

# THE MAIN SHEET

The Hampton Sailing Club Newsletter

www.hsc.yachting.org.au



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## Commodore's Corner

Welcome to the 2008 - 2009 sailing season, about to be upon us! For those who haven't been out, dust the deck and air the gear ready for the Commodore's Cup on Sunday 5th October - Ceremony first as usual.

BYO BBQ for after the sailing. Make it a family affair with ALL BOATS ON THE WATER.

2008-9 season will see more action from the juniors on our race course, so things are changing - new courses and different formats. David Thompson will outline what's happening.

I also ask in the interest of getting our sailors to know the race rules, if you see something that looks dodgy, let us know what you see, take note and we will get the offending skippers after racing and review the occurrence. It's the only way to learn. As our fleet grows and participates in other events, it is important they know and appreciate the rules.

For those of you who haven't been down the club for ages... be prepared for a great surprise, thanks to Frank Liepper with help from Neil Watson. They have been outstanding.

And don't forget to be proud of your HSC membership and get your HSC polo shirt available on any race day.

See you on the water soon.

Sail Safe

**Johnno  
Commodore**

**OCTOBER 2008**

### Opening season BBQ & Fireworks



When: Saturday 4th October 2008  
Where: HSC clubrooms and balcony  
Time: 6 pm onwards  
What: BYO everything

All members and their families are invited to celebrate the opening of the summer sailing season on the club balcony. HSC will provide the BBQ, sunset views and fire works, courtesy of SYC's opening season celebrations.

### Season Opening - 5th October.

Now is the time to start thinking about the sailing season. The season kicks off with our Commodore's Cup on 5th October. This is a handicap race, with the winner being presented the Commodore's Cup perpetual trophy.

For those who've had their boats in mothballs over winter - it's time to drain out the gallons of water, shake the cobwebs off your sails and prepare your pride and joy for the start of the season.

**David Thompson  
Sailing Secretary**

**08/09 Sailing Instructions**

08/09 Sailing Instructions will be published prior to the start of the season and will be available on the HSC web site and at the Clubhouse. There will be a number of changes to the SIs, including the addition of Class Championship and Ladies Skipper scoring, as mentioned below. Other changes will include:

- Compulsory sign-on/sign-off for all crews
- Minimum insurance requirements for racing
- Set courses (windward/leeward & triangular courses) defined in the SI
- Scoring changes for DNC & OOD
- Current financial membership required for race entry
- 2009-2012 RRS apply for races from 1st Jan 2009

**Lady Skipper's Series**

Four of the Spring and Autumn Aggregate races this season are nominated Ladies races. These races will be scored as a standard aggregate race, and all boats with a female skipper will also score towards a Ladies Skipper's series.

The dates for the Ladies races are:

26 October  
30 November  
1 February  
1 March

**Class Championship**

This season, we will be running a Class Championship, in parallel to the standard Club Championship series. Each Club Championship race will also score towards a Class Championship result, which will be based on a High Points scoring system.

Details of the Class Championship scoring will be included in the 08/09 Sailing Instructions.

**Winter Sailing****Winter Warriors**

The soup at the annual Winter Warriors regatta was wonderful; unfortunately the weather wasn't quite so great. Thanks to Clare Adshead, Stewart Simmons and Susan Smith for making soups and Charles Bagossy for providing the bread rolls

HSC's annual Winter Warriors race was held on the last weekend of August. We had just a handful of sailors prepared to take to the water - John Daymon, who was back in an Impulse, Kevin Kay, Robin McKeown, John Adshead and myself preparing our boats.

The race and rescue boat crew, Stewart Simmons, Charles Bagossy, Jeff Ward and Martin Playne were watching the sky, as the forecast was for a big south westerly front to come through about 14:00 – and sure enough, no sooner had Kevin and John D taken to the water than the wind swung through to the SW and the whitecaps started appearing. Once the heavens opened and we were pounded with hail, the decision was made to abandon the race.

We retired to the warmth of the clubhouse and enjoyed the wonderful soup.

**Winter Race #4**

Winter race #4 was held on 10th August - one of the coldest days of the year. The HSC weather station showed an Outdoor Wind Chill temperature of -0.1oC.



The rescue boat crew and a couple of sailors had arrived by 11:00, but at 11:30 there was still no-one rigging in the yard. *Why was nobody sailing?* My guess is the prospect of sailing in these conditions was not as appealing as sitting at home watching the Olympics. The race was cancelled.



### **Winter Race #5 – 24 August**

There was a late start to Winter Race #5 while the race officers sorted out some committee boat issues. Once on the water it was a perfect winter's day, with a very light, shifty wind. We had Pacer, Taser and Sabot classes out for the race. The ladies dominated the racing – with all boats except one being skippered by one of the ladies.

### **Winter Race #6 – 14 September**

Yet again, the weather got the better of us. The forecast was for a 30-40knot NW gale, gradually abating. Sure enough, the wind was howling when Paul Stephenson and I went down to launch Lady Isa at 9:30. The Race Officer made the call that there would be no racing in these conditions, so we hoisted the AP over A and called it a day.

### **Winter Race #7 – 28 September**

What should have been a great end to the winter series fizzled out due to strong wind forecast and poor turn out. Keep your fingers crossed for a fine day with moderate winds next Sunday.

**David Thompson**  
Sailing Secretary

### **New Members**

The committee would like to welcome Jeff Dusting and his family as new members.

If you see them about the club, please introduce yourself and say "Hello!"

### **Member Functions**

Don't forget the club rooms are available for member functions. Contact Michelle.

### **Social Activities**

About 40 members and friends enjoyed the winter roast evening. Many members commented on the freshly renovated clubroom and warm atmosphere.

Unfortunately the teenage evening was cancelled due to insufficient numbers. However we now have a new volunteer to promote future teenage events. Could any interested teenagers please email your details to Ingrid Vinot on [ipvinot@connexus.net.au](mailto:ipvinot@connexus.net.au)

**Michelle Moller**  
Social Secretary



### **HSC CHRISTMAS DINNER** (Adults only event)

**Saturday 6th December**

Where: HSC clubrooms  
Time: 7 pm onwards

2 course menu, by "Aussie Caterers"

Carvery Buffet: choice of roast meat, salad and dessert.

Cost: \$30.00 per person  
(Vegetarian main available)

This is a popular event so book now and put the date in your diary. RSVP by 28 November.

**Don't miss out, book early!**

**Expressions of Interest - Sail Training**

If you are interested in participating in any sort of training for the up and coming spring/summer season, please call Monica or Kevin. We will try and organise in advance a suitable course based upon those who are interested.

**Club Trolleys**

Four Club trolleys are available for use by members in moving their dinghies to and from the water. They are kept against the fence on the south side of the property, close to the rear of the building.

After use members should ensure that they are returned to this location.

Dinghies should not be stored on club trolleys as this effectively prevents them from being used by other members.

**Neil Watson**  
**Boat Storage Officer**

**Newsletter Distribution and Articles**

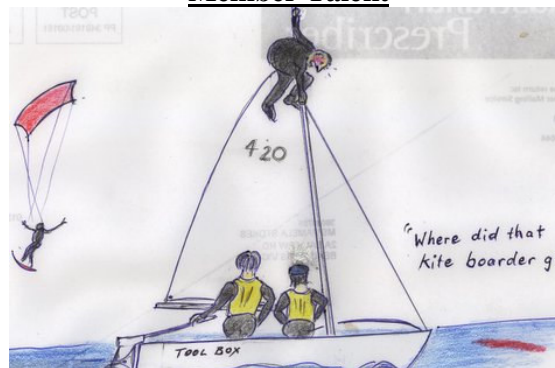
The newsletter will be emailed to those members with an email address registered with the club as well as sent in the mail. A number of members have advised that they do not wish to receive the hard copy in the mail in future. Please let me know if you wish to receive an email copy, a hard copy or both.

Articles to include in future newsletters will be welcomed. Newsletters are published every 2 months. Please email your contributions to the above address.

**Deb Stephenson**  
**Newsletter Editor**

**Vale Ivor Roy Cantle**

Ivor, a member of HSC prior to moving to Geelong, passed away on 7 Sept 2008. Ivor sailed a sabre "Spangles". Our condolences to his family.

**Member Talent**

**Drawn by Neil Watson**

**BENEATH THE DARDANELLES**

V. John & Hatice Basarin

Published by Allen & Unwin

Paperback, Available in all major book shops

To obtain a copy of the book signed by the authors please send an email to:  
johnnyturk@optusnet.com.au

**Powerboat Handling Course – advertised in August edition**

The dates will be finalised soon. Please let Stewart Simmons know if you wish to participate

**Soling For Sale**

The club will shortly be advertising the sale of the Soling. If you are interested please contact Stewart.



Stewart also has goldfish to give to a good home.

**TWO DAYS ON “THE LAKE”**

(Lake Balaton is 80 km long and 10 km wide, about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> size of Pt Phillip Bay.)

We got to “the lake” this year, the biggest lake in Central Europe, on the invitation of the Hungarian sailing coach, Tamas.

- “you’ve got to see her, we race her on the lake, her name is Capella, she’s a beauty”
- And she was. 12 metres long, 2½ metres wide. The fastest old boat on the lake.
- “There’s a Cup race on the weekend, 5 races in two days - you two are in the crew”.

**Day 1 - Race 1**

- Light winds 8 – 10 knots, Tamas is steering. I’m on the winch.
- Good start, by the first mark we’re leading the 50 boats in the fleet.
- 8 people on board, 6 are regulars. Sailing language is German.
- I’m lost with their German terminology. Rita sorting the ropes (by colour)
- Tamas is not happy with my winch work, and I banish myself to the front of the boat working the monster spinnaker.

Half way through the race, I find myself buried, soaking wet in complete darkness, down the “sewer”. Sitting in the corner under the sail, is a moment of silent bliss. When I come up, we are still in the lead. Archenemy, an American designed “flying saucer” with water ballast, is 100 metres behind. We cross the line 1 minute ahead.

The wind is dropping, we cruise around waiting. No wind, the lake is sparkling and 25 degrees. Racing is called off for the day. Afternoon “dinner” on the grass, by “the lake”. Plenty of goulash and local reds and whites. We are second on handicap.

**Day 2 – Race 2**

- Early start. Tamas changes boats to a smaller class.
- We are short handed, with only 3 regulars, 3 girls, one junior, and me.
- The owner of the boat asked if I wanted to steer. Firm *NO!*
- The “maintenance man” takes the helm.
- Light winds – 8-10 knots.
- Shit start, we are 30 seconds behind the leaders.

Halfway, we claw back to second place behind archenemy. Spinnaker goes up (almost) - a monster wineglass develops, 5 minutes of desperate struggle. Boats pass left and right. We are falling over the line in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> place.

**Race 3**

- I suggest not using the spinnaker. Voted down.
- Better start, we are in the leading bunch, and I am trimming the main



- Rita clearing the ropes
- Wind lightens, this time we got it right, hanging on to a dropping spinnaker longer than the rest of the fleet, we catch archenemy on the last leg, and come across the line in first place.

**Race 4 – Last Race**

- Light winds 5-6 knots
- Good start. By the first mark, leading the fleet
- Spinnaker works fine
- “Maintenance man” starts to play the failing wind, going all over the place.
- On the last leg. We are killing them.
- We cross the line 3½ minutes ahead of the fleet, archenemy second.
- Is the margin enough?

Going home under the jib only, we drop a long line from the boat, time for a swim. The only rule on the rope is simple – only the last person on it can have a “pee”. On the way home, lots of red flags flying from the back of the boats. And I thought we got rid of the “Commos” 10 years ago. Long wait for presentation on the balcony of the yacht club. Maybe those red flags weren’t for the “Commos” after all!

All the food and grog is long gone by the time the trophies appear.

It wasn’t enough. We got 3<sup>rd</sup>. Archenemy got second, and you probably guessed it, Tamas got first. With a wry smile he turns to me – *“you’ve got to know how to pick your opposition”*.

On the insistence of boat owner “uncle” Gyula, Rita and I ended up with the PEMPO KUPA, the only one in Australia!

**Charles Bagossy**

p.s. I think I’ll stick to lasers.....

*(Lake Balaton is 80 km long and 10 km wide, about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> size of Pt Phillip Bay.)*

