

MAINSHEET

Newsletter of the National Yacht Club

Issue No. 48, September, 2007



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A TREMENDOUS PERIOD IN NATIONAL HISTORY

I briefly want to reflect on the season we've just had and the great events we have run and to express my thanks to the very many without whom the sailing would not have been possible, let alone the success it has been.

It has been a tremendous period in the history of the National Yacht Club and my flag officers and I feel every bit of effort and input put in by our members and staff has been justified by the terrific events such as the Laser 4.7 Europeans, the Dun Laoghaire Regatta, the 1720 Europeans and the Dun Laoghaire to Dingle race.

The Laser 4.7 Europeans, our first major international event since the Flying Fifteen worlds of 2003, ran for eight days from July 21-29 and had a spectacular fleet of 262 boats from 25 countries which included 11 of our own junior members. With colourful opening and closing ceremonies and a great variety of racing/weather conditions, it was a huge success and all concerned will have fond

memories of an amazing week.

The Volvo Dun Laoghaire Regatta, jointly run with the other waterfront clubs had its sailing programme disrupted from time to time by a mixture of light and heavy airs and poor visibility but the superb organisation and great shore atmosphere gave us a great regatta.

The events this year have been large, co-operative efforts with the neighbouring clubs and the support of the Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company, the Irish Sailing Association and the Irish Sports Council. Our sponsors this season, **The Dingle Skellig Hotel, Volvo, Laser Card, SLAM, The Royal Marine Hotel and Renewco Energy** have been great supporters beyond financial

support and we appreciate it.

The Clubhouse facilities and staff coped admirably well with the demands of all these events as well as the day to day Club activities and proved once again what superb facilities and staff we are fortunate to have in the National. Looking forward, we have a busy autumn both on and off the water with our usual pre-Christmas sailing and social events (book them early to avoid disappointment!) - details are always on the club website.

On the administrative front, we will be encouraging our full members to take out our new family membership option when they renew their subscriptions.

Finally, congratulations to our members who have achieved individual success during the season and my sincere thanks once again to all our volunteers for their commitment.



The poor weather this summer didn't stop our juniors from having a pretty busy and eventful programme. We ran three very successful summer courses with a record 235 participants which included minor and keelboat courses in addition to the main Junior courses.

For the first time, we had an August course due to the Regatta and the Laser Europeans and it proved very popular. So in 2007, the year of our 40th Anniversary of Junior Sailing in the National, we can safely say that it is alive and well! The Laser 4.7 European Championship was very well represented by NYC junior and cadet members – in the boys fleet, Nick Nowlan, Jack Roberts, Chris Raymond, Finn Murphy, William Byrne, Cillian Totterdell, Ben Shanahan, Kevin Hickey, Conor Mulvin and Alex Deeney and the girls fleet Jill Roy. Well done to all of them.



The National YC first Junior section rigging their new Optimists on the Club's original slipway with the East Pier car ferry terminal in the background.

Our Optimist sailors on the event circuit have been Conor Totterdell, Leo Hickey, Aisling Mc Ivor and back from their year in the States, Tadgh and Sean Donnelly, Kevin and Freya Hickey represented the NYC at the Feva European's in Dunmore East. We now have four 420 all girl teams sailing out of the National so watch

this space. Jill and Susie Roy, Megan O'Hare and Niamh Hollywood, Abby Burke and Lara Kelly, Aoife Cooney and Katie Dagg – they are all set for the 420 Connacht Championships in Spiddal in September. The addition of performance keelboat courses for our more experienced Juniors in two 1720 Sportsboats has been a huge success – a number of the participants crewed them in the four day Dun Laoghaire Regatta with the more experienced sailors winning the last two races on the Sunday!

Forthcoming events:

September Junior Series – racing in the Harbour organised by the four waterfront clubs and DBSC – 1200 start, Sunday, September 9, 16, 23 and 30. Entry form on Club website.

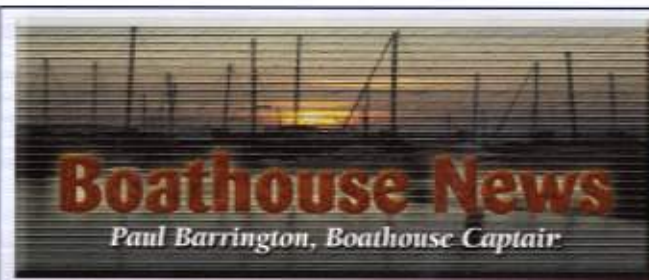
Junior Dinner and Prize Giving: Friday October 19

Optimist Sailors – End of Season Championships: October 27-28 – the last Irish Optimist event of the year is being hosted by the NYC – Main and Regatta fleet racing.

ISA Leinster Squad Training. Once again the NYC will be the base for the Leinster Laser 4.7 & Radial Squads this winter. The 420s squad training will be Lough Derg YC based for 3 weekends and at Cork for mid-term. Dates are as follows: October 20/21; October 31-November 4; November 10/11; November 17/18. This programme is open to all Laser and 420 sailors who aspire to compete at the top level nationally and internationally. More details on www.sailing.ie.

Winter Junior Race Training NYC – six Sundays, 10am-2pm from November 4-December 9 with coaching for Optimist, Topper, Feva, Laser 4.7, Laser Radial and 420 classes. This programme, run by top racing coaches, is for junior sailors who want to improve their sailing and racing skills – it is not suitable for total beginners. Entry forms on www.nyc.ie.

The 40th anniversary of the NYC Junior Section was celebrated in style at a gala reunion dinner in the Club on Friday, May 25 which brought together the majority of participants of the original courses including the first junior organisers, Carmel Winkelmann, Johnny Hooper and Paddy Kirwan. The event was organised by a committee led by Ann Kirwan and Jean Douglas and included a display of photos and articles of the 1967 course including the shot above. The National was the first Irish club to run an ISA (IYA) approved Junior Training programme and also the first Irish Club to introduce the Optimist Class.



Saturday, October 20 has been chosen as the date for the Lift Out. Once again we will require that the platform is clear at least ten days in advance of this date to allow room for the erection of yacht cradles in the week prior to the Lift Out. Once again we will require the members' cooperation in getting all dinghies off the platform for this major event. Also if you are a yacht owner and have not applied for winter parking, I would suggest that you do so immediately as space is limited as we need to maintain space for winter sailing for as many boats as possible. Meanwhile the Boathouse manpower has been an area of continuous change

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Racing events:

Junior Series – racing in the Harbour organised by the local clubs and DBSC – 1200 start, Sunday, September 9, 2012. Entry form on Club website.

Member and Prize Giving: Friday October 19

Sailors – End of Season Championships: October 27-28. An Irish Optimist event of the year is being hosted by the club and Regatta fleet racing.

Race Squad Training. Once again the NYC will be the base for Laser 4.7 & Radial Squads this winter. The 420s squad will be Lough Derg YC based for 3 weekends and at Cork for 2 weekends. Dates are as follows: October 20/21; October 31-November 1/2; November 10/11; November 17/18. This programme is open to all club members who aspire to compete at the top level nationally. More details on www.sailing.ie.

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As the sailing season draws to a close, it is worthwhile looking back on what has been an extremely busy and very successful summer for the National Yacht Club.

The club hosted a major regional Junior event, The Leinster Toppers Championships on May 19 and 20, which attracted an entry of 30 boats.

The first day on Saturday had to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. However, winds were more favourable on the Sunday, and three races were completed.

First place went to Annalise Murphy from the NYC, with second and third places taken by Philip and Simon Doran, both from Courtown Sailing Club.



Something owned by John Hall and Sue Mc Donnell of the NYC. Weather conditions were favourable for the race. However, the predominance of light winds for the earlier part of the race meant that progress was slower, and some of the fleet did not make the finish in Dingle. Line honours went to Deloitte who reached the finish at 8.50am on the Tuesday.

First overall was J109 *Aquelina* skippered by James and Sheila Tyrell from Arklow S.C. They were followed by *Legally Brunette* from the RSGYC and *White Tiger* from Kinsale Y.C. The club racing division was won by *Orna*, sailed by Philip Dilworth from our own club.

As always, the highlight of the event is the "après-sailing party" in the Skellig Hotel in Dingle. All competitors, families and friends were in high spirits at the end of this competitive but enjoyable sailing experience.

The Sigma 33 Irish Open Championships – were held in the Club from June 14 to 16. The numbers racing at 12 boats were down on previous years, but nevertheless there was very competitive racing in the fleet.

The Friday programme was cancelled due to poor weather conditions, but the PRO, Harry Gallagher, managed to get in seven races over the next two days. The event was one by the class champion, Tim Goodbody from the RIYC.

1720 European Championships – This event was held over three days from July 9 to 11. While the number of entries was low at 10 boats, it was nevertheless a resounding success, with three exciting days of racing, organised by our race officer, Jack Roy. All the competitors were fulsome in their praise of the event organisation, and the very warm welcome and hospitality they enjoyed in the National.

There was close racing throughout the event, with the final results only decided on the last day. The overall winner was Nicholas O'Leary of the RCYC, with second place going to Adam Winkleman from the NYC, and third place to UK entry *Key Yachting*, helmed by Shane Hughes.

DLCC Regatta – This major event, which was held from July 12 to 15 and which attracted 522 boats from 12 countries, was undoubtedly a huge success with great racing enjoyed by most of the classes taking part. The onshore facilities worked very smoothly, especially in our own Club, and full credit must go to our sailing manager, who ensured that everything that was needed for the race management function, was in place. The social activities were very well organised in all the clubs, and enjoyed by a large attendance of both competitors and guests.

The National had the honour of the opening ceremony on the Thursday, which was officially opened by the Minister of Education, Mary Hanafin.

National members were well represented in the honours list, with, in particular, Dave O'Gorman winning the **Flying Fifteen class** and Ann Kirwan the winner of the Ruffian fleet. Ann also won the very prestigious overall prize of **The Volvo Regatta** for the club's *White Tiger* with five straight wins. National





Awkward moment at a Leeward Gate

PHOTO: GEMMA DOUGHERTY

final entry list for this event saw 262 young sailors competing from 25 countries. The event was a huge success both for the Club and in raising the profile of youth sailing in Ireland. The event started with a low key practice race on Saturday in which competitors took the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the waters and conditions of Dublin Bay.

The racing started on the Sunday under the very capable hands of our international race officer, Jack Roy. Jack managed to get two races a day completed from the Sunday to the Friday, which was a great achievement and a credit to his race management skills.

the event and was lavish in his praise of the efforts of the National Yacht Club.



PHOTO: PAI WHELAN

An exciting start to the Laser 4.7 European Championships



PHOTO: PAI WHELAN

The Adult Sailing Training programme completed its four week course on June 29, and was definitely the most successful adult course we have run to date. Twenty enthusiastic participants took to the water in Toppers and 1720's and had excellent tuition and training from our Instructors headed up by Neil O'Hagan. As a result of this success, we scheduled a second three week course in August.

Awkward moment at a Leeward Gate



PHOTO: GWYNETH O'NEILL

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The next major event, we will be hosting is the **SB3 National Championships** from September 14 to 16. The SB3 yachts are now one of the fastest growing one-design classes in the UK and Ireland.



PHOTO: JIM WHELAN

Barry Andrews TD, Con Murphy Commodore NYC and Cllr Denis O'Callaghan at the opening of the European 4.7 Laser Championships

The ISA have again asked the National to host the **All Ireland Sailing Championships** on October 6 and 7, following on this very successful event we managed and hosted for them last year. The event will be held in the ISA's new fleet of J80s.



PHOTO: JIM WHELAN

Refreshments for the No. 1 Army Band

Our Junior Section finished the last of the three Junior sailing courses in August, which were very well organised – and the instructors had to cope with very changeable weather conditions at times.

Our Club Junior Regatta which was scheduled to take place on Wednesday, July 4, was cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. It is hoped to reschedule this event later in the season.

Blue Fleet approaching the Windward Mark



At the recent **ISAF World Championships** in Portugal, NYC Sailors, including, Claudine and Annalise Murphy and Aaron O'Grady, achieved good overall results. Claudine qualified for the Gold fleet at both this event and the subsequent Laser Europeans in Holland and Annalise achieved her best result to date with 10th place overall at the **Youth Laser Radial World Championships** in Holland in August, winning one of her races in the process. Finally, at the Irish Cruiser Racing Association (ICRA) Championships in Crosshaven in June, Eamon Crosbie and his crew on *Teng Tools* won Class 1 IRC.



NYC Juniors and participants in the Laser 4.7 Europeans – Finn Murphy, Nick Nowlan and Ben Shanahan with Minister for Education, Mary Hanafin at the event press launch in the Club.

A REMARKABLE NINE MONTHS FOR THE CLASS

The Irish RC Laser Association has continued to grow and create considerable visibility on the Irish Sailing scene. The fleet in Dun Laoghaire now numbers 26 boats with embryonic fleets in Rush, Arklow, Crosshaven as well as the other established fleet of 11 boats in Kinsale. All together there are over 60 boats in Ireland and it is hoped to organise our first National Championships in Dun Laoghaire during October 2007. The Irish RC Laser Association is affiliated as a recognised racing class with the Irish Sailing Association.

For the Laser 4.7 European Championships, racing in RC lasers was arranged for the competitors during the evenings when almost 100 sailors competed to win a new RC Laser sponsored by The Dun Laoghaire Harbour Board.





Goran Petersson, President of ISAF, addressing the opening ceremony from the NYC balcony

Each evening several hundred spectators watched, providing a noisy and boisterous background with fun for all. After two evenings and countless preliminary races, the racing culminated in a best of 3 match race final which was won emphatically by

Tiago Morais from Portugal, following a display of masterful match racing skills.

Everyone who participated and watched really enjoyed themselves and all were very impressed with reliability and ease of use of the boats. For most, it was the first time they had seen RC Lasers in action and they provided a wonderful spectacle with plenty of close racing and good humour mixed with the competitiveness to be expected from such a group of talented young sailors.

Goran Petersson, President of ISAF, the international governing body for worldwide sailing was very impressed with the boats and spent a few hours trying them out himself with 2004 Laser Olympic Bronze Medalist, Vasilij Zbogar from Slovenia.

It has been a remarkable 9 months for the class in Ireland with the omens being extremely positive for the future development of RC Laser sailing throughout the country.

GOODBYE "DOLLY"

Six composite DBSC Mermaids were built including one with a glass fibre deck for Mermaid enthusiasts Peter and Conor Cronin.

Though no performance differential with the traditional wooden boats was manifestly demonstrated over the two years of the project, rejection by a very small majority by The Mermaid Sailing Association prevented integration of these new boats into the existing all wood fleet. The emergence of the Laser SB3 as a major force in Ireland and the defection of two leading former Mermaid Champions to this new class was the final blow at attempts to revitalise the Mermaid Class with the



This photo of "Dolly" was taken downtown Manhattan after been pulled over by a traffic cop near the UN building, wondering about the number plate. You will note "Dolly" is in cruising mode with an engine bracket fitted

A decision was made not to build any more composite boats in Ireland. "Dolly" No 202, together with the hull and deck moulds, has been shipped to the United States where an enthusiastic group of traditional sailors propose to establish a fleet of DBSC Mermaids on Long Island Sound, sailing predominantly in the Hamptons.

PAMINA ARRIVES IN DUN LAOGHAIRE



Pamina at anchor in the Bay des Verges, Fatu Hiva, Marquesas Islands, French Polynesia

On 21st July, Conor O'Regan and Henrietta Senkowsky brought Pamina alongside the National Yacht Club pontoon where friends and family had gathered to welcome them back and celebrate the completion of their circumnavigation. Their arrival was marked by two gun salutes.

Since leaving Rome in 2003, they have sailed over 34,000nm, completing a west-about circumnavigation from Grenada to Grenada via Panama, New Zealand and South Africa. The voyage included crossing the Atlantic three times.

Conor and Henrietta will be giving a talk in the club early next



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With 180 Lasers filling the Club Platform, the 82 lasers of the Irish and Croatian teams were parked, with the kind permission of the Harbour Company, on the East pier during the event and launched off the lifeboat slip - an arrangement that proved to work very well



Bridge News

Ida Kiernan, Bridge Convenor

After a not so wonderful summer I look forward to welcoming all members back to our usual Thursday Bridge evenings commencing on Thursday, September 27, 2007, at 7.30pm sharp.

All members are welcome, including novices. Now is your chance to gain more knowledge and experience with the game in a very relaxed atmosphere. Give it a shot, come along any Thursday evening I will arrange a partner for you, or bring a friend.

Dates to remember

1st Bridge Evening	Thursday, September 27, 2007
Bill & Eva Nolan Memorial Trophy Pairs Competition (must pre register)	Thursday, November 29, 2007
Christmas Party & Prize giving	Thursday, December 13, 2007
Christmas Dinner	Thursday, January 10, 2008

One round of bridge followed by dinner at 9.00pm
See you on September 27.

Snooker News

It's that time of year again when we turn our attention to the green baize which becomes the centre of much activity during the non sailing season. Unfortunately as we go to print the dates for the pre Christmas competitions have not been finalised. They will be posted on Club notice boards in the hall and in the billiard room.



We have a new committee for the 07/08 season headed by chairman Dick Wharton, with John Henry McConnell, Tom Mulligan, Hubie Kearns, Tony Corcoran and John Hall completing the crew. There are plans to lay new carpet and for a general redecoration of the billiard room itself. All are welcome and we would particularly encourage new members to join in the fun.

Hubie Kearns inspects the table before this years Preston Ball final

Navigator

No. 40

Tough enough, will keep you mentally active up to Christmas. Entries to reach the Navigator before sundown December 21, 2007. As usual, the prize for the first correct one opened will be dinner for two with a bottle of house wine. The winner of Navigator number 39 was Phyllis Mombrum. Well done Phyllis.



Social Calendar



The first class facilities and excellent cuisine of the NYC Clubhouse are available to members for weddings, birthday parties, corporate meetings and entertainment – the ideal venue for special occasions.

SEPTEMBER

- Tue **11** Ladies Day Lunch,
Speaker: Anne Farrell, Colour me Beautiful
- Fri **14** SB3 National Championships
- Sat **15** SB3 Championship Dinner
- Sun **16** Family Lunch
- Sat **22** Club Dinner
- Sun **23** Family Lunch
- Thu **27** Bridge
- Sat **29** End of Season Dinner featuring the Slovak Festival Ensemble – early booking advisable €40.00pp. Time 20.30
- Sun **30** Family Lunch



OCTOBER

- Mon **1** Navigation Course – Registration 19.30
- Wed **3** Bar Table Quiz – Round 1, Time 20.30, see Club Notice Board to enter teams
- Thu **4** Bridge
- Sat **6** Helmsman's Championship Dinner
- Sun **7** Family Lunch
- Tue **9** Ladies Day Lunch
Speaker: Orla Mc Donald, Nutrition of the body
- Wed **10** Wine Supper
- Thu **11** Bridge
- Sat **13** Club Dinner with Piano music



NOVEMBER (contd.)

- Fri **9** Sigma Class Dinner
- Sat **10** Club Dinner with Piano music
- Sun **11** Family Lunch
- Toe **13** Ladies Day Lunch
Speaker: Hugo Arnold, Food Writer and Consultant
- Wed **14** Bar Table Quiz – Round 4
- Thu **15** Bridge
- Sat **17** ISORA Dinner
- Sun **18** Family Lunch
- Wed **21** Wine Supper
- Thu **22** Bridge
- Sat **24** Club dinner
- Sun **25** Family Lunch
- Wed **28** Bar Table Quiz – Round 5
- Thu **29** Bridge



DECEMBER

- Sat **1** Rear Commodores Christmas Dinner – carols, live music, mulled wine, hamper draw. Booking forms, non-voucher evening, €45.00pp
- Sun **2** Family Lunch
- Wed **5** Wine Supper
- Thu **6** Bridge
- Fri **7** Ladies Christmas Dinner
- Sat **8** Vice Commodores Christmas Dinner – carols, live music, mulled wine, hamper draw. Booking forms, non-voucher evening, €45.00pp
- Sun **9** Santa Party – Dining Room Lunch booked out. Santa will arrive at 12 noon. Bar Lunches will be served from 1pm. Booking Forms from the porters desk. Completed forms to the manager's office.
- Tue **11** Ladies Day Lunch, Christmas Flower Arranging
- Wed **12** Christmas Bar Table Quiz. Prizes for best dressed teams and lots of other novelty prizes. The quiz evening will be held in the dining room with supper served at 8pm.

