



Aberdeen and Stonehaven Yacht Club

Newsletter No 2 for 2004 Season

The sailing season has now started and please see enclosed with this newsletter the handbook for 2004. For the latest information remember to check the ASYC website at www.asyc.org.uk.

Commodores Comment

I would like to start by wishing everybody a safe and enjoyable season and hoping that the weather will be kind to us all. Welcome back to all rejoining members and an especially warm welcome to our new members. The season got off to an excellent start at the Skene Workparty, an enormous number of people turned up to help with the result that the work went extremely quickly - many thanks to you all. I very much hope that we can achieve a similar turn-out at Stonehaven - please put Saturday 5 June in your diaries - you will also be able to appreciate at first hand the newly re-decorated Clubhouse - see you there!

The sailing programme also got off to a good start. It is particularly pleasing to see the Junior Sailing so popular with a record number (more than 50!) taking part. We are continuing with Mix and Match at Skene as it was very popular last year - it's a great way for the less experienced among us to build confidence and acquire tips from the "masters" (and for some of us old dogs to learn a few new tricks!) - so come along and give it a whirl!

Please also support the "Meet the Club" day on Saturday 1 May - this is an opportunity for old and new members to get to know each other and for people thinking of joining to get a flavour of the Club. On a slightly different topic, later in this Newsletter are some suggestions to improve communications within the Club. There have been some occasions in the past when important or useful information hasn't reached everyone so we would like to try some new ideas. Do give them a try.

Finally, there is some important information later in this Newsletter on changes to the Sailing Instructions that have been made to enhance the safety of everyone taking part in Club activities. Please make sure that you read these and follow them.

All the best for the rest of the season.

Keith Lewis, April 2004

Skene

The workparty was very successful and thanks to all who came along to help. If you have put a stake in the ground at Skene to tie your boat down, please make sure you remove this when you move your boat from Skene. There has been a problem at Skene with the key to the clubhouse going missing. There is now a key in a secure container by the clubhouse door. The code for this container is xxxx.

Junior Fun and Meet the Club Day 1 May 04

On 1 May there is a Junior Fun and meet the club day at Skene. The plan is that club members will be available from 1300 hrs to take juniors and prospective / new club members out for a sail, a barbecue is also being arranged. Volunteers are required to support this, both to take people sailing and to provide help with the barbecue, Rescue cover, rigging club boats etc. If you are able to help please can you contact Keith Lewis: Tel 01224 869772(h) or email keith@lewisweb.me.uk

Sailing Instructions

Please read the standard sailing instructions detailed in the club handbook, in particular please note the following amendments:

- a. Personal Buoyancy: Personal buoyancy must be worn when sailing at a club event or when in the rescue boat.
- b. Rescue Boat: There must be 2 people in the rescue boat.
- c. Trophy Races: There will be no discards for trophy races, so all results will count.

Golden Shackle and Easter Egg Pursuit Race Results

The results for the Golden Shackle and Easter Egg pursuit Race are as follows:

Golden Shackle: 1. F Neill; E Sellar and M Summers
 2. E George and A Fraser; T Ward
 3. J McTurk; J Styles and A Taylor

Easter Egg Pursuit: 1. D Smith and M Richardson
 2. J Brown
 3. N Ritchie

Junior Sailing

Junior Training started on 10 Apr and this year there is a huge interest with over 50 Juniors registered. Some items to highlight:

- a. Please look at home for any sailing gear that you no longer need that the juniors could make use of and you would be willing to sell to them.
- b. Helpers are always required to support the Junior Sailing
- c. In addition to the existing club policy on Child protection, the club is planning to run an RYA Child protection session which all members involved with the junior sailing are encouraged to attend.

If you are able to help, or for more information, please contact John Cruickshank on jcruickshank@talisman.co.uk or 01569 760358(h).

Club Boats

The club has a 420, 2 lasers and 6 toppers that club members can hire. Please use the red book in the clubhouse to book a boat out, there is a charge of £10 to hire the 420 and £5 to hire a Laser or Topper. Please put the money in the box in the clubhouse and take a

receipt. For the Lasers rigging instructions are in the clubhouse and the ropes have been replaced this year so please take care of them and make ensure they are left in the boat. To comply with our insurance policy the club boats cannot be taken out unless the club rescue boat is on duty.

On mix and match days the 420 and Lasers may be used so please do not book these boats out for your own use on these days.

Stonehaven

The workparty for Stonehaven is on 5 Jun at 1000hrs. There was great support for the Skene workparty so please all come along and help get Stonehaven ready. There will be a plan on the noticeboard as to where boats should be parked, please check this prior to leaving your boat. Tags will also be issued to members who have paid Stonehaven Harbour dues, please attach these to your trolley.

Sailing when there is no racing at Stonhaven

If members are sailing at Stonehaven when the club is not racing, it is recommended that they contact the Coastguard on Tel 01333 450666.

Communication

This newsletter has been posted out to all members, as will the remaining 3 newsletters for this year. Duty swaps and details of places on courses are often sent by email. It has been highlighted that sometimes the person who receives the email does not pass the information on to others in their family who are also club members, please could you make sure they also see the information. Emails are sent using a manual list of the email addresses provided by members with their 2004 membership forms or subsequently updated. This is not a very efficient way to communicate, to improve this it is planned to use yahoo groups. The advantages of this are:

- a. Control of whom receives emails.
- b. Members can easily update/amend their email address(es).
- c. Reduces addresses, if you wish to contact members by email you just need to use one address.
- d. Helps prevent Spam.

To use this is very easy, please send a blank email to asyc-subscribe@yahooogroups.com. You will receive a confirmation to which you just need to hit reply. To send messages to club members you just need to email asyc@yahooogroups.com. If you change your ISP or change jobs and wish to remove your email address just send an email to asyc-unsubscribe@yahooogroups.com. It is hoped to start using this from 1 Jun 04 for emailing club members.

Safety Boat Training

There is a plan to run a safety boat training course at Skene, in May. A date has not yet been set, if you are interested in this training please contact Craig Evans on 01224 675107(w), 01330 833460(h) or 07714 125381.

Aberdeen Outdoor Education Training at Skene

Aberdeen Outdoor Education run RYA courses at Skene from April to June using their Wayfarers. These are primarily aimed at Council employees and Youth Groups, but there are usually limited places at commercial cost on each course open to the general public to enable the RYA courses to run. The provisional programme is:

RYA Start Sailing & Basic Skills (old levels 1, 2)
Tues evenings 11th May - 29th Jun (8 sessions) £247

RYA Seamanship Skills (old level 3)
Thurs evenings 13th May - 30th Jun (8 sessions) £171

For more information, and to make bookings please contact Aberdeen Outdoor Education at Summerhill on 01224 346191. There is no guarantee that all of these courses will run it depends on numbers.

Open Regatta

The Open regatta will be held over the weekend 21/22nd August. In previous years MRI have kindly loaned us 2 of their RIB's for the regatta, they have now moved and unfortunately can no longer support the regatta. If you know of anyone or any organisation who maybe able to help by providing a Rescue Boat, please contact the Sailing Secretary, John Styles on 01330 860576(h).

For Sale

Laser Pico Plus: (1998 but very little used), perfect beginners boat (and good for playing with the waves at Stonehaven!), blue-green hull with pink sails (looks better than it sounds!) can be sailed single-handed or 2-up with a jib, excellent condition complete with cover and folding trolley looking for around £1300 (that's about £900 less than a new one!). Contact Keith Lewis, home 01224 869772, mobile 07748 957711

Newsletter

Any articles or information for the next newsletter please contact Keith Stewart: keith.stewart@ntl.com or 01569 766843 (h).