

## October 21 Yacht Fleet Newsletter



### **Yacht Racing is Coming**

It's been a long winter in lockdown but as restrictions are easing with good vaccination numbers we can think about sailing again. With current state COVID regulations we cannot commence racing until community sport is allowed which is the Monday after we hit the 80% double vax mark which hopefully is around the end of October.

However there is no easing of restrictions for the unvaccinated over 16 until December. So if we started pointscore races etc in November, some boats and crew could not compete and would be disadvantaged for pointscore awards etc. So at this stage it is likely we will hold fun races like cobweb regattas in November on our already scheduled race days. First one is 6th Nov and first fun twilight on 10th Nov. So there will be no inshore spring series and racing proper will commence with sprint events on 5th Dec followed by the first summer inshore race on 19th Dec.

In the meantime, you can go out for a sail with up to 5 vaccinated people as long as you can obey the 4sq.m rule and only in your LGA until after 11th Oct.

### **Club News**

The board and sailing manager have not been idle while in lockdown. Spinnakers has now gone and a new catering service will commence when the club opens hopefully in early November. Upstairs will look quite different with new decor and repositioning of the restaurant. The Boatshed has already opened for takeaway coffee and food with limited hours and this will continue once the rest of the club is open. On race days sailors will continue to have exclusive use of the Boatshed as previously.

The honour boards have been updated and there is a new board for GSC superstars such as our Olympians.

Can't wait to see the new look so make sure you check it out when you can.

The Magic fleet and all the rescue boats have been overhauled and are looking magnificent. Elsie Ross even has a new engine. There is life in the old girl yet.

### **Yacht Fleet AGM**

As reported previously, we have decided to defer our AGM until 2022 and some of the current yacht committee are continuing in their roles. These are:

Yacht Captain	Penny Dilworth
Inshore Officer	Robert Swan
Offshore Officer	Bruce Thomas
Handicap Subcommittee	- Mo Goodship, Peter Walsh

Equipment Officer David Dougherty

Annual reports that were to be tabled at the AGM in June are attached below.

### **Offshore Racing**

Unfortunately, offshore racing has been hit hard by COVID restrictions and there will only be one Sydney return race to CYC this season in February. MHYC was unfortunately unable to host us for the scheduled January race. It is proposed that the February event be considered as a cruise which anyone is free to join. There is still time for a 4-5 event one day series offshore however.

### **BBIC**

The October BBIC Three Island Race has been pushed to 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in November at this stage. We think the Brooklyn Bash will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in December (this was a reserve date) and the Gosford Gallop will be in February.

Serious negotiations are underway with the Pittwater clubs so more to follow on this.

### **Safety Audits**

We have decided to continue with self-audit of your safety gear up until 31st December. An audit check list is available on the GSC website to complete this. This is due to difficulties at present obtaining required safety gear from suppliers. If you are missing anything on your self-audit you need to declare it and hopefully have everything up to standard by January. All competitors will need to have done a self-audit prior to racing.

### **Race Registration**

This will be available on the website closer to when racing commences in November.

### **Twilight BBQ Roster**

In order to keep our much loved post Twilight BBQ going, we are starting a roster to help run the BBQ. Each Twilight boat will be rostered on once a season to run the BBQ, clean-up etc.

A roster will be sent out when we know the BBQ's are restarting and who is registered for the twilight races.

### **Starter Assistance Roster**

We have been running this roster for the past 2 seasons and this will continue this season for all inshore races. Inshore boats can expect to be rostered on once a season.

See you all on the water again soon



Penny Dilworth, Yacht Captain.

## Yacht Captain Annual Report 2021

We started the season with a very light winter series which was well supported as this was in the COVID lockdown phase and no one could leave the state let alone travel overseas. Everyone was very grateful to get out of the house and get on the water anyway.

This was followed by the COVID regatta renamed from Cobweb regatta to kick off the season.

The Spring season followed and we welcomed 2 new boats to the fleet Twilight and Sweet Chariot, which made 22 boats racing regularly on weekends. Both were on a steep learning curve throughout the season. Two races were abandoned due to foul weather during the spring series.

La Nina was having significant effects and we actually had a whole summer series without one northeast sea breeze.

Sadly the Spring season could not be held for the offshore races as we were still subject to zone restrictions and couldn't leave Brisbane Water. This also led to a postponement of the first BBIC race as well.

Twilight races remain well supported and many lovely evenings were had on the water. We all enjoy the theme nights as well as the junior and lady skipper races. The casual BBQ in the boatshed after the twilight is also much better for socialising, bragging and exaggerating.

Of the interclub events we have been well represented. Up to 12 boats have been competing in the BBIC races and we have retained the trophy again. Next year may be tougher as boats from RPAYC have asked to join the fleet.

5 boats also made the trek to Port Stephens this year after the event had to be cancelled last year. The sailing is fantastic and very competitive but our boats only managed to finish mid way in their fleets.

I would like to thank all those yachts' crews who fulfilled their duties assisting the starters this season. This will continue next season. There may also be occasions when the rostered yacht crew may not be able race on their rostered day as they may be required to help with mark laying and other race officer duties if the race team is short. They would then be awarded average points while on club duties.

Several of our yachts have had interesting encounters with the rogue rock off Pt Frederick. Our Commodore has been in close communication with Maritime Services over this rock. Divers have been down and found the pile of 4 large rocks (probably originally ballast off a long forgotten boat), surveys done and they are now mulling over what to do about it. In the meantime I would highly recommend staying a good

20 meters from the Pt Frederick markers until some resolution is reached, especially at low tide.

Lastly I would like to thank all those who have made our yacht racing possible. Our Sailing Manager, Commodore and Club President have been doing everything from running the bar to running the races and my yacht committee have also been a great support and I thank those who are now standing down for all their service to our sport.

## Gosford Sailing Club

### Inshore Officer's Report 2020 – 2021

Gosford Sailing Club was able to offer a full season of inshore racing for all entrants in the various series.

This was due to the hard work of Peter Walsh, Penny Dilworth and Paul Gulliksen, keeping everyone

informed of any necessary changes as the Yacht Committee worked through another season with COVID

restrictions involved.

A big thank you has to be extended to all our volunteer race officials who we rely on to make our yacht

racing possible. Our starters, crew assistants on a rotational basis, race officials, equipment auditors and

all who supported our yacht racing. We hope that you will continue to support yacht racing as we look

to the next season.

We have successfully completed an Inshore Spring Series and Inshore Summer Series leading to our

Overall Inshore Champions. Also there has been a Winter Series, Sprint Series, Twilight Series, Legends

Regatta, Australia Day Regatta, Junior Skipper's Race, Lady Skipper's Races and a Night Race included in

this year's calendar. This calendar gave plenty of choice for skippers and their crew to become involved.

All place getters were acknowledged during our presentation evening, along with the crew nominations

and category winners. Presentations were also made on a weekly basis for the Twilight Series, which

were a great social occasions for crew to get together and celebrate their achievements.

Congratulations to all Volunteers, Skippers and Crew for a great season.

Yacht of the Year – Manly Office – John Sprague

Winter Series – Div 1 African Queen Jan Muysken Div 2 Lyleetea Gary Sinclair

Inshore AMS - Rascal Peter Walsh

Inshore PHS – Div 1 Devil's Lair Paul Gulliksen Div 2 More Fun Denis Critchley

Inshore Sprint – Div 1 Manly Office John Sprague Div 2 Swagman Michael Alsop

Twilight –Div 1 Animal Farm David Rowe Div 2 Van Demon Craig Hammond Div 3 Sinaed John Barker

Australia Day Regatta Div 1 Manly Office John Sprague Div 2 Goodiwindi Julie McGuigan

Night Race – Elusive Spirit Robert Swan

Legends Regatta - Julie McGuigan