

## Sailing News March 2020

1. **Dinghy park allocations are underway** and we have increased the number of spaces available. More boats will be racked, and there are storage tubes being built for the Fusion (club boats) rigging. These developments are to make sure that we make **maximum effective use of the available dinghy yard space**.
2. Dinghy sailors who “**solo sail**” (i.e. go sailing on their own or with friends, rather than train, sail or race in the organised club activities) are again being asked to sign in at either the sailing office or the haven office when they sail. This helps us know which boats are being used, and it is hoped that the boat tracking system proposed by Yard and Haven will eventually give a robust way of tracking which dinghies are being sailed.
3. **The first objective of the Club is to promote and encourage amateur boat sailing**. To support Sailing Committee has set out a policy whereby if there is a waiting list of members who wish to bring a dinghy into the yard, but no space, the usage of the boats currently in the yard will be assessed and a boat which has not been used will be asked to vacate their space. A pro-rata refund will be given and reasons for non-usage will of-course be considered.
4. The detailed preparations for the **Laser Saturday Regatta series** are nearly complete. The Laser class will be doing up to 4 short races on a course laid within the top triangle, with race management done from a RIB dedicated to that purpose. Overall race management decisions will remain with the Principal Race Officer in the race hut.
5. The **Youth Racing Group** will be also be doing short races on a course laid within the top triangle, on Thursday evenings, again within the overall control of the Principal Race Officer. The race area for both Youth and Lasers will most likely be in the area south of the yellow line, between harbour buoys Volunteer, Egan, Cakes Mark. Both Youth and Lasers will be laying their own marks, they will not be using harbour marks in their courses.
6. A working group is thinking through the **implications of extending the assumed working life of our RIBs from 12 to 18 years**. There is a detailed analysis underway of the maintenance requirements and the change to the capital expenditure associated with RIB replacement. Thanks to Simon Lawson for the work he is doing on this project.
7. The **Safety Boat briefing** is taking place on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm** and the **Dinghy Sailing and Volunteers (shore side) briefing** is taking place **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 7pm**, both in the **Skylight** lounge. We decided to split the briefings this year into order to allow more specific safety boat training aspects to be covered. **Everyone is welcome** to come along to these sessions, to find out more about all our on-the-water plans for 2020 and to have any questions answered.
8. **Recruitment for a Sailing Pro** has started and we have **reviewed the job description** to reflect the reality of what this role is able to accomplish. We recognise too the feedback from members for example, for the appointed person to be able to spend more time on the water sailing and racing alongside them.

If anyone has questions or comments about anything set out above, please email me on [traceyjlee1305@gmail.com](mailto:traceyjlee1305@gmail.com), or text me on 07758 673067

The first race of 2020, Andy Woodroffe (R19) enjoys the windy conditions

Thanks to Mike Millard for a great picture



The handheld flags, ready for the Laser Regatta Series and the Youth Racing Group

