

# MAINSHEET

Newsletter of the National Yacht Club

Issue No. 49, December, 2007

## ONE OF THE CLUB'S MOST ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL YEARS



One of the most active and successful years for the National Yacht Club has been capped off with two pieces of very exciting news. The first is that the European Laser SB3 Championships to be run by the Club next September has now been upgraded to the class's first ever World Championships and without doubt, the biggest event the National has ever hosted.

This followed from the decision of ISAF in November to give the class international status and recognition by the class that Dublin Bay was an ideal place to have their first world championship. More details of the event are inside and the organising committee under its chairman, Rory Byrne, are now

busy planning and seeking both volunteers and of course sponsorship and if you are able to assist in either area, please don't hesitate to contact us.

The other exciting news is the confirmation by the Harbour company of their intention to

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Looking back on the year that has just gone by allows a certain degree of satisfaction from the Boathouse point of view. Despite a very busy summer programme and ongoing difficulties in retaining Boathouse staff, things went pretty smoothly throughout the summer. We achieved some significant successes in terms of managing a busy season of activities.

From a management point of view, thanks to Olivier's efforts, we have bedded in the systems which we have developed over the past couple of years and have, as far as we can tell, a robust management system in place for all of the Boathouse activities. The equipment has also been very reliable and has allowed us to deliver you, the members, a reliable service. Yes there are still some areas where we need to improve, but rest assured that we will work on these over the coming months with a view to strengthening our position further.

After a long day the Lift-Out was completed successfully with over 40 boats lifted and cradled on the day, once again thanks to the team for their ongoing efforts. With 40 plus cruisers on the hard, space is limited for ongoing sailing activities, however we have made a decision to leave the pontoons in the water over the winter

to support the sailing activities and free up the space that they would occupy on the platform, and we have already seen increased activity in the Clubhouse as a result. However there is still huge pressure on the available space and we plan to develop a protocol for space allocation for next winter.

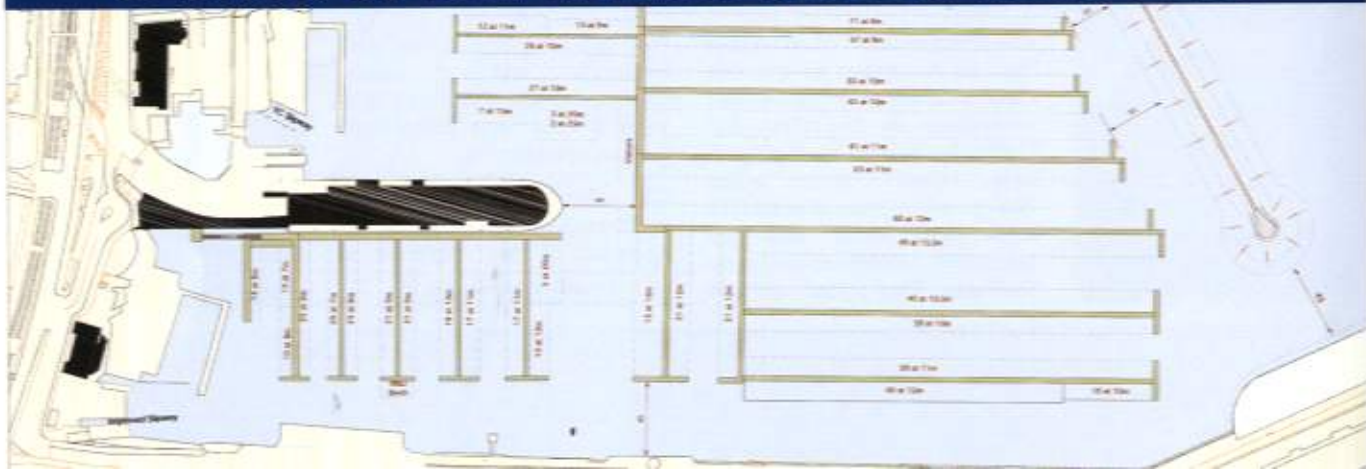
Meanwhile the outline plans for an eastern harbour marina have been published, and we can now see what the future might look like. Clearly such a development with its impact on our swinging moorings will have significant implications for the future of our Boathouse and we will also need to develop our ideas in this area over the coming years.

On the personnel front, Tony has hung up his permanent boots, but will be with us on a part time basis for a while yet, Mikal has returned to Poland for the winter but we expect him back in the Spring, and we have a new face in the form of Daniel Fitzgerald. Daniel comes with plenty of experience having worked previously at the DMYC, RStGYC and MGM. Daniel will do days Monday through Friday for the winter months, let's make him welcome.

Looking forward to next year, we expect that there will be significant pressure on the platform space as the SB3 explosion continues apace. We are holding their first ever World Championships at the Club from September 20-26, and we expect that there will be great demand from the fleet prior to this. Thus if you think you might be dry sailing a yacht in 2008, you should contact Olivier soonest.

So it just remains for me to wish you all, on behalf of us all at the Boathouse, a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year, although by the time you read this it is likely that we will be in the throes of a dark and wintry January, and memories of the holiday period will be stimulated by no more than the arrival of the festive season credit card bill!

## SECTION OF NEW MARINA DEVELOPMENT PLAN



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## DEVELOPMENT PLAN



The NYC's Junior and Youth sailing is going from strength to strength. We had a very successful Combined Clubs September Series in which we only lost one of the 4 Sundays.

The National was in the prize winners circle with:-

❖ <b>Laser 4.7</b>	<b>1st</b>	Finn Murphy
	<b>1st Girl &amp; 6th overall</b>	Eimear McIvor
	<i>with an entry of 25.</i>	
❖ <b>Laser Radial</b>	<b>3rd</b>	Nick Nowlan
❖ <b>Optimist</b>	<b>1st</b>	Leo Hickey
	<b>2nd</b>	Tadhg Donnelly
	<b>3rd</b>	Sean Donnelly
	<i>with an entry of 20</i>	
❖ <b>RS Feva</b>	<b>2nd</b>	Eoin O'Neil
	<b>5th</b>	Conor Deegan
❖ <b>Toppers</b>	<b>1st</b>	Luke O'Brien
	<b>2nd</b>	Amy Lynch
	<b>3rd</b>	William Gallagher

Well done to all our junior sailors who represented us so well!



*The Sugarloaf providing a scenic backdrop to evening racing*

We then had a short break before the ISA Leinster Squad which is based out of the National Yacht Club started on the same weekend of the lift out! We never expected to have such huge interest, there were 44 sailors who signed up to the training of which 10 are NYC juniors and cadets. This is a fantastic turn out. The training took place over three weekends, with a five day camp over the October half term. Our 420s Jill and Susie Roy, Megan O'Hare and Niamh Hollywood and Aoife Cooney are also on the Leinster Squad but their training took place in LDYC in Lough Derg. The next Leinster Squad sessions will be starting over the half term break in February with a few weekends before Easter. This is to get all the sailors ready for their first event of the season the Laser's in Baltimore and the 420s in Kinsale with the ISA Youth Nationals in Schull.

Our own winter training started on Sunday the November 4, with a great turn out of Lasers, Optimists, Fevas and Toppers we have been very lucky with the weather so far with none being blown out with two more to go we finish on December 9, hopefully bringing Santa in by sea with a formation sailing team!

Dates for our summer courses 2008 have been decided.

❖ <b>Course 1</b>	June 9-27
❖ <b>Course 2</b>	June 30-July 18
❖ <b>Course 3</b>	July 21-August 8
❖ <b>NYC Junior Regatta</b>	Wednesday, July 2
❖ <b>Optimist Training Camp</b>	February 11-15
	early booking is essential. <a href="http://www.iodai.com">www.iodai.com</a>

Topper World Championships will be in Tralee Bay Sailing Club next year July 19-25 hopefully we will have a NYC Squad representing us there.



The 2007 sailing season must rank as one of the most successful in the club's history. The club hosted no less than twelve National and European events, with the highlight no doubt being the Laser 4.7 European Championships held in July. No words of gratitude would be sufficient to recognise the huge commitment of time and effort that was put in by our many volunteers, in making all these events such a fantastic success. All I can say is a very big thank you to you all.

The most recent event hosted by the Club was the All Ireland Sailing Championships held on October 6 and 7. This event was a major success both for the ISA and our own club.

Ed Alcock, the ISA sailing manager, was highly complimentary during the prize giving ceremony on the Sunday, and praised the National Yacht Club for the high standard of the race management and all the other support functions in the Club.

The event was held in very light wind conditions over the two days, and it was a credit to the race management skills of the two principal race officers, Jack Roy and Con Murphy, that they managed to complete the series.

The new All Ireland Champion for 2007 was Stefan Hyde from the Royal Cork Yacht Club. Chris Penny from Carrickfergus Sailing Club emerged as the winner in the Junior Championship, which was sailed in laser Radials. Annalise Murphy from our own Club was placed third overall and was the winner of the girls championship.

The arrival of the ISA's "SailFleet" of eight new J80 Sportsboats was warmly welcomed by the competitors, as it permitted fully equalised boats to be sailed by every helm.

The RS Feva Team Racing event was hosted by the club on the weekend of the of October 13 and 14. The weather was very favourable for the participants with racing successfully completed on both days. Chris Craig, who was responsible for this event, expressed his satisfaction and thanks to the National for organising such a well run event.

## SB3s ARE COMING



Nin O'Leary with Eoin Leahy and Revelin Minihane aboard *Schneaty Boys* on their way to catch the first SB3 national title for RCYC.

This will be the largest one design keelboat event ever held in the country. The global interest in the SB3 class also means maximum visibility for

## 2008 EVENT CALENDAR

Event	Dates	Expected Entries
Earlybird Regatta	April 27	100
RS Feva Team Racing	April - TBC	15
Hunter Sonata National Championship	May 23-25	20
Dragon East Coast Championship	May 31- June 2	50

## SB3s ARE COMING



Leary with Eoin Leahy and Revelin Minihihane aboard Lakota Boys on their way to catch the first SB3 national title for RCYC.

is will be the largest one design keelboat event ever held in the country. The global interest in the SB3 class also means maximum visibility for

the NYC on the world stage. We will be playing host to 120 SB3's from 12 nations. The logistics of berthing alone are complex. Race management will be a challenge as we will have split fleets on two courses. Onshore the task of entertaining +20 thirsty and hungry sailors plus their friend and family for a week should keep us busy.

All in all, this promises to be a showcase event for SB3 sailors and all members of the club to enjoy. I would like to thank all members of the organising committee and the staff for the work already done and that which lies ahead. Also for those not directly involved. I appreciate your support also.

Rory Byrne, Chairman, Organising Committee

## AFLOAT/CORK DRY GIN SAILOR OF THE MONTH

Following Carmel Winkelmann's award of the Cork Dry Gin/Irish Independent/Afloat Sailor of the Month winner last February for contribution to Irish Sailing, the Club was honoured yet again in November when our Commodore Con Murphy and his wife and Club Junior Organiser, Cathy Mac Aleavey were announced as the winners for their contribution to the success of the National Yacht Club.

"The National Yacht Club in Dun Laoghaire has had the good fortune to be lead by one of the ablest duos in Irish sailing as the club develops to meet the needs of Irish sailing today. Con Murphy and Cathy Mac Aleavey are key members of a formidable organisation whose waterfront headquarters are both a local community asset and a national and international sailing centre. Con and Cathy bring an effective and quietly determined management style, and successful personal sailing experience which has included being key members of Steve Fossett's crew when they established the trimaran *Lakota's* enduring Round Ireland Open Sailing Record back in 1993."

The Irish Sailor of the Year winner to be announced in February, will be drawn from the monthly winners and we wish Carmel, Con and Cathy the best of luck then.



Con and Cathy in action in their waterwag, Molly 2.

## FRENCH NATIONALS 2007 DINARD

During the Worlds in Majorca I discussed with Christophe Bouffant from the FF15 Dinard my intention to go to the Rugby World Cup. Without hesitation he extended an invitation to stay with him. As the time drew near to firm up the arrangement Christophe advised me that the French FF Nationals were on in Dinard and he would arrange a boat for me.

My son Darren and I went to the Ireland v France match (the less said the better) and the following morning we got up at 6am to make the 4.5 hour journey to Dinard. Christophe greeted us as if I had come to pay off a large long overdue debt. The Clubs president Philippe Morvan was a true gent and gave us free registration and really made us feel welcome. Christophe had arranged a boat as promised and Pierre Salmon loaned me a jib. I was told the boat was a Witch and Copal design and was probably over 30 years old. The decks were very flexible which made hiking very comfortable. Fortunately the boat had a "new" main, which was at least eight years old. So there I was, a borrowed boat, free entry, 20°C and sunshine.

A few words on Dinard are called for. There is a 10m tide, the guys adjust their Windex from the top of the pier after launching and that is not at low tide. The area is picture

## 2008 EVENT CALENDAR (PROVISIONAL)

	Dates	Expected Entries
Regatta	April 27	100
Team Racing	April - TBC	15
Monza National Championship	May 23-25	20
East Coast Championship	May 31- June 2	50

Event	Dates	Expected Entries
RS Feam Racing	October - TBC	15
Optimist Gorman Trophy	October 4-5	50
Mermaid, Squib, FF Frostbite	Every Sun. in October	30

The Commodore report confirmed that ISORA has moved to National and the following are the proposed races for 2008 as agreed with the RAYC



NEWS

race as a way of delivering us back to Dinard. I'm not sure if this race was scheduled or not but we would have finished 3rd overall if we only counted the five windward leeward races. With that said this was by far my favourite race. It was a scenic tour all around the bay and over by St. Malo. My tactics for this race were simple, make sure you always have boats all around me and then I'm safe.

We were very pleased to finish 5th overall and win the French National Classic. We got a trophy and champagne (and a Sinead O'Connor CD). Also we got best visiting boat and another bottle of bubbly. We had 5, 2, 11, 4, 6, and 8.



'Backless 11' of NYC (helm Gareth Nolan) crossing just ahead of HYC boat Helly Hansen (helm Tom Fitzpatrick) in race two of the SB3 National Championships

I'm not sure that our win restored Irish pride after the rugby but we had great fun and have made a lot of new friend. I would encourage all FF15 especially older type boats to consider going to Dinard, to race or just eat, the food is great. To finish I would like to extend a big Merri to all at Yacht Club de Dinard

## ANNALISE MURPHY

Annalise had a fantastic season culminating in winning the ISA All fantastic Ireland Girls Championship in early October and also finishing 3rd overall.



She is on the ISAs Youth Academy, she has progressively improved throughout the season. She represented Ireland at the ISAF Senior World Championships in Cascais and then went on to sail in the Laser Radial Youth World Championships in the Hague where she finished 10th overall (winning a races during this event). Her aim is to represent Ireland at the Olympic Games in London 2012.

## OILSKINS WANTED!

Have you noticed how many big freighters now share the Bay with you? Stella Maris, the old Dublin charity, part of the work of the St Vincent de Paul, has a premises near Busaras in the city open in the evenings.



What a start! Gorman Trophy - October 30, 2007

They send a minibus to all visiting ships in the port 365 nights a year. The organiser Rose Kearney, tells us that the mariners on many of these ships often have very little and are not equipped with foul weather gear suitable for the northern waters we know; indeed Rose has seen sailors deckhands in mid winter wearing only cotton boiler suits! Rose and National Yacht Club member Chris Doorly, are now looking for your unwanted oilskins and weather gear, including fleeces, in good condition only for distribution to these poorly equipped mariners.

Please leave any items in the box provided in the changing rooms at the National Yacht Club. The collection will continue until January 31, 2008. For further information you can email

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## Bridge News

Ida Kiernan, Bridge Convenor

The first part of our Bridge season has come to an end and I would like to welcome the new members who joined in with our regular players each Thursday evening. They are a great addition to the Bridge Section. If there is other members with a little knowledge of bridge, please come along and join in the fun some Thursday evening, we really are a friendly group.

The Bill & Eva Nolan Memorial Trophy was competed for on Thursday, November 30. This is a pairs competition and was won by Irene Martin and her partner Mary Higgins, with runners up Anne Brady and her partner Helen. I am delighted that Irene and her partner won this year, as Irene is a sister of the late Bill Nolan. Congratulations to all for taking part in the competition.

The Christmas Party and prize giving will be held on Thursday, December 13. The new season will commence on Thursday, January 10, with bridge at 7.25pm sharp, followed by supper in the dining room at approximately 9.00 pm.

### Diary Dates for 2008 Bridge Season

**Christmas Dinner/New year** Thursday, January 10

*Bridge (7.25pm) followed by supper at 9.00pm*

**Franz Rothschild Memorial Trophy** Thursday, February 21

*(Individual competition)*

**Gladys Dobson Memorial Trophy** Thursday, March 13

*(Team of 4 Competition)*

**End of Season Party & Prize-giving** Thursday, April 17

The ever popular Inter-club teams of 4 competition, affectionately known as The GIN Cup (George, Irish & National) will be hosted by the National in 2008, date to be decided.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas with health and happiness in 2008.

## Snooker News

Dick Wharton, Chairman

The Snooker Season is now well in its stride with the McWilliams competition approaching the last eight. Watch out for all the black ball finishes illustrating the expertise of handicapping. The final will be played on the night of the Preston Ball Auction Dinner on Friday 11th January 2008, so make sure your winter sun or ski break does not conflict with this date. As usual, this will be the zenith of the snooker season, being the starting gun for the Preston Ball Trophy.



National and Royal St. George Snooker Teams

Meanwhile, the Johnston Memorial Doubles Trophy is underway and I ask competitors to make sure that all first round matches are played before Christmas. Come along and enjoy the "Turkey Pool" on Monday 3rd, 10th and 17th December. Hundreds of Turkey Vouchers to be won! Starting time is 8 pm and its always great fun.

We now have a new carpet and green baize which the Snooker Committee financed with help from the general Committee, so please pay your entry subscription soonest as we are not into 'sub prime' borrowing.

See you all there and Happy Christmas.

# Navigator

# No. 41

# Social Calendar



**W**e are kick starting 2008 with Ladies Day Lunches, Wine Suppers, Club Dinners, Speaker Suppers and the Bar Table Quiz – some really special, not to be missed, occasions to watch out for.

### **Fish Night & Game Dinner with Peter Caviston**

On **January 12**, head chef, Cormac Healy joins forces with **Peter Caviston** to create a special menu. *Early booking advisable.* **Poacher Turned Gamekeeper**, Peter returns on **January 26** to collaborate with Cormac again for a very special dinner of game cooking and associated condiments.

### **Journeys into the Ross Sea, Antarctica, January 17**

Supper & talk with **Jonathan Shackleton** – *Heroic Age Explorers & Recent Visitors*, Supper 8.30 pm, Talk 9.30 pm. €30.00 pp.

### **St. Valentine's Night, Thursday, February 14**

Romantic Candlelight Dinner – *live music*

### **Speaker Suppers**

**February 21** – *Round the world sailor Conor O'Regan*, Supper 8.30 pm, Talk 9.30 pm, €30.00pp, *Early booking advisable*

### **St Patrick's Day Family Luncheon – Saturday, March 15**

A great day for all the family – *free shamrock, fantastic traditional music, green beer and the very best of Irish cooking.*

### **Bar Table Quiz & Wine Suppers – Wednesdays**

Our regular **Bar Table Quiz** and **Wine Suppers** are held on alternative Wednesday nights. The Quiz final on March 19 in the Dining Room will see the top three teams going forward to represent the NYC in the **Inter Club Brains of the Bay**.

### **Commodores Tribute Dinner – Saturday, April 5**

*Black tie Dinner – pre booking from Manager's office, €50.00 pp*

### **International Rugby**

During the International Rugby season all matches will be shown on our plasma screens. *Breakfast served before all Saturday games.*

## JANUARY

continued

- Wed **23** Bar Table Quiz – *Round 8*  
 Sat **26** **Game Dinner** – *with a return visit by Peter Caviston*  
 Sun **27** Family Lunch  
 Wed **30** Wine Supper

## FEBRUARY

- Sat **2** **Rugby International:** Ireland v Italy – *see highlights*  
 Club Dinner  
 Sun **3** Family Lunch  
 Wed **6** Bar Table Quiz – *Round 9*  
 Sat **9** France v Ireland Rugby – *Big screen TVs*  
 Club Dinner  
 Sun **10** Family Lunch  
 Tue **12** Ladies day lunch – *with Chris Stuart Wine Consultant*  
 Wed **13** Wine Supper  
 Thu **14** **St. Valentines Night Dinner** *with live music from Manilla Street*  
 Sat **16** Club Dinner  
 Sun **17** Family Lunch  
 Wed **20** Bar Table Quiz round 10  
 Thu **21** Speaker Supper with Conor O'Regan – *see highlights*  
 Sat **23** **Rugby International:** Ireland v Scotland – *see highlights*  
 Club Dinner  
 Sun **24** Family Lunch  
 Wed **27** Wine Supper

## MARCH

- Sat **1** Club Dinner  
 Sun **2** **Mothers Day Lunch**  
 Wed **5** Bar Table Quiz round 11  
 Sat **8** **Rugby International:** Ireland v Wales – *see highlights*  
 Club Dinner  
 Sun **9** Family Lunch  
 Tue **11** Ladies Day Lunch – *Hands-on Swedish Massage with Anne Burgess*  
 Wed **12** Wine Supper  
 Sat **15** **St Patrick's Day Family Lunch with traditional music**  
**Rugby International:** England v Ireland – *see highlights*  
 Clubhouse will close at 8pm.  
 Sun **16** Family Lunch  
 Mon **17** Clubhouse open 12 noon to 8pm – *Bar facilities only*  
 Wed **19** Bar Table Quiz final in Dining room.  
 Sat **22** **Easter Saturday Dinner** – *with piano music*