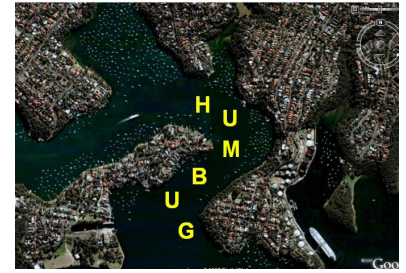


Greenwich Flying Squadron

*e - Humbug*

*Members' Newsletter*

**October 2008**



Clubhouse: Bay Street Wharf, Greenwich. PO Box 5092 Greenwich 2065. Phone/FAX 9436 1901.

Web Site: [www.gfs.org.au](http://www.gfs.org.au)

Saturday: Keelboat Racing - Mixed Divisions and Etchells' Class

Sunday: Sabot and Laser Classes – Winter Races

Keelboat Cruising Division.

## *Editor's Comment.*

The 2008-2009 sailing season is well on its way with the weekend races in full swing. Lately the twilight fleet has also been inspected and skippers briefed ready for the first race 8 October due to a welcome extension of daylight savings.

There are a few reminders in this Humbug including there are still some that have not paid their memberships and some that have yet to have the boat inspection. We are a friendly and accommodating club, but is it really fair on those who volunteer their time to expect that they should bend over backwards for tardy members?? I personally don't think so, and note that the club will be less lenient this year!

With new boats coming into divisions and others with hulls cleaned and crews keen to optimize the sail trim, we expect competitive while fair racing and wish everyone an excellent season.

Johan Brinch

Dolphin II

Contributions welcome to

[gfshumbug@bigpond.com](mailto:gfshumbug@bigpond.com)

## *Commodore's Cockpit.*

(Excerpt from email sent to members from Martin in the beginning of September. *Ed*)

### ***Other Reminders***

Please always use fenders on our new pontoon. We have put permanent fenders on the pontoon for dinghies, Lasers and Sabots and to protect the Pontoon however you should also use your Fenders when coming alongside.

The Pontoon is for Drop-offs and Pick ups. Be ready to depart immediately should another club member want to come alongside. You should tie in the gap if staying for a while.

Please - no keel boats at the club on Sunday afternoon as the kids and Lasers should be given a fair go.

Prizes (Stainless Coasters / Trophies) for last season and the previous season which have not been collected are laid out at the club on the side-board. Please drop by to collect them.

If you are an unfinancial member you will not receive any further communication from the club after this email. Should you wish to remain a member of the club please pay your subs immediately as they were due by 30 June 2008.

I have attached the full sailing program to this email and the safety audit form in case you have misplaced the copies we mailed. Other documents you might need is at "Information" on the Website [www.gfs.org.au](http://www.gfs.org.au)

September is a big month at the club and I really look forward to seeing you all over the next few weeks. (and on behalf of Martin let us have a great 2008 – 2009 season. *Ed*)

Martin Sheppard

True Colours

### ***Membership Status.***

Thank you to all who have paid their annual fees so promptly, however, there are still many that have not renewed, perhaps this is because they do not intend to but I suspect that it is because many have put the renewal forms in the drawer thinking they would do it later. All those who have not paid this years subscription please do so as soon as possible and please don't forget to sign the back of the form.

Roger Gee

Membership Secretary

## *Sailing Secretary's note.*

A reminder that the 2008-2009 sailing instructions and the programmes (*Ed*)

pH

Flair

### ***Safety and Risk Management***

(Contribution prior to the weekend of 27 – 28 Sept. *Ed*)

The 2008/2009 sailing season is almost upon us. The first Twilight Race is two weeks this Wednesday and a fleet of over 70 boats is indicated by the membership payments received to date.

On 28 August 08 a total of 20 boats was safety audited, meaning that there are over 50 boats to be presented this Saturday and Sunday. Even with all available auditors this is a large task and we ask for your cooperation and patience so that we can get everyone through. Please present your boat with the papers and with all the equipment laid out. This minimises the time taken which is in everyone's interest.

Don't forget to present a copy of a current insurance certificate.

No audit, no points!! So make sure your boat is there on the weekend.

Rod Stewart

(About 40 boats were audited on the last weekend in September leaving at least 10 boats which are likely to want to race. Ed)

## *Twilights - "the good times just got extended!"*

### **Dear Twilighters**

It is time to scrape those bottoms, unfurl those sails and make sure all is ship shape....for the "Twilights" are upon us.

With Daylight saving being extended our race calendar has been lengthened and our entrée series has been removed.

The up and coming series is poised to be one of the best ever. Building on the strengths of the past series we have included extra races, tweaked the menu, the wine lists and included new course boards.

To help with your preparation for the upcoming season we have set out below the key information that you and your crews are likely to require.

Sailing instructions, courses and racing calendar

The sailing instructions, courses and the racing calendar will be presented after your safety audit. Season Program and Sailing Instructions can be found on the club website at [www.gfs.org.au](http://www.gfs.org.au). The key dates for each series are as follows:

Daylight Saving commences	5 October 2008
Spring Series commences:	8 October 2008
Summer series commences:	10 December 2008
Autumn series commences:	4 February 2009
Last Race	1 April 2009
Daylight Saving Ends	5 April 2009

### **Safety checks**

Safety audits were carried out on the 23 August and 27 & 28 September. To date we still have a number of boats that have not had been audited. We just want to remind skippers wishing to race that an audited Special Regulations Equipment Compliance Form accompanied with Insurance must be lodged with the club before the Fourth race of the first series sailed in the current series. Failure to do so will result in no points being awarded in the respective boats point score.

Skippers who require to have their boats audited will have to contact either the clubs Safety Officer Rod Stewart or one of the Committee members to arrange an audit.

## Skippers briefing

A Twilight skippers briefing was held on the 30 September at 7:30pm at the club. Attendance was strong with 45-50 skippers and crew. For those who missed it, it was an excellent evening. Our Guest speaker Lister Hughes from the YA with over 25 years of rules expertise took us on a journey which covered many of the fundamental rules and also the new rules which will come in force from January 1, 2009.

We cannot emphasise strongly enough that everyone who is looking to sail the twilights should attend these evenings.



## ***Twilight Team***

We are fortunate to have kept much of the team that made last season such a success including;

Starters – Fiona Robertson and Elizabeth Nash

Caterers from Double D café – Deb, Dee and Tani

Start buoy setters- John Wood & Hans Kannegieter

Social Secretary – Ross Taylor

Handicap setter – Harvey Porter

Auditing – Rod Stewart

Duty Roster co-ordinator – Hans Kannegieter

General fix-it man and computer operator – Harvey Porter

## ***Food and Wine***

Our new Social Secretary Ross Taylor has been putting a lot of thought into tweaking parts of our menu. One of the developments is tweaking the wine list and introducing fish on the menu (which will probably require its own hotplate). We are also looking at better presentation bowls for the Salads.

We will also keep you posted on developments for the clubs social nights.

## ***Duty Crew***

Despite the wonderful catering work carried out by Double D café, we still need the support of duty crews each Wednesday. Ciprianni has kindly offered to be the Duty Crew for the first race of the Spring Series. Firefly has kindly offered to do the second week of the series. After these two weeks a duty roster will be available on the web prior to the start of racing. On the week that you and your crew are rostered, you will be needed between about 8:30pm and 10pm. The duty crew is responsible for:

- Assisting the catering crew
- Scraping, cleaning and stowing BBQ's
- Empty and rinse the counter bins
- Ensure tables & chairs are stowed
- Turn off deck lights and all internal lights
- Stow the flag & furl the outside blind
- Lock all the doors and activate the alarm

If a few stragglers wish to stay late, then complete what you can and then nominate an individual to oversee the lock-up.

## ***Courses***

This season's main change to the Twilight courses will be that each Division will have their own course board designated in their own colour.. In summary, Red Division will sail on the Red Board and course. White Division will sail the White Course, Green Division will sail the Green course and Blue Division on the Blue Course. Representatives from each division will confer on race nights, and after taking account of the conditions, will select a course. The courses will be displayed on the red, white, green and blue boards out the front of the club.

## ***Divisions & handicapping***

A lot of work is going on behind the scenes to determine the divisions and handicaps for the 2008/9 season. We are acutely aware of the sensitivities around divisions and the importance of keeping

boats that enjoy racing together in the same divisions. However, the primary concern of the club is safety and we are looking carefully at the number of boats in each division.

At this stage, except for a few minor changes, we anticipate running with the same divisions as last season, however we are tracking the divisions as the membership fees come in and we will make a final decision on the divisions two weeks before the Entrée series. Please check the web page prior to the start of racing.

### ***Division Colours***

Division colour backstay flags are to be displayed whilst racing. It certainly helps make it clear what division boats are racing in and can avoid unnecessary race tactics against boats not in the same division. For those boats who require one, they are available from the office.

### ***Membership fees and insurance cover***

A significant number of members have not yet paid their current year membership fees. Members must be financial and have provided the club with a copy of insurance papers evidencing liability cover of at least \$10m, to be eligible to race.

### ***Participation and volunteers***

GFS has a fantastic format for Twilight racing and our club benefits from the extraordinary generosity of individuals who give time and energy to club matters. To make this season the best season yet please support the team on Wednesdays, particularly the catering staff, starters and duty crew.

### ***Final note***

I will do my best to provide you with regular updates in Humbug but should you have any questions or concerns in relation to Twilights please do not hesitate to contact me. Everything is shaping up well for a great season of racing and socialising. Every Wednesday during the twilights I constantly remind myself..... "It doesn't get any better than this....." See you on the water.....

Regards

Michael Armati

Twilight Captain

## ***Sabots - Update***



GFS Sabots have gotten the 0809 season off to a great start. The first race of the season was a great spring day with plenty of sun and light winds. It was good to see the cobwebs dusted off the boats and the happy faces of kids on the water. We had 11 starters on the day but there were a number of new starters interested in having a go and it looks like the club will have at least 22 active sabots. However with a number of other people expressing interest we could see the full complement of 24 boats active this season.

Week two wasn't so great with variable light to strong westerlies and only a few attendees on a day that couldn't make up its mind between cold rain and sun. 5 boats ventured out in the challenging conditions.

This week sees a number of our boats participating in the Sabot Association Zone training day at Lane Cove 12 foot skiff club, hopefully this will help our sailors to continue to progress and improve.

Rich Imlay.

## *Members' Contributions*

As the start of the new sailing season approaches, there are some changes to the twilight fleet as yachts come and go. There is a rumour a club member is bringing a super-fast 40 footer to the club which at the time of writing is en-route from Adelaide. Our commodore Martin Sheppard will no doubt be looking to do well in his new Benny 36.7 'True Colours'. Sal Ridulfo's new Benny 40.7 'Nerone' will also be contesting to take the Blue Division line honours crown, the spot left open due to the sale of the J/109 'Sweet Chariot'. Ray and Sandra Entwistle's 'Sweet Chariot' will be missed, the stunning 35foot J/109 winning every race but one for the past two twilight seasons. 'Sweet Chariot' has continued her winning ways at her new home in Cronulla. Watch out for her replacement, the impressive J/122 due in November. Another club member also has a J/122 arriving in the New Year. No doubt this is when the Blue Division line honours race will begin in earnest.

Ray Entwistle

Rosalie Lucas

## *Junior Sailing.*

Useful information can be obtained from the following websites:

<http://www.gfs.org.au>

<http://www.sabot.com.au>

<http://www.sabot.au.com>

*GFS Web Site:* [www.gfs.org.au](http://www.gfs.org.au)

It is important to regularly check the club web site. There are results to check, club information, rosters, and warnings of up-coming events.

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