



Frampton on Severn
Sailing Club

NEWSLETTER

July 17, 2022



And thats a wrap ... for sail training

Welcome to the July newsletter.

Please send any articles for the August edition to support@fosscc.org.uk by 20th August.

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Commodore's comment

As I sit here writing this report, I am listening to the weather forecast and they are advising of a heatwave hitting the UK with temperatures potentially over 30c. Can I please remind everybody to be mindful of sunburn and heat stroke. Remember to bring sun cream, a hat and plenty of water.

As mentioned in my last report, the slipway has been pressure washed, which has helped to remove the slip hazard on the water's edge, but now the water level has started to drop, it has exposed more slime, which needs to be pressure washed. David Coates has offered to do that this week on Wednesday. Thanks David.

As many of you will have seen, the first weed cut has been completed and the weed was piled high on both, north and south banks. It has been completely removed from the northern bank and circa 60% on the southern bank. Thanks to everybody who came to assist in the removal. The weather couldn't have been more different! The first day being nothing but rain and the second a scorcher.

This year we have moved the weed on land with the use of tractors, trailers and wheel barrows, rather than by the wheely boat. It seems to be more efficient, but when clearing the southern bank, it involves us having to transport everything through the village to tip on our site.

The On Board evenings continue to be well received by the Scouts and Cubs that we have hosted. We have Olveston Scouts on Monday 11th. This is the last one on our list for this year, as most groups only run in line with school terms. Thanks to everybody who has assisted.

Last week we hosted the Stroud "Open Door" Group with the Dursley Inner Wheel. This was a lovely evening with trips around the lake on the Wheely Boat, followed by a bbq. Speaking to Geoff Coxe, this event has been happening for circa 40 years. It was great to be able to invite them back after a break of 2 years because of Covid.

As mentioned in my last report and as you will have seen from the posters in the clubhouse, the "members get together" is planned for Saturday 23rd July between 3.00pm and 7.00pm. This is an opportunity for old and new members to meet and get to know each other. There will be drinks and nibbles. It is not proposed to be a formal event, but I would like to introduce some of the current committee members and invite any other members that would like to get more involved to come forward. There are numerous roles that need to be filled to help with the running of the club, (most notably Treasurer, following the death of Tony Emery). Many of the



roles do not involve being on the committee. Everybody is welcome to come forward, no matter how long you have been a member, we all have skills we can share.

Junior Week is one of the club's major events for the younger members and is rapidly taking shape. Diana has ordered everything, including the hoodies, so just waiting arrival. I wonder what colour they will be for 2022? As many of you will remember, parents are rostered as helpers during the week, so please do come and do your stint as rostered. It is great fun no matter what the weather and also, don't forget you can camp at the club during the week! It is interesting to see the mix of tents, campers and caravans. Over the years, many of us have based ourselves at the club for the week and gone to work from there.

Boat Jumble – I propose to have another boat jumble at the club in September, for members to be able to buy and sell unwanted stuff. I know that Jim and Patricia managed to clear a lot of sailing paraphernalia from their garage last time. I will keep people updated on the proposed date.

Hopefully see you on the 23rd if not before.

Tony Heming

Commodore

Sailing Matters!

I'm sure there will be mention elsewhere, but the weed situation is soooooo much better than last year 😊. OK, so it's not perfect and there are still odd patches here and there, but the lessons from previous years seem to be helping the club to manage it much better this year. There is a second cut planned in a few weeks. Massive 'well done' to our 'weed gurus' and to all the helpers at work parties who moved the cut weed away from the swims. Sailing is much more pleasurable without having to worry too much about weed.

It was wonderful to see 9 juniors, in a mix of oppies, toppers, and picos, plus 5 of the Race Training crew all participating in racing recently – and doing really well even though there was next to no wind which as we all know makes sailing challenging. We actually had 10 juniors on the water but Thomas Brander thought that as he is a good bit older than the other juniors, and his laser is much faster, that he'd join the main club race – good call Thomas 😊. Once again thanks to the training instructors who help give the students the skills and confidence to participate in the races.



We've concluded the entertaining short handicap series, and looks like Pete Dalton takes the honours with Mike Crowley second and Chris Owen third, out of a fleet of around 30 boats. Due to some people sailing different types of boats on different days there is still a bit of adjusting to do so if your overall result doesn't look quite right, please bear with us!

Looking forward, there will be junior races (for those aged 17 or under on 1st November 2021, start of membership year) coming up on several Sunday afternoons. The juniors start their race 2 minutes after the main fleet has started, and the Officer of the Day will finish them before the main race. Concurrently with the Junior Races, we will run further Rookie Races – see changes to Events below for further details.

A new event for this year is the 'Fleet Challenge' on 7th August. This will be a bit of fun! Four short races, all of which will count. Then at the end of the day, we add up the ranking points for the top 3 finishers in each fleet to determine which 'fleet' wins! There will be a handicap fleet for classes with less than 3 boats. Of course if you can't do all 4 races, just come and join in on the races you can make.

Feedback on racing format

In common with many other clubs, the number of regular racers in the club has dropped a bit over the past few years. With the twin aim of encouraging newcomers to racing and keeping established interested, but without increasing the number of duties assigned to members in order to run races, I recently polled some of our newer racers, and held a discussion about our racing programme with a group of established racers. The key conclusions were:

- Rookie races are popular. I will therefore schedule more this season to run concurrent with Junior Races in Aug/Sep/Oct, i.e. 2 mins after main fleet departs so not much more work for OOD / Safety crew. I will also include more Rookie Races next season. See 'Changes to Events Programme' below for dates.
- ProAms are not so popular, and are difficult to organise, so I will not repeat them next season.

- Short handicap races were enjoyed by many but we need to remind the OOD to set a long start line so it is not too frantic. I will schedule another short handicap series next year.
- Race Training – has worked well this year and hope there is more next year. Look out for details of next year’s training programme late this year / early 2023.
- Advice on rigging and race tactics – general consensus was that it is better to ask someone with more experience of your class on a 1-2-1 adhoc basis
- Allow assistance from Safety Boat during racing without being disqualified – this change to racing rules for our club racing is being incorporated into SIs – see ‘Changes to SIs’ below
- Emphatic requests to have racing on a bank holiday weekend as in recent years the ‘family weekends’ have dwindled due to lack of organised events. A possible agenda for next year’s end of May Bank holiday weekend could be:
 - Friday social sailing with ‘bring and eat’ BBQ. Camping. Yes, this will be one extra Friday. To compensate we could start a week later in mid May rather than early May.
 - Saturday – topper day! Some fun, some races. Get as many toppers on the lake as possible. Other classes can join in but let’s get as many toppers as possible out of the long grass! Main aim is to encourage more toppers to be more active and get some topper sailors to meet other topper sailors.
 - Saturday evening social event (tbc) plus camping
 - Sunday – Club Championship races
 - Sunday night – camp if you want to!
 - Monday – free sailing
- Requests for short adhoc races on a Friday evening
- Have some races during Junior Week

The last three bullets above will be discussed by the main committee next week. If you have any other ideas or want to feedback your thoughts please do get in touch with me.

Changes to Sailing Instructions

Issue 3 now on website. updates:

- Clarify that the course is defined by the flags, not the buoys, e.g. if yellow flag is in a spherical buoy rather than the usual yellow conical mark, you should aim for the spherical buoy.
- Laser class no longer mentioned as they have been incorporated into the Handicap Fleet for class racing.
- When scheduled, Junior and/or Rookie races start 2 minutes after other fleets.
- OOD discretion to finish slower boats first in a handicap race.
- Clarify that the OOD should enter ‘duty results’ for those on duty who want to record points for a series on the day they do a duty.
- Clarify age qualifications:
 - To be eligible for a junior prize, competitors must be under 18 as at 1 November of the previous year, i.e. at the start of the club membership year.

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- To be eligible for a masters prize, competitors must be 65 or over on 1 November of the previous year, i.e. at the start of the club membership year.
 - The OOD will endeavour to mark the position of fishermen on the course board, but the onus is on each helm to stay at least 20m away from the shore apart from when in the launch area.
 - Clarify that use of 'replica' equipment is permissible for club racing providing there is no obvious / significant advantage, e.g. sails not made by a class association-approved supplier can be used for our club races.
 - In consideration of neighbours, OODs of Pursuit Races should mute the hooter after the last boat's start time has passed.
 - Notices of racing, and changes to SIs will be posted on the club website a week before they take effect, or on the course board 30 minutes before they take effect.
 - OOD to use discretion for Rookie Race eligibility if there is any doubt.

Changes to Events Programme

Due to popular demand, a series of Rookie Races has been added to the racing calendar. These will run concurrently with the advertised Junior Races, and on the same course as the main club race. So, the main club race will start at 1400 and 2 minutes later, using the same course, Juniors and Rookie races will start together, but will have different results. The aim is for the Junior & Rookie races to last around 30 minutes, while the main race will last ~50 minutes. We will try to do a briefing each day to help you understand the course and manage whatever weather has come along, and support from the safety boat or OOD is permissible. Come and join in! The Junior and Rookie Races will be on the following dates:

24 July – Junior race only

31 July; 14, 21 August

18, 25 September; 9, 16, 23 October

Rookies are of course welcome to join in any club racing events.

Reminder to OODs and Safety Crew

A couple of things to remind OODs about:

1. You are responsible for people's safety on the water. Please attend every capsized, even if it is calm weather and the capsized person is experienced. There is no knowing when something might take a turn for the worse.
2. Please remember to plug in the Pursuit Box and associated control box at the end of racing so that it is fully charged for the next race.
3. For Personal Pursuit races when some helms have a start number less than 100, you will need to manually hoot their start. Below 100, the sound turns off after each time it has sounded.

Cheers for now
Rhonwen James
Sailing Secretary

rhonwenbryce@yahoo.co.uk

Powerboat training for FOSSC members

Please book through Web Collect.

FOSSC Safety Boat Refresher/Intro Saturday 23rd July (finish in time for the social get together)

An opportunity to refresh your powerboating skills and update your knowledge. Find out how to access everything you will need during a race or sail training duty, what you need to do before, during and after the event. Also a chance to get some real experience under the guidance of a powerboat instructor.

It is hoped to offer a full day of activity however if demand is high this may be limited to either a morning or afternoon session.

As this is not a beginners session you will need to have already successfully completed the RYA Powerboat Level 2 course as a minimum and be at least 16 years of age.

RYA Safety Boat Course 1st and 8th October

A 2 day course which further develops your powerboat handling skills and covers techniques for small craft rescue, also race management duties and standing by racing and/or training fleets. Powerboat training is available for members only and there is no charge for this course. Minimum age 16 years and must already hold the RYA Powerboat Level 2 certificate.

RYA Powerboat Level 2 15th and 16th October

A 2 day course which introduces and develops the skills needed to operate a small powerboat safely. It follows the RYA PB2 Syllabus and on successful completion you will be awarded the RYA PB2 certificate. No previous powerboating experience is needed.

Powerboat training is available for current members only and there is no charge for this course.

Minimum age 12 years however priority will be given to those applicants who need the training for instructing and/or safety boat duties at FOSSC. Where there are both junior and adult members attending a course either the junior member should be accompanied by a parent/carer or there should be at least two junior members present.

The course, led by RYA Powerboat Instructors, will be taught on a maximum Instructor:Student ratio of 1:3, giving you plenty of time at the helm to develop and improve your powerboat driving skills and techniques.

Terms and Conditions can be viewed by members at <https://www.fossc.org.uk>, log in, select Members, Member Documents and scroll down to Training, Training Ts & Cs.

RNLI Championship Series 2022

Good news ! Thank you to everyone who took part in this year's series of races. We did in fact beat last year's target of the funds raised. The total this year was £ 105 !

Many thanks to all those that supported the RNLI !

FOSSC Work Parties for 2022

Firstly please note the following dates and designated groups for the 2022 Work Parties at FOSSC:

Work Parties Date

C-Di 06/08/2022

Do-Ha 15/10/2022

He-K 19/11/2022

As usual, if you think you will be unable to make your designated group then please arrange to attend an alternative session.

Please remember to bring suitable clothing, gloves and lunch!

The work parties are not just crucial to maintain the clubs infrastructure, but it is also a great opportunity to meet fellow members. We look forward to seeing you at one of the work parties, which commence at 0930.

Jim Bennett