



Abbotsford Sailing Club News 07/09/2016

First race is this Saturday!

Thank you to those who have registered for the new season. If you haven't yet, you can still do this by sending the forms to Gai (I have attached the forms). Please note that a **\$50 late fee** applies for registrations after 10 September 12:00 noon. Any member who wishes to discuss payments can contact Gai via phone or e-mail (gai_dewane@hotmail.com).

Junior sailing: Please see further below, where we explain our plans and vision for the Sabot/Optimist fleet in a bit more detail. Chris Dey has kindly agreed to help the Junior Fleet start the new season smoothly and build on their skills throughout the season.

First race day is on 10 September. Revised Sailing instructions are on the [website](#), and we are updating the support boat roster now, to be published on the website soon. Phil and Judy have kindly agreed to cover the first two weeks of support boat duties.

Canteen: Gai will be overseas on the first 3 weeks of the season and this means Val would really appreciate some assistance in the canteen for the busy lunch period between 12 noon and 2 pm. Helpers are also required to serve in the bar at lunchtime.

Starting and Finishing: If non-sailing members or parents are interested in learning about starting and finishing races, please see Mary-Lou and Annette. We can always use more help (and it's not hard!).

Social Sailing: There is a change to our initial plans as the first weekend in October is the long weekend. So Social Sailing will start on 9 October, followed by the (National) Discover Sailing Day on 23 October, then SS on 6 and 20 November, 4 and 18 December. We will put this on the calendar and on the website too. Please contact Graeme on socialsailing@abbotfordsailingclub.org.au

Upcoming decisions in the club meeting: We are talking about the organisation of Learn to Sail, the redevelopment of the men's shower/change room and ongoing negotiations and planning for the ramp. Please come and attend the club meetings! Even if you can only make it only one Monday a month. The next meeting is on 19 September. **This is your club!**

Any news to be included in the next newsletter should be sent to willemvervoort@gmail.com. Newsletters will come out every week during the racing season.

If you no longer want to receive this newsletter: [Unsubscribe here](#)

Learn to Sail

Learn to Sail will start again on 15 October and it looks like we will have a full complement for the class. Nathan and Connor McNamara will take on the coaching duties with Judy and Chris over-seeing activities.

Junior fleet

This year we will run the Sabots and the Optimists as a Junior fleet, with ample supervision, but not quite as much direct coaching as last season. Because some of the bigger boys are moving on to larger boats, the fleet will be smaller than last year.

The club has also struggled to find a coach, and we are lucky that Chris is willing to support the Junior fleet with a briefing and theory session before going on the water, and a debrief after coming off the water.

In discussion with Chris and Judy, most of the Junior fleet have now sailed a minimum of two years and from the results from last year are clearly quite proficient. Therefore they understand sailing and most of them sail very well. However, to make the sailing less taxing on the juniors, we have shortened the Junior fleet courses to make it easier for the Juniors to finish races and hence learn from sailing in a fleet. Juniors can still choose whether to sail either an Optimist or a Sabot depending on the breeze, but will have to make a firm choice for all “championship” races.

If the races are too short towards the end of the season (and the Juniors indicate they would like to do more), we will run more than one race in the afternoon.

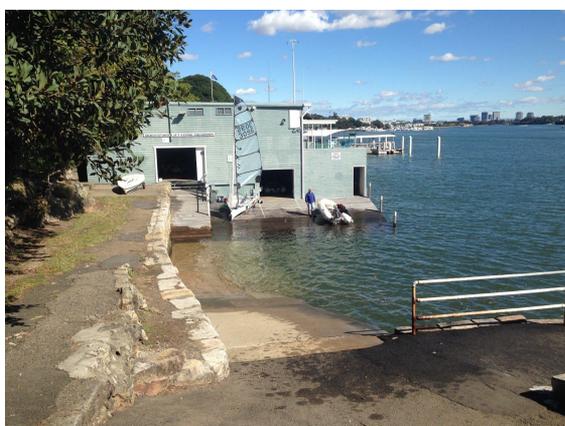
In addition, we will have one of the support boats focusing on the Junior Fleet. We would like to invite all Junior fleet parents to take turns as support people (with an experienced club member) on the Junior Fleet support boat.

Racing starts on time (check the sailing instructions), so make sure you arrive around 12:30 to rig your boat, attend the briefing and theory sessions, and then be ready to get on the water with plenty of time.

Cherub Training

After a couple of false starts a few of the cherub fleet boats managed to get some training in last Sunday with Nicole Barnes. The weather turned out to be exactly what we needed after the huge westerly the day before.

Nicole's time is pretty limited with all the sailing she does during the season. She said that she would be available during the October long weekend. Please let Tom Biskupic or Willem Vervoort know if you are interested in doing some training that weekend.



Main fleet

Everybody make sure you are registered in time! The sailing calendar is now available on the website.

General News

80th Birthday glasses for sale!

Good looking glasses with the club logo. Wouldn't they look wonderful for serving ice-cold lemonade to your friends? And only \$5 each!

And there are still beautiful club jerseys at \$65 each. Sizes Y, XS, S, XL and XXL are left. Payment can be brought to club and given to Gai, or you can pay directly into the Club Account No. 03591 9893, BSB 082 330, but note that the account name is: Abbotsford 12ft Flying Squadron.

Club shirts are also available. Cost is \$35 each.

Club meetings

All members are welcome at the club committee meetings which are held on the first and third Monday night of each month at 8 pm at the clubhouse during the season. The next meeting is Monday 19 September.

Even if you cannot be there for every meeting, we value your input and would welcome you to the club meeting table. More people means more ideas! We don't send out the minutes to everybody, but if you would like to receive this riveting material, please contact Tom.Biskupic@gmail.com

Boats for sale

In this section members can advertise their boats, please e-mail willemvervoort@gmail.com to get a listing in the newsletter or to have a listing removed.

Dates for your diary

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| • 10 September | Start of the season |
| • 17 September | 1st heat of Short Course series |
| • 8 October | 1st heat of the Club Championship |
| • 9 October | Social Sailing restarts |
| • 23 October | Discover Sailing Day and Parramatta River Championship |