



East Antrim Boat Club

Main Sheet

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January 2010

Commodore's Comments. (or the thoughts of Chairman Paddy)

First of all I would like to wish all our members and their families a very happy and prosperous 2010. This year is a very important year historically as we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of our club and the Golden Jubilee of racing under sail. More of this later!

We have a new committee in place with no less than 8 ex-commodores!!! I feel that this is a very good committee to take us forward into the new decade. At this early stage we are formulating a plan to take us forward in the areas of finance, club development, communications, sailing, and entertainment. To these ends we would like, and indeed need, the input of all our members in what they would like, what they think needs fixed and what they want out of their club. So I ask all our members to participate in this by going up to the members of the committee and talking to them, give them your thoughts and suggestions (sensible ones please) so that we can try and give you the club you deserve!!! Finally, on this point, we hope to have a suggestion box in place at a later date for the shy retiring ones amongst you.

Another important year of sailing will soon be upon us with the Ulster Topper Championships being held at our club. Our Topper sailors are going from strength to strength as are our Laser sailors with Debbie Hannah going for Olympic selection in 2012. Hopefully our "Flyer's" will travel a bit more with the Irish Championships being held in Carrick and to round off the year we will be completing the circle with a GP14 Hot Toddy in October. Hopefully Curly and Laura will drum up a lot of support and we may even see some of the Club's 14s make a re-appearance.

Very soon, of course, we will see the cruiser men come out of hibernation and start work on their loved ones to get them ready for another attempt to invade the Western Isles and carry the good name of the club to the infidels. On a more serious point, the Scottish parliament has been in contact to ask if our cruisers could leave some whisky for them to export. A little birdie has told me that our regular cruisers may be joined by "Cheeky Monkey" this season so words of encouragement and advice would be most welcome by her skipper, also directions wouldn't go amiss.

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I will finish this epic by wishing everyone a great and safe year both on and off the water and remind everyone that this is your Club so please use it and enjoy it!

Officers, General Committee and Sailing Sub Committee

The officers and committees for the 2010 season are as listed below.

President	Mr H Fletcher
Vice President	Mr B Liddle
Commodore	Mr P Thompson
Vice-Commodore	Mr A Dorman
Rear-Commodore	Mr G Doig
Captain	Mr N Murray
Hon Sailing Sec	Mr R Doig
Hon Treasurer	Mr A Scott
Hon Secretary	Mr D Montgomery
Yard Manager	Mr A Dempsey

General Committee

Mr D McMeekin
Mrs H Kane
Mr S Rainey
Mr D Liddle
Mr D Mawhinney
Mr J McGaughey

Sailing Sub-Committee

Mr R Adams
Mr M Agnew
Mr G Doig
Mr G Kane

Trustee Representative

Mr A Hutcheson

Club Steward

Mr K McGuckin

A Note from the Yard

A new inflatable and a boat cover were stolen from the yard recently. Access to our club is much too easy therefore it is our intention to install security gates and possibly cameras in the near future. In the meantime it would be helpful if boat owners ensured their ladders are locked to their carriages to make access for the thief more difficult. Members should be vigilant at all times and where possible ensure their equipment is properly secured.

If you have a feature for inclusion in the next issue of Mainsheet, please email through to:

mainsheet@eabc.org.uk



Sailing Committee News

Sailing continues on through the winter for many hardy stalwarts with a very mixed bag of weather and good turnouts. The January/February Sunday series starts at 2.00pm with Olympic style courses for F15's, Lasers and Toppers. The next series will start in March with battery starts.

Wireless internet has been installed in the Club. This is primarily to facilitate uploading race results to the Club web page for viewing within the Club and at home. This will also ease the process to the Belfast Lough PY handicap scheme.

EABC is hosting the Belfast Lough Yachting Conference for a second year. This is chaired by Robert Adams and is the venue for agreeing regatta dates, rules, boat lists and club regatta inserts.

Some notable dates for your sailing diaries are:

4-6 June Carrickfergus Classic Sail
30 Jul – 1 Aug F15 Irish Championships (CSC)
23-24 Oct **GP14 Hot Toddy (EABC)**

Belfast Lough Regatta Dates

19th June Royal Ulster Yacht Club
26-27th June East Antrim Boat Club
3rd July Cockle Island Boat Club
24th July Carrickfergus Sailing Club
31st July Donaghadee Sailing Club
7th August Ballyholme Yacht Club
14th August County Antrim Yacht Club
21st August Royal North of Ireland YC
28th August Holywood Yacht Club

Finally, the sailing committee are proposing holding a Club meeting to discuss issues such as PY Handicaps, RYA Championship Club Status and the forthcoming sailing season. Watch the club notice board for details.



Winter Bar Hours

Wed 8.00 – 11.00pm
Fri 6.00 – 11.00pm
Sat 5.00 – 11.00pm
Sun 12.30 – 6.30pm

Junior Sailing

Junior sailing has continued over the winter. Congratulations to Gary Fekkes, Katie Kane, Andrew Penney and Helen Rutherford who have all been selected for the RYANI Junior Squad (Toppers). Andrew Penney has also been selected for the ISA squad.

Congratulations also to Peter Cameron who has been selected for the RYANI Youth Squad (Lasers).

More junior training and development programmes are planned for the forthcoming season. Watch the Mainsheet and the Club notice board for details.

Some dates for the Topper sailors:

6-9th April - Junior Championships (Schull)
24-25th April - Ulster Championships (EABC)
22nd May - ITCA Traveller 1 (Howth)
19-20th June - Munster Championships (Waterford)
26th June - ITCA Traveller 2 CAYC
2nd-4th July - Irish National Championships (CLSC)
24th July - ITCA Traveller 3 (Quoile YC)
15th Aug - ITCA Traveller 4 (Courtown)
11-12th Sept - Leinster Championships (N YC)
19th Sept ITCA Traveller 5 (Ballyholme YC)

Useful links for the junior sailors:

RYA Northern Ireland
www.ryani.org.uk

International Topper Class Association Ireland
www.irltopper.com

If you would like your next issue of **Mainsheet** sent to you via email, please forward your name and email address to the link below. This will help communicate more regularly, keeping the cost down and perhaps save a few trees.



mainsheet@eabc.org.uk