



Mayo Sailing Club

NEWSLETTER

SPRING '09



IT'S THAT TIME of the year again and I am looking forward to the season ahead. It has been a short winter and as usual there has been plenty of activity compiling a program that builds on the 2008 season successes and tries to encourage even more participation in 2009. We received some good feedback throughout last season and have considered it for 2009 so hopefully the program of sailing and social activities will have something for everyone.

The 2009 season will be an exciting one with new events and plenty of activity across the board its going to be a busy year.

The program booklet is also available to download on the club website www.mayosailingclub.com and there are extra copies behind the bar in the clubhouse. We will be continuing to email and text you with regular updates to what is going on during the year so there is no excuse not to get stuck in and enjoy what are no doubt the best sailing grounds around in the country.

In 2008 we witnessed a fair increase in participation particularly in the junior sailing and the new class 3 cruiser section, we want to build on this in 2009 and encourage more of our existing

boat owners and members to take part. We plan to do this by facilitating their requirements as best we can over a range of events, this means that feedback and suggestions are necessary and of course welcome - if you have an idea that will help us achieve our goal please email, call or just mention it to one of the committee (contact details in program and on website)

Through this newsletter we have mentioned some of the events that we hope will be well supported and prove enjoyable to all.

We hope that 2008 will be an excellent season for all our members and please feel free to contact any of the committee with any feedback or comments as the season progresses.

Enjoyable Season to all!

Damien Cashin
COMMODORE MSC

EVENTS TO NOTE 2009

CROAGH PATRICK CLIMB

SUNDAY MARCH 8

Why not join the regular crew that have been doing this climb for last few years - all club members and friends are welcome. The climb will commence from the Croagh Patrick carpark at 11.30 and there will refreshments provided at the summit and in the Tavern Bar Murrisk afterwards - see you there.

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The club enters a float in the Westport Parade every year and will do so again this year, any volunteers available to help out on the day would be appreciated. Contact Damien: 087 2450123

INSTRUCTORS COURSES

There is an instructors course being run over Easter. See the junior section for the details.

LAUNCH WEEKEND

APRIL 3, 4, 5

The lift in of boats will take place on the weekend of the 3/4/5th of April. As most members are aware the lift in and out are getting busier all the time and the number of boats that we get through each year has grown steadily so with this in mind boat owners are requested to be ready to launch 45 minutes before their scheduled time to avoid any delays. It must be noted that the lift in is very tight for time and tide and that our club Secretary Donagh Waldron will be coordinating the schedule on the weekend, please note that this is an extremely difficult job as we are working against the tide so your co-operation with Donagh is appreciated. The lift in rota will be sent out in the coming weeks.

There will be a get together in the clubhouse on the Saturday night to kick off the season-First Gun 8.00pm

PLEASE NOTE: Christy Hopkins is providing Summer storage for cradles/trailers. Boat owners must have their cradle/trailer identified with the boat name/owners name and have pre-arranged with Christy for the Summer storage. N.B. Christy must be paid directly on the day.
Christy Hopkins: 087 2061603



SEASON BRIEFING

TUESDAY, APRIL 7 AT 7.30pm.

This will be held in the Clubhouse.

CRUISER RACING

Class 3 is well established and all that participated in 2008 had a great time. The entry for class 3 will be free again in 2009.

We plan to start Class 3 after Class 1 and 2 for the Spring/Summer Series and then change it to start first before Class 1 and 2 for the Autumn Series.

If you are a boat owner and want to take part please contact the sailing secretary Cathal Geoghegan (see contact details in programme) who will give you the details and answer any queries you may have.

PLEASE NOTE: All valid racing certs AND the signed Race Entry Form must be submitted to the sailing Secretary with race entry fees at least two weeks prior to commencing racing. There will be no results for boats without these two items not submitted.

CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN INAUGURAL MEETING

CLARE ISLAND. MAY 8, 9, 10.





PRESIDENT MARY MC ALEESE TO VISIT CLARE ISLAND

MAY 9

Utharan na hÉireann Mary Mc Aleese is scheduled to make an official visit to Clare Island on Saturday the 9th of May for the inaugural meeting of Ceoltas Ceoltoiri Eireann and the Club have being invited to escort the President into the harbour and join in the festivities afterwards. More info later...

MAY BANK HOLIDAY LEENANE RACE & CRUISE

This year we are very fortunate to have a sponsor for a new event that we hope will become an annual event. Fáilte Ireland are the sponsors and the event is a Race to Leenane on the Saturday of the May Bank Holiday weekend. There will 2 classes - one class racing under IRC and a Gentlemen's Class sailing under Echo (this will be White Sail only). The Gentleman's Class is open to all boats normally racing in Class 1, 2 or 3.

The plan is to start on Saturday morning at 11.30am/12.00pm. There will be a prize giving and buffet meal that night in the Leenane Hotel.

Its worth noting that there is a walking festival

in Leenane the same weekend so it's the perfect opportunity to take in some walking on the Sunday.

There are a limited number of visitor moorings available.

INTRODUCTORY COURSE

This is a very important part of what the club do in encouraging more participation in sailing. This year we will run the introductory course again and hope that the regular cruising and racing skippers will make the effort to get new people out for a sail on the bay-it has proved to be a ideal way to access potential new racing or cruising crew members. We will be coordinating a rota to ensure we have enough boats for each of the three Tuesday nights the course is on. Expect a call!

WESTPORT MARINE ROUND CLARE ISLAND WEEKEND

NEW DATE: JUNE 27

For this year only due to the Volvo Ocean Race stopover in Galway we are moving the date of the Westport Marine Round Clare Island Race to Saturday the 27th of June. There will be a pre race "social" in the Hotel bar on the Friday night-so if you are planning on doing this





son and will prove once again, to be great fun for everyone who takes part. It's also good crack in the clubhouse afterwards! We will be running a second unscheduled race during the season, more info via text and e-mail as it is planned.

SUPER THURSDAYS

JUNE 18, AUGUST 13 AND THE FINAL FLING, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 3.

Following up on the success of the Super Thursdays of 2008 we are continuing with the same theme for 2009. Great food, company and craic are a given.

FIREBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

JULY 24, 25, 26.

The Fireballs have some unfinished business in Clew Bay, after a good event in 2008 they are keen to come back and sail in the wonderful waters of Clew Bay with some wind this time!!!!!! As usual we will need help in the form of volunteers to help out with the various elements of the event-please contact the Sailing Secretary-Cathal if you are available to help out.

ANNUAL DAY OUT!

AUGUST 16.

This year we are going return to invade the beautiful beach of Old Head. There will be a BBQ on the beach as well as plenty of beach games to work off the beer and food. This is the ideal day to bring your friends and family out for some good old fashioned FUN....

CLUB REGATTA - JUNIORS

AUGUST 22.

This will be held on Saturday the 22nd of August and will be followed by the prize giving and presentation of certificates for the junior sailing courses.

CLUB REGATTA - CRUISER RACING

AUGUST 23.

Will be held this year on the 23rd of August with the Commodore's Cup and Ladies Helm. There will be a BBQ and prize giving in clubhouse after racing.

race try and head out for the Friday night. First gun for class 3 will be at 13.00 on Saturday and class 1 and 2 starting together 30 minutes later. The race will be followed by the usual BBQ at the hotel immediately after the race.

All though later in the season, this promises to be a great weekend and one not to be missed-we had 19 boats starting in the race in 2008 we hope to improve on that number in 2009 and better again we have arranged for the USUAL Sunshine but more importantly more WIND!!

COMMODORES SUMMER PAAAARRRRRTY.....

JULY 4.

A change is as good as a rest!! This year we are changing the format of the normal Mid Summer Ball to be the Commodores Summer Party-The venue is our very own clubhouse! Plans are well underway for a summer party with a difference that guarantees to get you in the summer mood and really set the scene for the rest of the season. More info later...

PURSUIT RACE

SATURDAY JULY 11

There is one scheduled pursuit race for the sea-



JUNIOR SAILING

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Mayo Sailing Club will open its annual Junior Sailing Courses in Rosmoney Westport on Monday 29th of June 09 for a 6 week period until the 7th of August 09. MSC is a recognised and very successful Irish Sailing Association Training Centre for many years now. This year Mayo Sailing Club introduces the new ISA Sailing Syllabus. This is the first considerable change to the teaching structure for young sailors in Ireland for a long time and might take a little getting use.

TASTE OF SAILING

START SAILING

BASIC SKILLS

IMPROVING SKILLS

GO RACING 1,
ADVANCED BOAT HANDLING,
KITES AND WIRES 1,
ADVENTURES 1.

GO RACING 2,
KITES AND WIRES 2,
ADVENTURES 2.

Courses start at level one, Start Sailing and progress upwards to level two Basic Skills and Level three Improving Skills. Level four i.e. Advanced Sailing Skills, Go Racing, Kites and Wires and Adventure are divided into seven skills sets. The idea is to advance the sailors to a level where they can acquire competencies in a safe and challenging environment that rewards effort every step of the way. It should not take any longer to become fully proficient. But the annoying wait until next year to pass a level should be a thing of the past. The courses are accredited by the Irish Sailing Association. The participants are still taught all aspects of sailing; including boat rigging, sail trimming, boat handling, navigation, safety regulations and procedures and racing tactics and first aid. The courses are very popular and the partici-

pants really enjoy themselves. It is remarkable to see how skilled the children become and learn how to look after themselves, their boats and crew on the water. Please get your applications in on time as there are a limited number of places on these courses. Contact Karin on (087) 1263820 if you would like to receive any further information on this years junior sailing courses.

JUNIORS SAILORS GET PREPARED

Information on requirements, recommendations and sailing equipment for juniors

For the sailing courses everyone has to have access to a boat, a buoyancy aid, wetsuit and booties and suitable wind and wet gear. You need your own boat or a share in a two-person boat.

All boats have to be maintained in a safe condition before they are let on the water. So now is a good time to start getting ready for on the water and preparing for any maintenance the boat may require during the course.

For level 1 & 2 we recommend Laser Pico, Mirrors, RS Tera, Toppers, Topaz, RS Feva or Optimist.

For Level 3& 4 we suggest RS Feva, Toppers, Topaz, Lasers, laser 2 or 420.

All level 3 & 4 participants must have their own boats or a boat to share if using a two-man boat.

A limited number of club Mirrors are available for use on the courses. However this service is only available for people participating in level 1 and 2 who do not have access to their own boat.

All first time level 1 sailor's must undertake a 25m 'out of your depth' sea water swim before you can take sailing instruction. This will take place on the Sunday of registration in June 2009.

TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM JUNE ON THE WATER

We recommend that all parents and guardians should get out some Tuesday evening onto the water in the company of our Junior Sailors. Enjoy watching our juniors display there skills on the water, in the beautiful Clew bay with the backdrop of Croagh Patrick. It is truly a wonderful experience.

Why not help out on the committee boat, try and make it at least one Tuesday evening from June to August 2009. see web site for details.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Rosmoney.

Peter Quigley

JUNIOR ORGANISER

MSC 2009 ISA SBSS Instructor Course Information & Application

Pre-entry Assessment Course:

14th - 15th of March 2009, 9am - 5pm

Dinghy Instructor Sailing Course:

11th - 15th of April 2009, 9am - 5pm

The Course Instructor is Noelle Doran and the ISA moderator will be Phil Knownd.

Junior Sailing Courses

Start on the 29th June and runs for 6 weeks to the 7th of August.

Introductory Sailing Course

Shore based evening on Wednesday the 14th April at 19.00 followed by three on the water sessions on Tuesday evenings at 19.00.

ATTENTION BOAT OWNERS ON HARDSTAND

**PLEASE DISCARD ANY RUBBISH
AND/OR BITS OF YOUR BOAT
ON OR BEFORE THE DAY OF
LAUNCHING.**

Last year it took five volunteers a full day to clean up after boat owners that left the hardstand in a mess.

**TAKE YOUR RUBBISH AND BITS
OF BOATS HOME!**

MSC MEMBERSHIP DUE!

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOUR SUB!

**PLEASE NOTE THAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS DUE
SINCE THE 31ST OF JANUARY
AND ITS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT IT IS
PAID AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

The club has financial commitments throughout the year and during the winter months there is effectively no income coming into the club so at this time of the year we need to collect the memberships urgently, your co-operation with this is much appreciated.

There is a 2009 Membership Form enclosed and we would ask that you fill in all details paying particular attention to the contact details for all your family members as they may have different email and mobile numbers.

We hope to communicate with all members not just that of the named family.