



Greenwich Flying Squadron

e - Humbug

Members' Newsletter

August 2010



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

Web Site: 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.

As written by our Twilight Captain the 2010 – 2011 season is only 8 weeks away, and the Saturday races start in less than two weeks!

It's time to get the boats in order in readiness for the programme our club is offering to our membership.

The AGM was held showing evidence that the club is in good shape, and with the reelection of most of the previous committee from last year all is in place for another successful year for GFS. A thanks for the contributions to those who left the committee and a welcome to the new members.

Also thanks to those who helped make this year's winter series a success.

This issue as can be expected focuses on the preparation for the coming season. In order to race we must ensure that the boats are up to the minimum standard required for inshore races (category 7) and that the skippers know the racing rules and our sailing instructions. Remember that in the final analysis the buck stops with the skippers who are responsible for the conduct on the water and the safety of the crew. So know the rules, hone up on the skills and above all play it safe.

And please remind me again, what is the trick to sailing cleanly through Humbug??

Johan Brinch
Dolphin II

PS: Please check your shelves for any 'perpetual' trophy required by GFS for awarding annually at either dinghy or yacht prizegiving; it would be appreciated if perpetual trophies could be returned to clubhouse by end September.

Working Bee



The perfect day for a successful working bee seeing a range of club improvements.

Commodore's Cockpit.

Behind the scenes at the Club we are gearing up for the start of the new sailing season. The necessary licences are in place and we are sorting out the range of arrangements that are required for the season to commence. As much as possible we try to prepare without burdening Club members but for some things we need your co-operation:

- It will help us to organise the divisions if Twilight sailors complete their renewal forms and pay their subs promptly.
- We ask all members to get their safety audits done on the appointed days, 21 August, 18 September and 26 September. We have picked these dates to provide both Saturday and Sunday audits and a range of dates for members who are away or otherwise cannot make it on one of the dates. Mark your diaries now

to make sure you don't miss these audit dates. Don't forget your proof of insurance when you come.

- The Skippers Briefing/Rules night is on 29 September. The Skippers Briefing covers Saturday and Twilight sailors, although Saturday sailors have already had material from Phil Hare. We are proposing to make new keys to the Clubhouse available at that meeting.
- Saturday sailors should be aware that the season starts on 28 August.
- You will be receiving a new Safety and Emergency Plan for emergencies that arise during races. This provides telephone numbers and information for skippers or anyone managing an emergency. Familiarise yourselves with what is in the plan and keep it on the boat at all times.

As I write this I am sitting down on the Clubhouse deck after the working bee. The club looks great. Thank you to the people who gave up their time on Saturday to help. The new Committee has already had its first meeting and has decided that new keys are to be issued and that no new boats over 40 feet long are to do Twilight races this season, although this does not affect boats that raced Twilights last season.

We were able to report at the AGM another profitable year: the Club has met its target for a prudent reserve and we have not needed to raise fees for this year. Following the AGM we have a new Committee as follows:

Commodore:	Gordon McGrath
Vice Commodore/Liquor Licensee:	Geoff Lucas
Rear Commodore/Sailing Secretary:	Phil Hare
Rear Commodore: Junior Sailing:	Richard Imlay
Rear Commodore/Twilight Captain:	Michael Armati



Most of most of the GFS committee for the 2010 – 2011 season.

Treasurer:	Mark Rhodes
Secretary/Public Officer:	Lisa Craig
Assistant Secretary/Webmaster:	Harvey Porter

Safety Officer:	Rod Stewart
Social Secretary:	Maree van Bellen
Membership Secretary:	Roger Gee
Clubhouse Manager:	Gary Mulligan
Humbug Editor:	Johan Brinch

Al McIver and Sandra Entwistle are taking a well-deserved rest. Gary Mulligan has taken over Clubhouse management duties and Lisa Craig has taken over the roles of secretary and public officer. Feel free to raise any issues you may have with any of us.

We are all looking forward to another great sailing season.

Regards

Gordon McGrath
Commodore

Sailing Secretary's Report

The Winter Series progressed well and the fleet, sailing in three divisions, has experienced some good sailing conditions albeit a little chilly. The series results are shown in the tables below. Again the 'Twilight Girls' have ensured the starts are perfectly timed. We were using the 'extended' start line between the GFS flag mast and the flag pole on the Sea Scouts shed across the river.

Congratulations to all.

Etchell										
Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Race 6	Race 5	Race 4	Race 3	Race 2	Race 1
1	98	WGARA	Malcolm Blomfield	11	1	4.0F	1	[8.0C]	2	3
2	286	Joka	Pat Nash	11	2	4.0F	2	2	1	[4.0]
3	302	Serendipity	Richard Joy	19	8.0C	[8.0C]	4	3	3	1
Etchell (Handicap)										
Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Race 6	Race 5	Race 4	Race 3	Race 2	Race 1
1	98	WGARA	Malcolm Blomfield	12	1	4.0F	3	[8.0C]	1	3
2	286	Joka	Pat Nash	14	2	4.0F	2	[5.0]	2	4
3	302	Serendipity	Richard Joy	21	8.0C	[8.0C]	4	4	3	2
White Division										
Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Race 6	Race 5	Race 4	Race 3	Race 2	Race 1
1	4579	Out of Africa	Harvey Porter	15	6	[7.0F]	1	3	3	2
2	2501	Beware of the Dog	Terry Daly	16	2	[7.0F]	4	1	4	5
3	6334	Shemozzle	Hayward Clune	17	5	[7.0F]	6	4	1	1
Red Division										
Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Race 6	Race 5	Race 4	Race 3	Race 2	Race 1
1	6325	Zig Zag	David Ashton	9	3	1	2	2	[8.0C]	1
2	1531	Flair	Phil Hare	15	2	2	1	8.0C	[8.0C]	2
3	143	Waterhound	Ralph Pickering	26	8.0C	8.0C	8.0C	1	1	[8.0C]



Season 2010 – 2011.

Planning for the 2010-2011 Season is well underway and information is available on the web and sent in August. Please be aware that there are always changes to both Sailing Instructions and Courses so take the time to read them carefully.

One most important date is the Safety Inspection Date for Saturday and Down Harbour Competitors.

Date - Saturday 21st August from 9.00am at the club. (Maybe also a Federal election – we set our date first!)

Please make every effort to be present. When you present for your inspection please have the equipment listed as mandatory laid out for the auditor. Pay particular attention to fire extinguishers (age and/or test dates), medical kit requirements and anchor sizes. The current Category 7 form can be downloaded from the GFS website. Complete your check BEFORE having an auditor inspect your boat. Any discrepancies need to be remedied BEFORE you race.

Inspections for Twilight competitors will be held later (September 18 and 26)

Racing Rules

We should always be aware of the rules which govern our sport. Sometimes it is a little difficult to see how a rule is intended to apply. The **ISAF CASE BOOK** gives interpretations of rules from THE RACING RULES OF SAILING 2009 – 2012 which have been the subject of protest hearings. The cases are authoritative interpretations and explanations of the rules for racing and relate to specific findings of actual protest hearings which have been submitted to the ISAF. It is worth a look -

[http://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/CaseBook20092012with2010changes-\[8229\].pdf](http://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/CaseBook20092012with2010changes-[8229].pdf)

Aquatic Licence

We only have permission to race when we have an aquatic licence from NSW Maritime. It stipulates many conditions with which we must abide. Issues such as keeping clear of commercial vessels (especially ferries), private moorings and safety briefings are highlighted. Please make sure you take notice of the information sent and or presented by the club regarding these requirements.

Equipment Update for 2010 – 2011 Cat 7 only

Modification to the items listed in the '2009 – 2012 'Blue Book' include the following items.

Lifelines	Moulded coverings prohibited
	Lanyards must be replaced annually
Wire diameter specified LOA	< 8m 3mm
	8.5 – 13m 4mm
	> 13m 5mm
Buckets	Required volume reduced to 8L
Petrol Tanks	Inboard tanks permitted for outboards (Inboard tank rules apply)
Fire Extinguishers	All must be rated 10BE
	First service 2 years after manufacture
Fire blanket	only if cooking facilities
Flashlight	spare battery and bulbs not required for Cat 7
PFDs	Equivalent overseas standards acceptable
	All types (1,2,3) including Mae West acceptable

PFDs.

The new standard to be known as AS4758 will replace current standards AS 1512, 1499 and 2260.

Under the new standard PFDs will no longer be referred to as 'Types', eg, Type 1 or 2 etc, but will be classified by 'Levels'. The Levels will be basically in accordance with international standards related to the buoyancy characteristics expressed in newtons (N). This is the designation 'N', eg, 150N.

The Levels proposed in the standard are;

Level 275 - Offshore where the person is carrying significant body weight or equipment or clothing.

Level 150 – General Offshore and rough weather

Level 100 – Sheltered waters where rescue is expected

Level 50 – For competent swimmers close to shore with rescue facilities close at hand.

Note: AS1512 required PFDs to have a minimum 80N floatation force.

YA, as from 1/July 2009, required all NEW PFDs for use in category 1 to 4 races to be branded to Level 150 or above. As from 1/July 2011, **ALL** PFDs carried in category 1 to 4 races **must** be branded to Level 150 or above. International Standards such as EN 396 are acceptable provided they are branded to 150N or higher.

YA has not yet determined which Levels will apply under the draft Australian Standard for categories 5 to 7 and for Off the Beach boats (Sabots, Lasers) . Until YA issues a regulation, AS Types 1 or 2, including



the over the head, mae west type, will continue to be acceptable in categories 5 to 7. But ask yourself, 'The mae west is great below decks when stored but is it the most comfortable and easiest to wear and work the boat?'

'Over the head' type also referred to as 'mae west' types are not permitted in yacht racing for categories 1 to 4 in the YA regulations which commenced on 1/July 2009.

Cheers

pH
Flair

Twilights - "Good evening everyone..."

Dear Twilighters

I know it is hard to imagine but it is less than eight weeks till our first race.

Once again it is my great honour to be your Twilight Captain. 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.

The key dates are as follows:

Twilight Series				
All Twilight Races will start and finish at the clubhouse.				
Twilight Spring and Autumn Series will be sailed in five (5) Divisions. The start sequence will commence at 1740 hours. Coloured boards indicate the course to be sailed by each division. Blue Division will sail the blue course, White Division and Yellow Division will sail the white course if no Yellow Board is showing, Green Division the green course and Red Division will sail the red course (see Sailing Instruction 10 - Courses and Course Signals).				
The Summer Series will be a Handicap Start Series. Handicaps will be communicated prior to the start of the series.				
Year	Month	Date	Event	Other Information
2010	August	14	Working Bee	Clubhouse from 0900
		18	Safety Audits	These are the only dates – all yachts must comply from 0900
		26	Safety Audits	
	September	29	Skippers' Meeting	Clubhouse from 1930 & Bar Open
		3	Daylight Saving Commences	
		6	Spring Race 1	Sausage sizzle & Members fridge
		13	Spring Race 2	BBQ and Bar Open
		20	Spring Race 3	BBQ and Bar Open
	October	27	Spring Race 4	BBQ and Bar Open
	November	3	Spring Race 5	BBQ and Bar Open

		10	Spring Race 6	BBQ and Bar Open
		17	Spring Race 7	BBQ and Bar Open
		24	Spring Race 8	BBQ and Bar Open
	December	1	Spring Race 9	BBQ and Bar Open
		8	Summer Race 1 - Start TBA	BBQ and Bar Open
		15	Summer Race 2 - Start TBA	BBQ and Bar Open
		22	Summer Race 3 - Start TBA	Sausage sizzle & Members fridge
		29	Christmas Break	
	2011	5	Summer Race 4 - Start TBA	Sausage sizzle & Members fridge
		12	Summer Race 5 - Start TBA	Sausage sizzle & Members fridge
	January	19	Summer Race 6 - Start TBA	BBQ and Bar Open
		26	Summer Race 7 – Australia Day Regatta Race - Start TBA	BBQ and Bar Open
	February	2	Autumn Race 1	BBQ and Bar Open
		9	Autumn Race 2	BBQ and Bar Open
		16	Autumn Race 3	BBQ and Bar Open
		23	Autumn Race 4	BBQ and Bar Open
	March	2	Autumn Race 5	BBQ and Bar Open
		9	Autumn Race 6	BBQ and Bar Open
		16	Autumn Race 7	BBQ and Bar Open
		23	Autumn Race 8	BBQ and Bar Open
		30	Autumn Race 9	Sausage sizzle & Members fridge
	April	3	<i>Daylight Saving Ends</i>	

Twilight Series races are sponsored by – MacDiarmid Sails, Waterbrook, Access Mobile Solutions and Sydney Boat Sales.

Safety checks

There are three officially listed Safety Audit days. The first is the 21 August 2010 (from 0800 Hrs). The second and third are the 18 September 2010 and 26 September respectively (from 0900 Hrs). I would encourage all who are looking to participate in this year's twilights and who require a Safety Audit to attend. Skippers wishing to race must have an audited Special Regulations Equipment Compliance Form accompanied with proof of insurance. Failure to do so will result in no points being awarded in the respective boats point score.

Skippers briefing

The twilight skipper briefing is 29 September 2010 (from 1930 – Bar Open). We are looking again to have our guest speaker Lister Hughes from the YA take us through the rules. We will brief him that we would like the focus to be on our courses, rights around the islands, starts and safety on the water.

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

Twilight Team

There are always roles vacant for those who would like to assist with the running of the Twilights. If you are interested please do not hesitate to contact me;

Starters – Eliza and Emma (Yet to be confirmed)
Caterers from Double D café – Deb & Dah
Start buoy setters- Yet to be confirmed
Social Secretary – Maree Van Bellen
Handicap setter – Harvey Porter
Auditing – Rod Stewart
Duty Roster co-ordinator – Yet to be confirmed
General fix-it man and computer operator – Harvey Porter

Food and Wine

We are fortunate that Maree Van Bellen (Soul Sister) has kindly taken on the role as Social Secretary again. It is a privilege to have her on board. We are looking to continue with the same successful format as last year.

Maree, who has been well supported by Janessa and the crew of Soul Sister, have been largely instrumental in the success of our last two Social nights. I am sure we are all looking forward to what they have in store for us this year. We will 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. 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

The courses have been revised dramatically this year. Harvey is just making the final adjustments to them. Please keep an eye out for these changes.

Divisions & handicapping

We are still waiting on a number of memberships to be paid until we can finalise the divisions for the 2010/11 season. The addition of the Yellow Division last season has proved to be a success and we will continue to run with this format.

Starts

Last season also saw the introduction of the starting procedure with flags at 5,4,1 then sound signal to start. This also seemed to work well and we will continue with this. Please refer to your sailing instructions for more information.

Handicapped Starts

There has been much discussion on the merits of a handicapped start. The club as a whole has voted and a majority have indicated that they would like to give it a try. As such we will try handicapped starts only for the Summer Series. If it is clear after the first week that it is a disaster then we will revert to our standard starting procedure. Spring and Autumn Series will remain as scratch starts.

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, boat audit and insurance cover

We are going to be tough this year. No membership fees, safety audit and insurance - then no racing. Every year we provide ample opportunity for Members to attend our safety audit days. 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.

Housekeeping

Parking at the club has always been an issue as many would like to park as close to the club as possible. Unfortunately the nature of Bay Street is such that it narrow and has limited turning points. The area behind the club house must be kept clear at all times for Ambulance and Emergency services. Enjoy a short walk. Please park your cars sensibly in adjacent streets and not across the driveways of residents. Happy neighbours are friendly and supportive neighbours.

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 at the club or via my email at gfstwilight@bigpond.com .

Everything is shaping up well for an exciting season ahead. Every Twilight I constantly remind myself..... "It doesn't get any better than this....." "Does it?"

" See you on the water....".

Regards

Michael Armati
Twilight Captain

Sabots - Update



Sabot sailing starts on September 6 and it has been pleasing to see that several boats have undergone some form of winter maintenance in preparation for the season. This season we are intending to race our senior sabots on some longer courses potentially both in the river and also on the other side of humbug. We will also be participating in the revitalised "Rivers Trophy" which will be hosted by Hunters Hill sailing club in early December. This will see GFS, Hunters Hill, Lane Cove and Drummoyne sabots racing for the trophy with a BBQ at the Hunters Hill club afterwards....so we had better start learning the rules of sailing as our competitors surely know them and expect that you will too!

Rich Imlay.

Safety Audits

Yes! It's that time of year again. With the season about to start the time to get organised for racing is now.

Whichever type of racing you intend to do, you must have a current safety audit at the appropriate level. If you don't have an audit you are not able to race, as it says on the website!

The first audit day is Saturday August 21st, so get your vote in and then bring the boat to the pontoon. We will be starting early so if you are an early riser get there before the crowd. The next audits are in September, in time for the Twilights.

Every year we ask skippers to get out all the gear so it's in open view, and of course you would have checked that everything is there; the idea of this is to do each audit in the minimum time so show your consideration for other members and get your gear organised.

Read the material on lifejackets too. Note that this is the last season under the "old" rules and new PFD's will be required for next season, based on flotation capability endorsed on the jacket.

Happy sailing!!

Rod Stewart

Membership Secretary's Report

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The membership year for GFS starts on the 1st July and we encouraged all members to pay their subscription by that date. I thank all those that made an effort to have their fees transferred by that date, however, there are still a lot of members who have not as yet paid. Can I request all those who have been holding off till the temperature gets a bit warmer and started to think about sailing again to please attend to this matter as soon as possible.

Direct transfer seems to be very popular but several members have transferred their money without mentioning who it is from. This makes it very difficult to credit your membership to you. If someone transferred money on the 8th July and they think they may not have put their name on it could they please email me on rogergee@bigpond.net.au

Happy sailing

Roger Gee

Membership Secretary

Cruising Division

Looking forward to cruising in the 2010 – 2011 season.



Images from the Easter cruise 2010 to Halletts Beach as a reminder of what's to come.

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

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

GREENWICH FLYING SQUADRON
INC.

Bay Street, Greenwich NSW
2065

HOUSE POLICY

When our restricted licence permits the club to serve alcohol, Greenwich Flying Squadron Inc. has a policy to serve patrons in a responsible, friendly and professional manner.

Our staff are on hand to assist patrons in their decision to drink alcohol in moderation and where appropriate avoid the dilemmas of combining drinking with driving. Staff will not serve any person under the age of 18 years or any patron to an intoxicating level.

The Committee wishes to encourage patrons to enquire about our range of low and non-alcoholic drinks, our food menu and our safe transport program.

Please support our club's sponsors.



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