

# THE MAIN SHEET

The Hampton Sailing Club Newsletter

www.hsc.yachting.org.au



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## Commodore's Corner

**DECEMBER 2008**

Well as we hit the heat of summer and the water gets warmer, so the racing gets keener. Kevin was very nearly beaten by Chris Jones in the Finn a couple of weeks ago. Great to see!

Keep up the enthusiasm and if anyone needs assistance just ask Kev or myself.

We have a Learn To Sail course starting November and it will also be the opportunity to brush up some of you teenagers who need a confidence boost. You teenagers should be out there on the water, so ask us and we'll give you a brush up and get you out there.

Michelle Moller has a junior sailing morning coming up, so bring down the kids and give them a go. Existing juniors and new ones welcome. Speak to Michelle!

Have you booked for the Chrissie dinner...I have...and if you haven't you might miss out. This is a big one for the year and we pack out, so get in quick and let Michelle know.

Otherwise not a lot new to report and I'll see you on the water or in the club.

Sail Safe

**Johnno  
Commodore**

## Changes to the Sailing Calendar

### 15th & 22nd February 2009

The sailing calendar has been adjusted to allow for our Powerboat Handling course on 15th Feb. As the club's rescue and start boats will be busy with this weekend, there can be no scheduled racing.

Autumn Aggregate 3 will now be held on 22nd February

### Interested in driving a club powerboat?

We have a Power Boat course coming up in February. Successful completion of this course will give you the skills and qualification to skipper the club's powerboats.



As a club that's run by volunteers, we're always looking for assistance in the running of our club events. Having a skipper and crew for the club rescue boat is a prerequisite for us to hold a race.

If you'd like to help out by driving the rescueboat or start boat, see the details on page 6 and contact Stewart Simmons.

**David Thompson  
Sailing Secretary**

**Spring Aggregate Race 3****Sunday, 26 October 2008**

Great sailing, despite the BOM's strong wind warning

The BOM certainly got it wrong today. We had a Strong Wind Warning, and a forecast of 20-30Kn northerlies. As a result, there wasn't a large fleet. This race also contributed towards the LADY SKIPPERS series, but only one female skipper joined in.



Those who didn't get put off by the forecast had a great days sailing.

The race controller set a course close to shore - with a moderate NE wind blowing from the land, we had an unusually smooth sea and good wind.

Sailing on the flat water made a nice change to the normal slog through the Port Phillip chop.

The flatter conditions must have suited the Laser sailors, as they made a clean sweep of the handicap results.

**Spring Aggregate - Race 2 Results**

1st - D Thompson – Mr Perfect – LASER R

2nd - J Allison - Jackie – LASER

3rd - Jeff Ward – Yellow Laser – LASER

**Club Championship Race 2****Sunday, 2 November 2008**

We had a reasonable fleet for the 2nd race of the club championship series. There were 16 starters, including one visiting Formula 15 from Black Rock.

With a steady northerly blowing, our race controller set a port course, with the standard triangle, windward/return, triangle (HSC's T3 course)

The 14:00 start was well contested but uneventful. As the fleet rounded the top mark, the wind backed off and became variable – it was then a race of patience, as the very light patchy wind saw some boats becalmed, while others chased the puffs made a little headway. Kevin, the light wind expert, crossed the line first, to take first place, both on elapsed and corrected time. Followed by Chris and David Jones second and third respectively.

The final finisher completed the course in 2hrs 27min.

**Club Champ- Race 2 Results**

1st - Alive & Kicking - K Kay - Impulse

2nd - Tim's Finn - C Jones – Finn

3rd - Sting - D Jones - Laser

**Hampton Stern Chaser Handicap****That was different !**

We held the first HSC Stern Chaser Handicap on Sunday 9th November

This handicap race was an off-the-beach, pursuit start. Each boat starts according to their handicap: the slower boats leave first, and fastest boat leaves last. The theory is that all the boats should cross the finish line at the same time.

The pursuit format saw our boats leave the shore in a staggered start - First off was Brian and Kev in the Heron "Miss Fitz" and last to leave was Tom's Formula-15, which started 38 minutes later. All other boats started somewhere in between these two.

While it may have seemed like barely organised chaos to the casual observer, the start actually worked quite well.

The pursuit format changed the dynamics of the race completely. No longer did the race leaders have clean air and uncontested mark roundings, everyone had to negotiate with traffic at each mark. Sabres, Lasers and Impulses and Pacers all duelled with each other to get the preferred positions - I heard calls of 'Buoy Room' and 'Starboard' ringing out across the course as fast and slow boats converged on the marks.

Initially, there was a bit of apprehension at a new format, but the general consensus at the race debrief on the balcony was that "That was different" and "Great fun to mix up the fleet" and "There was always someone to chase down"

As for the Club Handicapper scoring a 2nd place - The Aussie Dollar just doesn't buy what it used to..... in future all bribes to the handicapper should be in \$US.

**Final Results: Stern Chaser H/cap**

1st - Peninsula - B Vinot - Taser

2nd - Mr Perfect - D Thompson - Laser

3rd - Pebennick - J Adshead - Pacer

**Spring Aggregate 3****Sunday 16 November 2008**

We had a fleet of 14 starters for the 3rd Spring Aggregate. The promise of abating winds saw us head out in 20knot winds for a 14:00 start. After a strong SW wind yesterday, and consistent 20+ SW today, the conditions were hard going, with a 1.5m waves running in from the South West.

The start was heavily biased to the pin end / port tack. Running late for the start after helping with the rescue boat, I started at the pin end on starboard. There was at least one near miss on the start, as a Pacer had to duck below my transom to avoid running right over the top of my laser.

The rest of the race was fast and furious - There were thrills and spills as we planed around reaches and surfed the following sea down the run, and hiked until we couldn't hike any more on the beats. Although I didn't personally witness them, I heard we had a Finn, Impulse, Taser and 420 all take a swim and still go on to finish the race. There was also mention of one Laser that capsized heading back through the moorings. Not a great place to practice your swimming.

One final anecdote for the day was that one Impulse sailor (who will remain anonymous) spent the entire race watching the fore stay, which hadn't been properly tied off while the boat was being rigged. She finished the entire race without incident, then headed straight to Hampton beach, rather than risk the final beat into the harbor. Someone clearly didn't want to carry a DNF in the results....

Well done to all the competitors who stuck it out, and also to those who were sensible enough to know when to head back in.



**Club Championship 3****Sunday 23 November 2008**

Racing was abandoned due to the weather.

**Do I Need Boat Insurance?**

One question the committee often hears from new members is whether boat insurance is required for boats stored or sailed from Hampton Sailing Club.

Our club bylaws state that owners are strongly advised to maintain appropriate insurance coverage for their property and that all boats participating in an official club activity should be insured against 3rd party and public liability.

For boats involved in our club's racing, we've mandated that all participants hold an appropriate 3rd party and public liability insurance cover. This requirement is now written in the Sailing Instructions for the 2008/09 season, as follows:

**25. Insurance**

All competitors must have a current Third Party Insurance Policy, with a minimum cover of \$5,000,000. By signing the race entry sheet or race sign-on sheet, competitors acknowledge that they hold a current insurance policy

The introduction of mandatory insurance for all racing brings HSC's policy more into line with other sailing clubs around the Bay.

If you have any questions about boat insurance or what cover is required, any of our committee members should be able to assist.

**Teenage Program**

As mentioned in our last newsletter, Ingrid Vinot has kindly volunteered to assist with organising teenage activities and promote sailing. However she cannot be expected to do this on her own, so we are looking for an extra teenager to assist, plus two parents, preferably of teenagers, to support the program.

It can be as big or as small a project as you like. Our main aim is to provide opportunities for our teenagers to feel welcome at the club and hopefully gain some sailing experience.

Remember as a community club we rely on club members to contribute their time so hopefully we all get value from our membership.

Interested parents and teenagers please contact Michelle Moller

**Family Sailing****10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2009 5 pm – 8pm.**

A couple of years ago we had a wonderful evening on the water. Some sailed whilst others were towed back from Half Moon Bay as the moon shone on the water.

It was sheer bliss.

So be brave and join us for an evening sail, depending on the wind direction to Half Moon Bay or Brighton beach for fish n chips.

Once again we'll have a rescue boat to provide backup. Rigging at 5 pm, departure 5.30 pm.

PS If there is no wind we'll dig out kayaks, row boats, paddle boards, what ever works.

**Member Functions**

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

**Junior Sailing Program**

We have put some more dates on the calendar for junior sailing opportunities. As in the past our aim is to provide safe and enjoyable sailing experiences for the kids with adult supervision. We encourage the juniors to crew or helm according to their comfort level. If we have enough interest and boats, we may include short races. As always it depends on the weather and who turns up on the day.

The Sunday dates as follows:

- 18<sup>th</sup> Jan
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb
- 15<sup>th</sup> March

9am to about 12 noon.

**Juniors & Novices****Calling all juniors & novices.**

Commencing Sunday morning 1st February 2009, short races will be run for juniors and novices. So get your sabots, minnows, optimists up to scratch.

For those kids and adults who feel not so confident to compete, some on the water training will be provided by members on the rescue boat, to help you around the course.

Races are expected to commence around 10.30am, depending on wind strength. So competitors would probably need to be at the club around 9.30am to provide adequate time to rig boats & race briefing.

Racing session would be expected to finished by 12.00 midday at the latest.

So get out there & get some practice.

For further information contact:

David Thompson  
Kevin Kay  
Monica Jones

**Club Duty Officer**

A reminder that it is very important to carry out your turn on duty as per the list on the back of each newsletter. In summer, duty hours are from 1pm to 6pm. If you are not able to make it when it is your turn, please ring around and see if you can swap with someone whose turn is coming up soon. Duty Officer attracts credit points, and will make next year's subscription cheaper.

The main purpose of the Duty Officer is to open the premises, maintain a watch on who comes and goes, and to welcome any inquiries about the Club. On race afternoons, you are also asked to standby with the club radio to listen for calls from the Club's official boats. You should also check the sailing destination book downstairs to see who is signed out for sailing. Don't hesitate to challenge someone to ask who they are.

Additionally, there are some chores to do. Empty waste bins in toilets and bathroom areas; replace toilet rolls if necessary. If really bored, things like mowing the grass, or general tidying up can be done too. The main thing is for you to be present, and maintain a general security watch on the premises. Finally, when you leave at 6pm, make sure that all sailors are back, the club building is locked and all appliances turned off. Check that both front and rear gates are locked.

There is a list of what to do in the Duty Officer book on the desk upstairs. If uncertain, ring someone, or ask. You are not expected to remain on the premises after 6pm if someone is still in the Club or out sailing, but please make sure that you hand over responsibility to some other Club member to lock up.

It is your responsibility, please take it seriously.

**Martin Playne**  
**Duty Officer Coordinator**

Social Activities

## HSC CHRISTMAS DINNER (Adults only event)

When: **Saturday 6th December 2008**

Where: HSC clubrooms

Time: 7 pm onwards

What: 2 course menu, by "Aussie Caterers"  
Carvery Buffet: choice of roast meat, salad and dessert. Generous serves.

Cost: \$30.00 per person, pay on the night.  
(Vegetarian and gluten free options available on request in advance)

BYO: Drinks

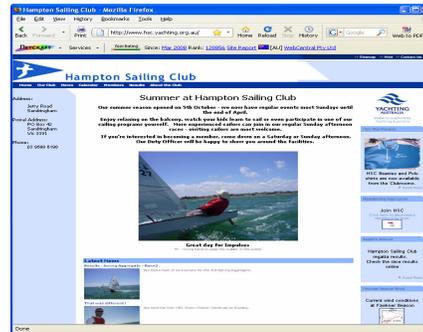
This is a popular event so put the date in your diaries and don't be disappointed.

RSVP is essential by 1 December 2008

All Enquiries contact: Michelle Moller

HSC Web Site

If you just can't wait for the next edition of the Mainsheet to arrive, you may want to have a look at the clubs web site: [www.hsc.yachting.org.au](http://www.hsc.yachting.org.au)



The Hampton Sailing Club web site is updated regularly. You can visit the web site to find current information on:

- General News and Sailing articles
- Details of current events at the club
- Photos from club events
- Club calendars, including racing and social functions
- Online results of all races
- Buy and Sell sailing equipment
- Links to other sailing and weather related web sites

Dogs

The Committee members would like to remind members about the club by-laws in relation to dogs on the premises:

- Dogs are not permitted on the Club premises, except when the owner is 'passing through'. In that case, the dog must be kept on a short leash and be in the direct control of the owner at all times (that is, the dog must not be left tied up). The owner must immediately clean up and remove any dog droppings.
- Dogs are not permitted within the Clubrooms or on the balcony at any time.



### Dredging of Sandringham Harbour

By now most members will be aware that Sandringham Harbour has recently been dredged. This includes a section in front of the Hampton Sailing Club's rear fence, stretching 9 metres from low water mark.

The drop off into deeper water is sudden and members will need to take care when launching boats. Parents will need to take extra care when children are entering the water to ensure their safety.

### New Members

The committee would like to welcome

Richard Bryett and family  
 Nial Finegan and family  
 Jane McGann and family  
 Mario Carpeggiani and family  
 Chris Moltzer and family

as new members.

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



### Boats and other equipment stored at HSC

Each year the Committee is faced by the dilemma of people who fail to renew their membership and are slow to remove their boats and other equipment. In some cases this property becomes abandoned.

Space is required for new members and at our last meeting, the Committee decided that sufficient warning has now been given and that it will now begin the formal process of disposing of this property. It would be appreciated if people who have decided not to return would remove their property as soon as possible and thereby save the Committee additional work.

### Boat Storage

Space at HSC is at a premium and members should appreciate that storage of a boat is a privilege not a right. Our By-Laws state that priority for storage be given to boats that are regularly used. It is important therefore that members when sailing record the use in a race sheet or the sailing book, which is kept in the boat shed.

Failure to do so could lead to a boat space being re allocated and the member being asked to remove it from the Club. Boat usage and space allocation is to be review over the next two months.

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

**POWERBOAT HANDLING COURSE  
13-15 FEBRUARY 2009**

I'm pleased to advise that our Club has been successful in obtaining a grant through the Victorian Government's 2008-09 Boating Safety and Facilities Program to help run a Powerboat Handling course for up to 15 participants.

Access to this grant (which covers up to 80% of course costs, excluding items such as fuel and any additional boat hire) will enable Club members to participate in the course at no charge.

The course has been scheduled for the weekend of 13-15 February 2009 (Friday evening through to the end of Sunday afternoon). The accompanying timetable provides an outline of the topics and activities involved.

Several members have already expressed interest in the course, in response to information published in the August and October issues of the Main Sheet. Any other members who are interested should contact me as soon as possible (by email on [simmons@westnet.com.au](mailto:simmons@westnet.com.au)). I'm happy to discuss any aspect of the course and how the weekend is likely to be organised.

If the course is over-subscribed, the Club Committee reserves the right to give priority to members who can make a reasonable commitment to performing rescue boat duties over the coming winter season and summer 2009-10.

A couple of families have asked me whether there is a minimum age requirement for the course. Our training provider, Doug King, advises that participants should preferably be 16 years of age or older, but he will accept younger students on his assessment of their individual experience. If anyone wishes to nominate a younger teenager for the course, then please let me know and I'll put you in touch with Doug (though he won't be available during most of December).

Please note that a Victorian Powerboat Licence is not required to participate in this training course. On the contrary, successful completion of the course fulfils the practical requirements for obtaining such a licence through VicRoads.

This course provides a great basis for members to get more involved in race management activities, and covers information that should be of interest to anyone who spends time on the water – find out what all those coloured buoys and funny looking marker poles really mean!

Looking forward to hearing from you.

**Stewart Simmons  
Vice-Commodore**

**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. Please let Richard Skews, Membership Secretary know if you wish to receive an email copy, a hard copy or both.

**Boat Duty Roster Update**

Having more sailors on the water is one of the goals of the committee this year.

Thanks to some dedicated club members who've offered to take on additional power boat duties, the race duty roster has undergone a significant revamp. The aim is to encourage our sailors to participate in more sailing events, rather than man the power boats.

Hopefully this updated roster will ensure we have an experienced race controller and rescue boat skipper on the course every week, whilst helping to build a strong sailing fleet for the remainder of the season.

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<b>POWERBOAT HANDLING COURSE – WEEKEND TIMETABLE (13-15 FEBRUARY 2009)</b>			
		<i>Prepare and Plan a Powerboat Activity</i>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>1900</b>		<b>Conclude 2200</b>
<b>Fri 13 Feb</b>	<b>Intro / Admin</b>	<b>Basic Safety and Risk Management.</b>	<b>State Laws</b>
<i>Rules and Regulations For Safe Powerboating</i>			
	<b>0830</b>		<b>LUNCH 1200 - 1245</b>
<b>Sat 14 Feb</b>	<b>The Craft / Engines</b>	<b>Safety Equipment</b>	<b>Rope-work</b>
	<i>Rules and Regulations For Safe Powerboating</i>	<i>Weather Reports</i>	<i>Respond to Emergencies and Incidents</i>
			<b>1730</b>
	<b>COLREGS / BOUYAGE</b>	<b>Weather and Tides</b>	<b>Emergencies</b>
		<b>1830 - 2130</b>	
<i>Plan a Safe Boating Activity.</i>			
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Navigation/ Coastal Waters</b>		
<i>Perform Safe Powerboat Activity</i>			
	<b>0830 - 1700</b>		
<b>Sun 15 Feb</b>	<b>Practical Boat Handling - Low Speed – Close Quarters Handling – Anchoring – Towing</b>		

- NOTE:
- (a) Practical work is conducted even if weather is inclement. Please ensure you have adequate wet weather gear available.
  - (b) Students are required to wear flotation device at all times whilst on the water and marinas.

WRITTEN ASSESSMENT – A written examination will be conducted at the club approximately two weeks after the course. The date will be set during the weekend with consensus of the group.