

MAINSHEET

Newsletter of the National Yacht Club

Issue No. 44, May, 2006



Con Murphy, Commodore

TWO MAJOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2007

Welcome to this Start of the 2006 Season edition of Mainsheet, the newsletter of the National Yacht Club. I'm delighted to confirm that the Club has been selected to host two major European Championships in 2007 – The Laser 4.7 Europeans and the 1720 Europeans. This is the first time ever that a major Laser international event will be run in the Dublin area and the first time the 1720s will have their Europeans in Dublin Bay.

The Laser Class was started in Ireland from the National in the mid seventies by Ken Ryan and our members continue to excel in the class nationally and internationally both at junior and senior level. Only recently Mark Lyttle, Conor Byrne, Annalise Murphy and Keith Coleman were in the prizes at the Laser Munsters and Youth Nationals. The Club has always been a strong supporter of the 1720 Sportsboat under class Captain, Adam Winkelmann and we look forward to the challenge of hosting these two very prestigious events in July and October 2007.

The highlight of the past few months has been the completion of the long awaited refurbishment of the bar, dining room and hall of the Club. After almost two years of planning, the work was

17th, a 9 week Junior programme which includes a Friday evening race league with the Junior sections of other waterfront clubs and one of the premier events of the Irish Sailing sailing calendar, the Helmsmans Championship of Ireland. May I wish all our

members a successful season, whether you are racing at club, national or international level, cruising, helping out at events, powerboating or just enjoying the ambiance of the Club.

Con Murphy, Commodore



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KEN RYAN TO RECEIVE ISAF MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARD





By the time you read this the lift-in will have been completed and the racing season will be just around the corner. We have seen some staff changes over the winter. Justin has moved on, we wish him all the best, to be replaced by Felix Finlay. We have also taken on Joe Murphy as a part timer for this summer. We wish Felix and Joe all the best in their new roles.

Looking back over the winter season, there was a lot going on. The Club launches, Josephine and Alva have been completely reconditioned with a new engine in Josephine and new electrics in both. Paintwork has been renewed and both launches are looking almost like new. Meanwhile reconditioning work has just been completed on Catherine. We expect that thanks to this refurbishment and ongoing training of the launch drivers we will have a fully reliable launch service throughout the summer.

We are now in a functioning boathouse and, thanks to Ciara's hard work, have implemented systems to support all of the activities we undertake.

One of our main activities is craneage and in this regards we have also had to do some considerable work to get the 10 tonne crane up to certifiable standard and at the time of writing the hoist rope is being replaced, a top limiter added and the jerky movement you will have experienced repaired. Further issues arose during her load test, but hopefully by the time you read this she will be fully operational once again.

My apologies for any inconvenience you may have suffered over the past few weeks.

NEWSFLASH

We have implemented a new system for Boathouse charges. The charges for lift-outs pontoon, overnights, fuel etc. will no longer be invoiced, but instead paid for by credit card at the time the service is provided/booked.

Members paying for boathouse services should bring their credit cards into the boathouse, make their payments and subsequently they will receive the service. We no longer have the facility to accept cheques, or to invoice at a later date.

NEWSFLASH

The winter also saw all Club mooring riser chains replaced. This is a 5 yearly job necessary to ensure that the moorings remain fully operational and insurable! We have also replaced the risers as per normal and by lift-in most of this work was completed, however some of you will have suffered from lack of floaters in the early days, but these teething problems should be sorted out by now.

Over the winter a lot of work has also been completed around the area of racing support. All ribs are now operational with two sporting brand new 4 stroke engines, which should allow us both to cut our fuel bills as well as improve our environmental performance as compared to their 2 stroke counterparts.

We have invested in new racing marks and radios specifically for events. We expect these investments to bear fruit through attracting additional events, and the associated income, over the coming seasons.

We have also implemented strict platform and pontoon rules so that we can maximise our income from these areas during the coming season. Your cooperation in these two areas would be greatly appreciated as it makes our life so much easier if we can rely on members to remove their dinghies in good time prior to events and if the pontoon is available for those who want to pay to use it! I would also ask for your cooperation regarding parking of vehicles on the platform.

Cars should only be brought to the platform to drop off or collect kit, and never on busy race days. Also, please be aware that the main gate should be kept locked at all times, leaving it open just attracts undesirables and puts all of our property at risk. Keeping cars off the platform also helps in this area, so please do cooperate!



KEN RYAN TO RECEIVE ISAF MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Presented in recognition of outstanding voluntary contribution to the sport of sailing and ISAF, Ken has dedicated more than 30 years to the development of the sport. Recently retired as ISAF Vice President in

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The NYC Summer sailing courses are nearly upon us with Course 1 starting on Tuesday, June 6 running for three weeks with Course 2 and 3 also running consecutively for three weeks finishing on August 4.

Again in 2006, we are running the highly successful minor courses for 7-9 year olds. A new feature this year will be a Dun Laoghaire Junior Race League to be held each Friday afternoon, organised jointly by the four waterfront Clubs – the Dun Laoghaire Motor Yacht Club, Royal Irish Yacht Club, Royal St George Yacht Club and the National Yacht Club. This event is open to any of our Junior sailors whether they are on a sailing course or not.

To facilitate the league, junior sailing courses will start on Fridays at 11 am and run till 7 pm – each Friday there will be Apres Sail activity in whatever club is hosting the league that day – see the notice of race on the Club website for full details.

Entry forms will be available on line or from the Club. As a result of this children doing sailing courses will start at 11 pm on a Friday as they will not be finished till 7 pm on these days.



Dun Laoghaire Regatta

Following on from the success of the inaugural event in 2005, dates have now been announced for the second Dun Laoghaire Regatta which will take place in July 2007, and run biennially thereafter. Continuing with the concept that proved so popular last year, the organisers are planning to run the four day event from July 12-15, 2007.

Plans are already well under way some sixteen months in advance of the Regatta and the organisers expect to see an even bigger attendance than last year with increased entries from Overseas and Ireland along with an expansion of the festival activities along the waterfront. The organising committee, chaired once again by Brian Craig, is expecting a 500 plus boat fleet and already the event has attracted the Half Ton Classic Cup which will be incorporated into the event and take place from July 9-14, 2007. Speaking at the announcement of the dates Brian Craig said "we are hoping to attract additional entries in 2007 from across the Irish Sea and the south coast of Ireland and are planning to strengthen the race management and increase the number of course areas to cater for the increased number of competitors. We are looking forward to welcoming all the Overseas and Irish visitors to Dun Laoghaire and are delighted that the overseas entries have already been boosted by the advent of the Half Ton Classic Cup".

Dollys Galore!

The reaction to the new composite Dublin Bay Mermaid has been incredibly positive with two boats built during the latter part of 2005.

The news for the National is that a further two boats will be delivered to the Club during May/June 2006 and arrangements are being finalised to facilitate racing in DBSC and participation in Regattas. By the end of the season it is anticipated that we should have five or six boats sailing in what will be known as the Open Mermaid Federation division alongside the existing fleet of traditional wooden boats.

Peter and Conor Cronin are looking forward to delivery of the first boat with a glass fibre deck which will still incorporate some distinctive wooden elements, such as coamings, mooring post and gunwales. The final appearance will look very similar to the traditional painted decks that used to be seen on Mermaids until the advent of varnished decks which is a more recent development. The interior will still substantially have a wooden appearance with attractive seats, centre board casing and floorboards fabricated in



Our season started this year with the Spring Regatta/O'Dowd Trophy for Mirrors on March 18 and 19. Twenty boats from ten clubs competed for this prestigious trophy.

A north easterly gusting 30 knots gave race officer and NYC Commodore, Con Murphy no option but to cancel racing on Saturday. Winds eased enough on Sunday to allow three races within the harbour, although constant wind shifts

proved a challenge to all.

We hosted the Fireball Leinster Championships (sponsored by World of Work) on April 22 and 23. The record entry of 35 boats no doubt reflected the efforts of our Rear Commodore and Fireball sailor Frank Cassidy to promote this event. Once again, Con Murphy was race officer. Despite the quite unpleasant sailing conditions on Saturday (cold, mist and shifting wind) the full schedule of races was completed. By contrast, conditions on Sunday were superb, with pleasant sunshine and steady light winds. This very successful event was won by Noel Butler and crew (DMYC).

We also held the Early Bird Regatta for dinghies on Sunday. The reduced entry of 20 boats, mainly due to the timing of the event during school Easter holidays,

still managed to produce some very competitive sailing and great fun.

The season ahead will be very active and we are to host a number of prestigious events. Highlights include our Regatta and 420 National Championships in June; Laser Leinster Championships in July; Beneteau 31.7 National Championships and Flying Fifteen East Coast Championships in September and ISA Helmsman's Championships in October.

I would like to thank the volunteers who run the events and the members who so generously provide us with committee boats and RIBs (the Club could not hold events without them). New volunteers are always welcome and volunteer forms are available from the club secretary or sailing manager.

NYC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The National Yacht Club has nine annual awards for outstanding sailing achievements by members of the Club. Arising from nominations received from members of the committee and sailing sub committee, the awards for 2005 are as follows:

The Township Cup – which was given to our predecessors, the Edward Yacht Club, as a small cruise challenge cup in 1927, is now awarded for the most impressive cruise – Leonard Sheil for his cruise in his Holman Sterling, *Gay Gannet*, to the Classic Boat regatta in Glandore.

The Muglins Cup – which was presented by past member and Commodore Mr. J.J. O'Leary in 1946 and is now awarded for the most interesting family cruise – Jim and Helen Gorman for their cruise from Dun Laoghaire around Europe over a 3 year period in his yacht, *Helcia*, with their family and friends.

The Boyne Regatta Cup – originally presented by the Kingstown Harbour Boat Club in 1870 is now awarded for the best performance in offshore racing – Michael Creedon and his crew for his class victory in his 1967 S&S 37 *Sarnia* in the 2005 Dun Laoghaire to Dingle race.

The O'Leary Cup – presented to the NYC in 1984 by Michael O'Leary for the best performance in one designs – David Crosbie for winning the 2005 ISA Helmsmans Championships sailed in the Etebells Class.

The Edward Yacht Club Trophy – presented by the officers of H.M. Naval Base, Kingstown in 1919 is now awarded for the

best performance in Dinghies, Mermaids or Flying Fifteens – Alan Green for finishing Runner up in the 2005 Flying Fifteen World Championships in Auckland, New Zealand.

The John Byrne Memorial Trophy – presented to the NYC by Mrs. Hilda Byrne and her family in 1989 in memory of her husband and past Commodore, John is awarded for the greatest contribution to sailing in the NYC during the year – Ken Ryan for his great commitment to sailing at Club, National, International and Olympic level for over 50 years. Ken has this year been awarded ISAF's most prestigious trophy, the Beppe Croce Trophy.

Winkelmann Trophy – presented to the NYC by Mrs. Carmel Winkelmann in 2003 and awarded to the Cadet Member who is deemed by sailing ability to be Cadet of the Year – Conor Byrne for qualifying and sailing with distinction in the ISAF World Youth championships in Busan, Korea, and winning the Irish Youth Championships in the Laser class.

The Greystones 1892 Regatta Cup – presented by Col D'oyly Battley and now awarded to the NYC members who have, as a team, represented the Club with distinction – John Roberts, Brian Matthews, Tom Mulligan, John Veale and Peter Flynn for their rescue of Philip Watson and his crew from his sinking *Hansa 38 – Megawatt*.

The Commodores Prize for 2005 has been awarded to Michael Liddy for his successful record breaking Solo Round Ireland circumnavigation in the Beneteau 40.7 www.foam.com.

The awards were presented and the special achievements of these members celebrated at the Sailing Awards Dinner in the Club on Saturday April 1, 2006.

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Aaron O'Grady in action in the Olympic Finn Class at Fort Lauderdale

2008 OLYMPIC CAMPAIGNS

**Aaron O'Grady – Finn Class –
extracts from his start of season report
(full version on www.nyc.ie).**

The 2005 Season was very encouraging for me as I
achieved my major goal of breaking into the top
15 in the ISAF world rankings.

I put together a very comprehensive training schedule based at
the USA Sailing Center in Miami, Florida with a core group of
Chris Cook (Canadian 3rd place WC2005) and Zach Railey
(USA). We were joined by other top European and New
Zealand Finn Sailors from time to time to calibrate our progress
against some of the fastest guys in the Finn fleet.

We had three Grade 1's during the November 2005,
January/February, 2006 period, finishing third in the North
American championships in November, Sixth in Miami OCR
and Fifth in the Midwinter's in February. While this sequence of
results was the best I have ever registered, I was particularly
encouraged by the fact that my upwind and downwind speed in

Claudine Murphy – Laser Radial Class



European Ladies Youth Bronze Medallist,
Claudine Murphy announced recently that she
will campaign for the Irish slot in the Womens
Laser Radial Class at Beijing 2008.

She got off to a great start from the publicity point of view, being
featured on CNN's April edition of their sailing programme
"MainSail". Interviewed by double sailing Gold medalist, Shirley
Robertson at a recent event in Lake Garda, Claudine outlined
her programme this year which will include the Europeans in
Rimini in June followed by 8 weeks in the US preparing for the
Worlds in LA in August. We wish Claudine, a first year maths
student in Trinity, every success with her campaign.





MacNeaney, Larry Power, Gerry Pingster, Chris Moore – of the flagship, MacLir during the Mirror Spring Regatta March 2006

g Fifteens		
Sudoku	(NYC)	Justin Barke
Snow White	(NYC)	Francis Burgess
No Regrets	(NYC)	Chris Deorly
maids		
Jill	(RNYC)	Paul Smith/Pat Mangan
Kim	(NYC)	David Cassidy/Barry Neill
Tiller Girl	(NYC)	Jonathan O'Rourke
S		
Why Not	(RSIGYC)	Denk Jago
Anemos	(RSIGYC)	Peter Evans
I Don't Believe It	(RSIGYC)	Colin McMullen

st challenge each day was to arrive at the starting line at appointed time, because if our OD (Ian Mathews) said the was 11.00 he meant 11.00, not 20 seconds past, not 10 is past. He kept to his word. This led to races that started every time, with as little delay as possible between much to the relief of those sitting in small crafts in Bay in October. There was skilful co-ordination of three starts, managing to keep the classes close to their own t the other classes.

petitive, but social, attitude was carried into the bar, members of all three classes were seen to be fiercely titive in trying to catch the barman's eye. A version of the John B could be heard echoing around the club on the evening. The event would not have run so smoothly t Eoin O'Donovan's support as Sailing Secretary, many t him, his team and all in the club for a huge effort that ed a great Frostbite series.

ine O'Neill, Class Captain DBSC Mermaid Class.



The Snooker season reached its Crescendo with a glittering Prizegiving dinner at the NYC on Friday April 21st, attended by Chairman Doug Stuart, Commodore Con Murphy and many other luminaries of the green baize!!!

The Ball Cup final affectionately known as The Preston Ball was won in swashbuckling fashion by Paul Barrington with Ronnie O'Donovan bringing his unique style to the match.

Neil Masterson had earlier in the season added the McWilliams trophy to his Preston Ball win of three years ago

Tim Fenlon won the Elgan Cup as well as scooping the auction pool and will shortly join the BBCs snooker commentary team – a consultancy with Paddy Power is also in the offing!

The Johnston Memorial was won for the third time by that deadly duo of Eric Cooney and Michael Sweeney edging out Paul Barrington and Frank Cassidy in a thriller.

The Louis Dillon Trophy – awarded occasionally for services to snooker – was presented to John Henry McConnell whose acceptance speech was amongst the most eloquent of the evening.

We wish to thank the Commodore for attending and taking the time to present the prizes. Our competitions Secretary Hubert Kearns would like to thank all participants for the timely manner in which they played their matches and your committee would like to encourage new members to join for next winter by placing their names in the box at the north end of the bar counter.

A successful sailing season to all and see you in the Autumn.



Hubie Kearns flanked by Johnston Memorial Doubles Winners, Eric Cooney and Michael Sweeney on right and Paul Barrington with Frank Cassidy, Runners Up on left. Paul Barrington had already won the Preston Ball.

HSS Ferry Schedule Changes

From May 2 to September 24, 2006:

Two sailings a day
Monday to Thursday
 arrive 1040 hrs, depart 1110 hrs;
 arrive 1745 hrs, depart 1830 hrs;

From May 2 to September 24, 2006:

Three sailings a day
Friday to Sunday
 arrive 1040 hrs, depart 1110 hrs;
 arrive 1530 hrs, depart 1605 hrs;
 arrive 2015 hrs, depart 2135 hrs

From 25th. September, 2006
 Thereafter Stena intend their daily service to "revert to a two-trip schedule all year round"
 arrive 1040 hrs, depart 1110 hrs;
 arrive 1745 hrs, depart 1830 hrs.



Navigator

Number 36



Most of us can recognise most of the members caught by the late Bill Nolan in his wonderful painting, now reframed and rehung in the hall, but who can name them all. Dinner for two plus a bottle of house wine to the first correct (or most nearly correct) answer opened. Entries to the Editor by Sundown June 21.

Winners of navigator 35: **Crossword A:** Jonny Philips; **Crossword B:** Jennifer Blake.



Social Calendar



A word from the Manager

Padraic Conneely

As can be seen by the before and after photographs of the kitchen a lot of work was done in just four days and we wish to thank all the contractors who worked long and unsociable hours to complete the project.



NYC kitchens, before and after ...

Blooms Day Lunch - Friday, June 16



Now established as one of the highlights of the Summer - the day will start at 1 pm with a wine reception and a hot and cold buffet, followed by readings. Lunch will be served at 1.30 pm with more readings followed by live music for the afternoon. Price €40 per person.

National Yacht Club Regatta - Saturday, June 17

4 pm-6.30 pm - Live music on the Deck with a bouncy castle and face painter for the children. Fresh strawberries, barbecue burgers and sandwiches available in the afternoon.

6.30 pm-9.30 pm - Live music in the JB Room with Tropical Storm, the most popular Band at the NYC

7 pm-9 pm - Hot food plate available in JB Room

9.30 pm-2 am - Disco

8.30 pm - Regatta Dinner - Club dining room

Tickets €50 from Managers office.

Full bar service until 2am



Balcony Bites - A Seafood Plate and the Chef's Platter



served on the balcony or in the Members Bar - Tuesday to Friday from 6 pm till 8 pm - €10

Family Barbecue Nights

- Saturdays July 1, 15 & August 5

Food and fun for all ages - commencing with an Hawaiian themed evening including complimentary garlands and grass shirts, limbo dancing competitions, surf spot prizes and a 60s 70s Disco. Barbecue will include spare ribs, chicken, pineapple melon and peach salads and lots more. Family barbecue nights will replace the Club Dinner on the above dates. Children's menu available. First gun at 6pm.



Lunch

Tuesday to Friday, 1 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.



Club Dinner

Saturdays 7.30 p.m. to 9.15 p.m.

Tie rule in Dining Room on Saturday evenings

Midweek Special Bite Menu

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 7 p.m. to 9.15 p.m.

Three course meal €28.

Sailing Suppers

Every Thursday

