



HSC NEWS

February 2017

www.huddersfieldsailing.org.uk

Issue 01/17

Commodore's Column

The first and most important thing I have to say is a big thank you. You will all appreciate a club does not run itself. It needs a core group of members who are prepared to give their time and energy so that the bills are paid, we have the correct insurance and the leaky roof is fixed. Then there's the Wednesday maintenance crew, the committee, I could go on, there is quite a list. We are very lucky at this club to have great team of people who make sure that this club is well run so that we can get on and enjoy sailing here. So on behalf of the club I would like to thank these members.

Next I would like to say a big thank you to Mac who has been an excellent Social Secretary. I would also like to extend our sympathy to him at this difficult time. When Mac said he needed to stand down, I did panic about who on earth would replace him. So I am really pleased to welcome Jason Milburn onto the committee as the new Social Secretary, ably assisted by his wife Rachel.

Last year was a funny year. Hopefully it will be the year that we finally solved our weed problem. We need to thank Andrew O'Connor for this, as it is been his dogged pursuit of Yorkshire Water that has led to them to coming up with a solution. It appears that dropping the water level has killed off the weed and this may be a way of controlling any re-growth in future years. Although it meant we had to contend with muddier and more difficult launching, we have still been able to sail throughout. For some of us it was a way to practice and learn the skill of beach landing. Thank you to our members for bearing with us through this. Hopefully it has been worth your patience.



Right way up

The club continues in my opinion to punch above its weight. We send kids to the Yorkshire and Humberside Youth Series and we are competitive in the Heron fleet at both regional and national level. We also seem to be good at getting people out on the water. We have a higher participation rate among our membership than many other clubs. However we also recognise that we need to increase our membership. This is something that we can all help with (and do) because the biggest source of members is word of mouth. So please continue to encourage friends, relatives and



Alternatively

even passing acquaintances to come and have a go.

Another initiative we have been looking at is getting more women and girls sailing. Women are 50% of the population but are underrepresented in sailing generally. So, as Lady-Commodore with a Vice-Lady-Commodore it seemed too great an opportunity to miss and so the "This Girl Can Sail" sessions came in to being. I have to say a big thank you to Rachael Lockley who played such a big part in instigating these and running them and thank you to all those who helped with those sessions. We plan to

run the session again next season and would ask our ladies to bring a friend.

Rachael, with the assistance of Roger Stephenson, has now put in a grant application for a training Boat and a Power Boat (to assist with training only) to help run these sessions. Please keep your fingers crossed it would be great if Rachael and Roger's efforts were rewarded.

Our Sailing Programme is now out and attached to the end of this newsletter. I look forward to seeing everyone at Boats Out on 11th March.

Jacki Doyle – Commodore 2017

Novice and Junior Series

Coming soon by special request

Do you fancy racing but are a bit nervous? Do you want to improve your sailing skills but not sure where to start? Then this is the series for you. The best way to improve your skills is by following a course. So between 27th of May and 25th June and then again in the autumn between the 26th August and 23rd September we are devoting the 3pm race to our novice and junior racers. We will have some experienced sailors come and give on the water coaching. So please come along and join in the fun. You never know you might win a trophy.

This Girl Can Sail Sessions.

Sundays at 11am from 23rd April to 2nd June.

These sessions are aimed at getting more women and girls sailing. So whether you want to start sailing, want a refresher on some basic skills or just want some time on the water with women and girls who share your hobby then please come along. Please bring a friend: we have decided that Sunday 30th April is "Bring a friend" day (but you can bring friends to other sessions too).

Taster Sessions

If you want to introduce friends to sailing then as a member of the club you can bring visitors and take them out for a sail yourself. However if you don't feel confident taking them out yourself we can arrange a Taster Session. You just need to pass on their preferred contact details, either Email or telephone, via the club website (click on Taster sessions on the home page) or email: jackiadoyle@gmail.com

Prizegiving Evening

Sat 25th March 2017 7:30 pm

In the Clubhouse

Faith supper

As in previous years, catering will be in the form of a Faith Supper. A couple of weeks prior to the event we will send out a link to the usual online list where you can nominate what you would like to bring. There will be a list of suggestions to get things rolling.

Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-20

As many of you will know the Racing Rules are revised every four years and the new rules came into force on the 1st January. The full text is available as a download on the HSC website (see the Download further information page).

The big change from the previous version is to Rule 18.3 Tacking in the Zone (part of Rule 18 Mark-Room). This now reads:

“If a boat in the zone of a mark to be left to port passes head to wind from port to starboard tack and is then fetching the mark, she shall not cause a boat that has been on starboard tack since entering the zone to sail above close-hauled to avoid contact and she shall give mark-room if that boat becomes overlapped inside her. When this rule applies between boats, rule 18.2 does not apply between them”

As you can see this rule now only applies if the mark is to be left to port. Consequently there will be one rule for leaving a windward mark to port and another for leaving it to starboard. This is an important change for HSC as we use starboard roundings in our courses as frequently as port roundings.

Confused? No idea what any of this means? Then make a note of this date:

Rules Night
Wed. 5th April 7.30pm

in the clubhouse

when all will be explained

Facebook and Twitter

Huddersfield Sailing Club has a Members Only Group on Facebook in addition to our public page. If you haven't got access to the group yet please email Rachael Lockley (rachael.lockley@talktalk.net) who will send you an invitation to the group.

Rachael has now also created a Twitter page for HSC where those who are so inclined can tweet to their heart's content.

HSC's username is @huddssail

Boats Out Saturday 11th March 09.30

Boats Out this year is on Saturday 11th March, so please make a note of this important date. If you cannot possibly make the date please ask someone to act on your behalf. With over 50 boats to move a prompt start is essential. Not until all boats and stands have been removed from the clubhouse should members start rigging their own boats. To avoid any confusion please put your boat on the berth it was stored on last year. Berths (including spares) are recorded on the board just inside the lounge. There are lots of other jobs to do, both inside and outside, before sailing can begin. Please look out for emails advising of working parties.

Buoyancy Testing begins on Sunday 12th March, but can be done at any time throughout the season. Please note that ALL boats must complete a buoyancy test before they are sailed each season. The buoyancy test should be that relevant to your class of boat. This varies from visual inspection (Laser) to full immersion testing (Heron). The insurance declaration, which must be signed by an adult, confirms that the boat is insured with third party cover to the value of £3M. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule, which is for the protection and safety of all concerned. Please ask a member of the committee if you are unfamiliar with the procedure for your class of boat. A buoyancy test form is attached to this newsletter.

For those who missed the temporary Antony Gormley exhibit at Boshaw, here is a reminder.



With apologies to Jim Robison

Safety on the Water

With the exception of the occasional Open event all sailing and racing at Huddersfield Sailing Club occurs without the use of patrol boats. The club rules emphasise that a boat (i.e. its crew) is entirely responsible for its own safety, that the decision to race or sail is the responsibility of the boat and that children remain the responsibility of their parents (or appropriate adult) at all times. Safety on the water then remains primarily a matter for the individual. However the club also has a culture of mutual assistance while sailing. In practice this assistance routinely includes:

- From other boats on the water – helping to right a capsized boat, taking crew off a capsized boat and assisting crew back on board their own boat.
- From other members on the shore – relaunching a boat from a lee shore or recovering such a boat onto its launching trolley.

Our formal procedures for rendering assistance are as follows:

- The crew of a boat in difficulty should hail for assistance or when possible signal by raising both arms above the head. Experienced sailors should abandon racing to assist.
- If in any doubt as to an individual's safety the Race Officer should formally signal the abandonment of racing by making one long sound signal. All boats on the water should render such assistance as they can.
- Note if there is any risk of entrapment under a capsized boat, the first priority is to prevent inversion of the boat by climbing onto the centreboard.

Novice sailors should consider gaining experience as follows:

- By initially sailing on Saturday and Sunday afternoons during the racing programme. This ensures that there are a number of other boats on the water. Do not worry about getting in the way. Attempt to follow the course yourself.
- Become familiar with the handling characteristics of your boat.
- All sailing dinghies capsize at some point. Practice capsize recovery in calm conditions. Establish if your boat would benefit from righting lines or rope loops to aid climbing back in.
- Always stay with the boat. Do not attempt to swim to shore.
- Seek advice from experienced members if you are unsure about the wind conditions.
- Wear appropriate clothing for the weather condition.
- Check your boats fittings and equipment are in good order

Note that where a trapeze harness is used it should either be of the hookless type or be fitted with a quick release mechanism.

Swimming is only permitted in an emergency or as part of a training exercise.

Membership

For convenience a membership form is attached for anyone who has not yet rejoined. (But hurry or you'll miss the early payment discount deadline 28/02/2017)

Club Maintenance and next working party

The club house looks better than it has been for a few years. We appear to be gaining in the on-going battle against weather, rust, rot, mice and woodworm. Much of this work is done by the Wednesday morning team, but the team has been effectively reduced mainly due to family illness. A vote of thanks is due to Roger Molyneux, Andrew O'Connor, Mac Pimblett, Richard Donkersley and the others that have helped. Thanks are also due to Andrew Molyneux and all the others that turned up to the working meetings that were held, repairing the walkways / banking while the water level was down. Work was also carried out repairing and painting the external cladding, sealing and painting the masonry panels and now saving the container from leaks and rust. A new kitchen unit, shelves and cupboard have been fitted next to the committee room due to an infestation of woodworm.

Work on the tower is on-going as weather and other work permits.

Thanks again to Andrew O'Connor for his negotiations with Yorkshire Water regarding the weed problem, which we hope has been conquered.

There will be a working party on Sunday 19th March from 10.00 am onwards to repair, clean up and decorate the club house and ready it for the Prize Giving.

A note on Trailers

There are several unidentifiable trailers in the long grass at the top of the dinghy park. Could all members who have a trailer at the top of the dinghy park, either remove it, or clearly identify the trailer with their name and boat number as soon as possible.

For many years the club rules didn't allow members to store trailers at the club unless they were supporting the owner's boat. This rule still exists but has in recent times been relaxed. However any trailer left at the club should be immobilised so that the trailers cannot be used to steal boats. Any trailers not identified will be assumed to be abandoned and disposed of.



HUDDERSFIELD SAILING CLUB – 2017

ANNUAL BUOYANCY TEST and BOAT REGISTRATION

Before any boat is brought onto club premises it must be registered with the Membership Secretary and have adequate insurance cover in accordance with club rules. This cover must be maintained at all times while the boat is on club premises.

~~~~~ To be completed by insured member ~~~~~

Dinghy Class \_\_\_\_\_ Sail Number \_\_\_\_\_

Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile No: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

DECLARATION: I, (*PRINT NAME*) \_\_\_\_\_ declare that I hold a valid and current certificate of insurance which covers my boat against third party liability in accordance with club rules, and that I will continue to do so whilst a member of Huddersfield Sailing Club. I have also carried out a \*buoyancy check / \*inspection and confirm that it satisfies the conditions as prescribed.

*\* delete as appropriate*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

~~~~~ To be completed by a member of the Sailing or General Committee ~~~~~

Membership card checked by committee member YES / NO

Berth allocated and board updated BERTH No. _____

Is the owner a member of the Class Association? YES / NO

Class Membership Certificate endorsed if requested YES / NO

The above declaration witnessed on behalf of Huddersfield Sailing Club by: -

(Print Name) _____ Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / 2017

~~~~~ To be completed by Membership Secretary ~~~~~

Membership and registration confirmed YES / NO

Date membership renewed \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 2017 Signature \_\_\_\_\_