rat urine. There is a very small chance of catching the disease while taking part in water based outdoor activities.

Weil’s Disease responds well to early treatment. Left untreated, it has occasionally proved fatal.

Sensible precautions should be taken to minimise the risk and include: washing your hands with soap and water before eating, cleaning and covering cuts, shower if you have fallen into the water, wear shoes and try not to drink the lake water. The bacteria does not live long in dry conditions, drying your skin will help kill the bacteria.

The early symptoms of the disease are similar to influenza and include headache, temperature and joint or muscle pains.

If you fall ill with these symptoms within three weeks of taking part in water based activities, you should see your doctor immediately and show this card.

Please also inform us via training@rotherhamsailingclub.org.uk
WEIL’S DISEASE  A NOTICE TO GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

The holder of this card has recently taken part in water sports or other water-based outdoor activities organised by Rotherham Sailing Club.

Cases of Weil’s Disease (Leptospirosis) have occurred in the region, but we have not had any known instances at our Club to date. Perhaps you may care to consider this diagnosis.

Urgent treatment is essential for Weil’s Disease. Advice on laboratory diagnosis may be obtained from your local hospital’s Microbiology Department.

Further information can be obtained from www.leptospirosos.org

Thank you for your co-operation.

Issued by Rotherham Sailing Club  January 2015