

Sailing Secretary Report 2017

A change this year was to use the commercial DutyMan system to manage duties. This was prompted by the Sailing Secretary not being available for 4 months due to illness. Thanks to Nigel for setting it up. Once set up, before the start of the season, it manages the email reminders to those with duties and they can confirm the duty or arrange a swap; it is easy to use and it is important members do this. Much less work for the Sailing Secretary and generally I think it has worked well. It is not limited to sailing duties but can be used for any duties.

Another change was to have an extra race in the morning at 11:00 with the 2nd race at 12:00 instead of one race at 11:30. If someone could only stay for the morning they could sail in two races. It took a bit of time for members to get used to arriving in time for the 11:00 race. Last year we extracted the Lasers from some series to create a Laser Series. This year we also extracted Bosuns to create a Bosun Series.

There was a super start to the season; fine with a fairly steady ENE force 3-4 wind giving an excellent sail.

On 14 May we exhibited a Graduate at Bushy Park Chestnut Sunday; it gives excellent free publicity a week before our Open Weekend. The Open Day Saturday had a SSW force 0-3 wind very patchy and flukey with cold short showers; far from ideal for the 23 visitors and one capsized in a Bosun. Sunday was much warmer with a nicer SW force 1-2 wind; 54 visitors, our 2nd best. The resulting number of new members was disappointing.

The Regatta was on the two hottest days of the year; the wind was W-NW-SW force 0 to 1 very variable patchy and shifty. This year there was no racing Saturday morning. All Regatta Trophy races had the same entry. The first race Sunday afternoon was the Ladies/Novice Race but members were reluctant to sail again because it was too hot and only 3 boats entered. Liz Archer won the Regatta Trophy, Alice Lea the Ladies Cup and Kevin Lavery the Novice Cup.

For a good sail upstream an East wind is needed so the Cundy Trophy Long Distance race is held when conditions are suitable. Sunday 24 September seemed OK with a SE wind and good sailing; 6 boats entered for the race up to Sunbury Rivermead Island. Although the race time for Mike Baker was the planned 55 minutes he had a huge lead and the wind dropped so the next boat was 20 minutes later and the last an hour later.

A printed report of each race entry, series results, summaries and other items are in the Race Result folder that is normally kept in the book case and they are on the website

<http://www.sailaquarius.org.uk/homenew/raceresults.html>. The Entries All Races report (raceentries.pdf) includes actual and corrected times per lap for Boat and Personal Handicap for all races. There are graphs of the wind speed, from the weather station, on the website for most race days; they are poorer this year because one vane has broken off and I haven't managed to find a suitable glue or a replacement yet.

I used to enter the race result to a Psion PDA using a program I wrote when I joined the club; they are now entered into a Psion Emulator running on a Windows 10 PC with the same program. The analysis and printing of the Series result is also done on a PC using a Paradox (similar to Access) database. Because the Sailing Secretary was away Graham Thompson developed a spread sheet that could be used to enter race data and analyse results. This year Graham has been producing results in parallel which means that for the first time my race results are checked; I have been disappointed at the number of errors he found. Graham has also been writing the race day notes, that are on the website and notice board, for me. Many thanks to Graham for the long time he has spent on these tasks.

I aim to produce accurate race results but the standard of the Race entry sheets has been very poor. The helm, crew and sail number of the boat need to be accurate for accurate analysis including boat usage; this is impossible when any or sometimes all three are wrong and it wastes a lot of time. With Lasers the handicap for a Radial rig is different; the race sheet usually doesn't indicate it is Radial. It is important for all boats to have a sail number; a single digit will do, there may be a usual number for a boat, the club Bosun is 1 and the club Laser Radial sail without a number is R9. The Officers may not know the crew members or the boat so it is important that members sign on with helm, crew and sail number; last name is important. You may not get a result if you don't sign on.

I thank all our duty officers for their reliable support; without them we couldn't race. In particular I would like to thank Pat Irving for preparing a super BBQ lunch every Sunday and maintaining a good stock of ice creams which are very popular.

Richard Cannon, Sailing Secretary

2017 PRIZES

As usual all trophies for series races, except the Broken Boom which is for the overall best Boat Handicap result (decided by the highest Rank Points for Boat Handicap) have been allocated to Personal Handicap results.

There are two new series due to the addition of earlier morning races; EarlyBird and SunRise; trophies have been provided by Nigel Knowles for these and the new Bosun series. This year only long series are included in the ranking table so the Easter and Regatta events have been excluded. The Laser and Bosun series, use results from other series so are excluded. Apart from these changes the race series match those of last year and the same trophies have been awarded. Everyone who had a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd for Boat Handicap or Personal Handicap result in a main series have been included in the ranking and receive prizes; the fun series are excluded.

If helm capsizes or have any other incident, event or breakage would they please make sure it is recorded on the race sheet so it can be included in the result records; needed to allocate the Water Rat Trophy. Also it is important that all boats have sail numbers and a boat always uses the same sail number else the analysis of boat use is wrong.

Graham has been very dominant again and of the seven main series he won five on boat handicap and one on Personal Handicap. He entered an incredible 117 races out of the 127 races held; the next highest was Rodger Wheeler with 81 races followed by Mike Baker, Nigel Knowles and Josh Watson-Evans with 68 races, then Cath Bridger with 66 races. Josh has done very well to have three PH first places. Cath Bridger has done very well and she receives the Tumbling Waters trophy for most improved helm.

PRIZE POINTS

The following table lists the places of helms that were in the first three places for Boat Handicap or Personal Handicap in any series, except the Bosun, Laser, Easter, Regatta, Fun and Training Fun Cruising series. One point is given for each 3rd, two points for each 2nd and 3 points for each 1st place. Ranking is according to the total number of points obtained; rank gives an indication of overall performance including BH and PH results. **Bold large** indicates that that a tie break was used.

| Series | Autumn | | EarlyBird | | SPA | | Spring | | Sprint | | Summer | | SunRise | | Rank | | | |
|----------------|--------|----|-----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|----|--------|----|--------|----|---------|----|---------|----|----------|---|
| | BH | PH | BH | PH | BH | PH | BH | PH | BH | PH | BH | PH | BH | PH | Poi-nts | | Position | |
| Name | Places | | | | | | | | | | | | | | BH | PH | Total | |
| G Thompson | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 19 | 10 | 29 | 1 |
| M Baker | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | 2 | | 2 | 3 | 12 | 4 | 16 | 2 |
| J Watson-Evans | 3 | 1 | | | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 2 | | | 3 | 11 | 14 | 3 |
| R Wheeler | | | | | | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | 3 | 9 | 12 | 4 |
| N Knowles | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | | | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| C Bridger | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| P Halling | | | | | | | | | 2 | 3 | | | | | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Trophies 2017

10 members receive prizes; 7 receive trophies.

| SERIES | TROPHY | MEMBER | Number of races H = Helm, C = Crew |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Autumn PH | Cruiser Trophy | Josh Watson-Evans | 68 races, 67H, 1C, rank 3 |
| Spa PH | Saturday Trophy | Josh Watson-Evans | |
| Spring PH | Handicap Class | Josh Watson-Evans | |
| Laser PH | Laser Cup | Josh Watson-Evans | |
| Summer PH | Main 12 ft Trophy | Rodger Wheeler | 81 races, 77H, 4 C, rank 4 |
| Sprint PH | Enterprise Cup | Rodger Wheeler | |
| Boat Handicap Result | Broken Boom | Graham Thompson | 117 races, 114 H, 3 C, rank 1 |
| SunRise PH | Sunrise Trophy | Graham Thompson | |
| Early Bird PH | Early Bird Trophy | Mike Baker | 68 races, 65 H, 3 C, Rank 2 |
| Long Distance | Cundy Trophy | Mike Baker | |
| Bosun | Bosun Trophy | Cath Bridger | 66 races, 61 H, 5 C, Rank 6 |
| Event | Water Rat | Joan Courtney | 9 races, 1 H, 8 C |
| Most improved helm | Tumbling Waters | Cath Bridger | 66 races, 61 H, 5C, rank 6 |
| Young Helm | Young Helm | Not awarded | |

Received No Other Prize

| | | | |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Most Races | Summer Afternoon | Bryan Clements | 58 races, H 31, C 27 |
| Most Crewed | Main GP | Rachael Holland | 20 races, H 0, C 20 |

| RANK | MEMBER | SERIES | TROPHY |
|------|--|--|--|
| 1 | Graham Thompson Graham Thompson | Sunrise PH Boat Handicap | Sunrise Trophy Broken Boom |
| 2 | Mike Baker Mike Baker | Early Bird PH Cundy | Early Bird Trophy Cundy Trophy |
| 3 | Josh Watson-Evans Josh Watson-Evans Josh Watson-Evans Josh Watson-Evans | Autumn PH Spa PH Spring PH Laser PH | Cruiser Cup Saturday Trophy Main Handicap Laser Cup |
| 4 | Rodger Wheeler Rodger Wheeler | Summer PH Sprint PH | Main 12 ft Trophy Enterprise Cup |
| 5 | Nigel Knowles | 3 place or better | Glass |
| 6 | Cath Bridger Cath Bridger | 3 place or better Most improved | Glass Tumbling Waters |
| 7 | Pat Halling | 3 place or better | Glass |
| | Joan Courtney | Event (Capsize) | Water Rat |
| | Bryan Clements | Most Races (58) | Summer Afternoon |
| | Rachael Holland | Most Crewed (20) | Main GP |