

PSC Newsletter March 2010

Hello Everyone,

Enclosed is this year's club programme. I hope like me you get that delightful feeling of anticipation as you see the new season's feast of sailing and social activities actually in print. Yes the season is almost upon us and this long cold winter will soon be forgotten. So now is the time to check your boat, all its gear and your sail clothing so you don't miss any of the racing. **The first race is on Sunday 4th April.** At the back of the booklet you will find some notes on the club constitution, its organisation and rules. Have you read them before? If not, now is your chance.

Racing

The sailing committee has been very busy and made a number of changes, indeed improvements to the way the racing is run. The minutes of the last meeting can be read in the members' area of the club website. If you haven't got access to the internet the main points are:

Personal handicapping. To give more encouragement to middle of the fleet sailors so they have a chance of winning a few trophies, everyone will be issued with a personal handicap for each series. This will be trialled for the Sunday short race of the first series and, if successful, rolled out for all series.

Laser 2000. The laser 2000 class will become a recognised fleet (as with the fireballs and lasers) with its own trophies, but will still race with the medium handicap.

Eligibility. At the beginning of a series the boat, helm and crew will be noted. Thereafter, to be eligible to be counted in that series, one person in that boat must remain the same.

Signing off. The time for signing off is increased to one hour after the last boat finishes the last race of the day.

Trolleys

The General Committee has written a new bye-law which has been Emailed to members. For those not on the internet it requires, **from 1st April, all members to permanently mark their trolleys with the boat's class and sail number.** Neil Coles will have tags and cable ties which you can use. The purpose of the bye-law is to make it easier for helpers to reunite boats with their trolleys during recovery and contributing to safety by making it easy to see if any members have failed to return from sailing. There will be a penalty of disqualification from results if this bye-law is ignored after one warning.

Social side

Jan and her team have been very busy putting the social programme together. Below is just a reminder of the main events coming up soon. Further reminders and details will be issued via Emails, the club website and notice-board in due course.

PSC at Home. This year's PSC at home will be on **Saturday 20th March** starting at 7.30pm. All members can come along and meet guests from other clubs in the area. There will be food (no charge) and a complimentary drink on arrival.

Commodore's supper. This will be on **Saturday 24th April** and include a proper sit-down meal at moderate cost. I think I had better attend.

Training

Paul Johnson who has taken on the new post of training co-ordinator has been juggling dates to for this year's training programme which you will find in the brochure. Probably the main effort will go into running the two beginners courses. One runs on Friday evenings starting in April and the other will run on Saturdays starting in early June. **To get on one of these courses contact Paul on 07528583452.** For those wishing to improve their skills, supervised sailing sessions will

run on Friday evenings from July through to the end of August then switch to Saturday mornings until the weather breaks usually in late October. There will also be some social sailing events during the season organised by Jackie and Cathy such as a sail away and BBQ and the Pico Olympics. Power boat training is planned for October.

Volunteers

We need a good number of volunteers such as instructors, rescue boat drivers, launch/recovery helpers to run the training courses for adults and juniors. **There will be a volunteer evening for all training on Friday 26th March starting at 7pm in the clubhouse.** All instructors and those who want to help are invited to come along,, meet the organisers and talk roles and dates.

Juniors

Under its new chairman, Rob Dyer, the club's management committee is coming up with some great ideas to keep junior sailing moving forward. One of the schemes is to run junior race training on Saturday mornings from 17th April with the emphasis on improving standards of single-handed sailing (in the same way RTYC has concentrated on two-handed sailing in Feva's). In June on Friday evenings the club will run a beginners course (two groups) and an intermediate course. After this juniors can sail on Friday evenings switching to Saturday mornings September onwards. The junior club has already issued its newsletter, but if anyone has not received this, and wants **to enter a child for the training course then contact Paul Procter on 01803 875419.**

Communications

Your committee is determined to improve its communication with club members. Apart from the occasional newsletter, the main method of getting information around will be by Email and use of the club website. You can get any amount of information by registering on the members' area of the website. For instance you can find copies of minutes, open forum discussions, race results, members looking for crews and so on. If you are not on the internet or don't read Emails you will have to keep an eye on the club notice-boards and listen to announcements in the bar.

Embroidered clothing

Neil Coles has arranged a great deal with Ravenspring, the Totnes-based sports clothing people. Members can now individually select and order sports, leisure and sail-clothing with the club logo embroidered on. PSC will receive 5% of the sale in royalties. Samples will be on display in the club display cabinet. For more information go to www.ravenspring.co.uk. or phone 01803 867092.

Well that's enough from me. Now get your diaries out and note all the dates for this year before you mislay the booklet.

Have a great 2010 season.

JohnMaynard
Commodore

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