

Abbotsford Sailing Club News 02/11/2016

Well attended 2nd Heat of CC

It was a bright day with sunshine first and some threatening clouds that luckily stayed away. It offered a E - NE breeze that was good in patches. It made for some interesting racing for those who picked the shifts early enough. We welcomed back a few people from last season for their first races and we had a wonderful halloween dinner and party after racing. Thank you to all who assisted with the racing and the festivities afterwards.

Both the Weekly Times and the Inner West Courier published a story on the Parramatta River Club. The story [in the Courier is here](#)

This next Saturday is a short course racing day with two shorter races being sailed

Support boats: Please check on [the google calendar](#) or on the Club notice board when you are supposed to be on, and organise replacements if needed. This next Saturday, Garry and Shane are rostered on.

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

It is already the third week of Learn to Sail and everybody had a first go at sailing and tacking after first practising tacking "on land" in the club house, after first watching a short video of the basics of tacking. The LTS kids were told how tacking is a lot like the rote practice typified by the *The Karate Kid* movie(s) (the original one is still the best!). The idea is that the movements of tacking (weight shifting, steering, hand swapping etc) all become second-nature as early as possible. With Finn and Charlie away, five Optimis and Ben in a Sabot ventured out into a perfect 5 knot SE breeze. The group kept well together, even with the strong run-out tide. The prize for the most tacks and gybes went to Amelia! She did very well and also managed to avoid the boom. Remember that it's mainly regular time on the water that we need to improve our sailing.

Here is a photo of the group watching Nathan demonstrate tacking and how to switch hands when crossing the boat.



Junior fleet

Welcome back to India who is joining the Junior Fleet after completing her learn to sail course last season. With Anna and Evan in Sabots, five Optis also went on the water (India, Michael, Marco, Nick and Charlie). After improving so much in the relatively stiff breezes of the last two weeks, the E-NE breeze was quite manageable for all sailors. India showed little signs of rustiness, despite not sailing for about 6 months. Although a few sailors were a long way from the starting line at the gun (there is nothing to be scared of!) the fleet got away to a good start. Anna quickly got into the lead and romped home, followed by Charlie, despite him having a capsize (and to his father's horror, granny-ing both time at Looking Glass!). Marco improved a lot and finished third, and also a close third on handicap. Evan followed, then Michael and Nick. Now that all sailors are comfortable with getting around the course in a reasonable breeze, we will start to focus on wind, current and steering strategy. That means, knowing where to go on the river and how to use the changing breeze properly. Thanks to Steven Rixon, Adrian Bell and Alan Gaha and all the other parents who helped out.



More photos [here](#)

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.

Main fleet

A good fleet started for the 2nd heat of the club championships, with 4 skiffs, 10 Lasers and one 420. A good E - NE breeze meant we were sent out on course 1 by the starters on Scout. The race also saw the return of David Page in Manooga to the racing, who promptly won the Laser race by negotiating the tricky shifts and the changes in the breeze strength. Lee in Vibe came second, followed by Garry in Bad. Tom in Certifiable had a great race to win the handicap and finish 4th on scratch, while 2nd in the handicap went to Manooga and 3rd to Phil in Unshackled 2. In the skiffs, the Hill brothers in the Arrogant Frog almost got beaten by the McNamara brothers in the Cherub Block Party, which finished only 2:30 min after the 12ft skiff to claim 2nd on scratch. Jack and Robin in A Grand Day Out and Graeme and Willem in Fast Forward exchanged places a few times during the race, but A Grand Day Out prevailed to finish third after Fast Forward decided to capsize on the bottom mark. However, Fast Forward won the handicap followed by A Grand Day Out and Arrogant Frog Overall good to have some new competition to drive everybody a bit harder. The lonely 420 Conditions Apply with Liam and Coop are looking better every week and we are hoping we can provide with some competition soon.

A photo from the starters on Scout and David in Manooga looking over his shoulder to check if Lee is getting closer.



More photos in [this album on google drive](#).

A thank you to Gai for finishing, Mary Lou, Annette and Dennis Retton for starting and to Chris, Alan, Luke and Adrian on the support boat and the great photos!

General News

Starting and Finishing: If non-sailing members or Junior Fleet 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 The next Social Sailing is 6 November, then SS on 20 November, 4 and 18 December. Please contact Graeme on socialsailing@abbotsfordsailingclub.org.au

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

Upcoming decisions in the club meeting: We are talking about the ferry wharf developments, the RMS lease 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 7 November. **This is your club!**

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.

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

Royal Brighton Yacht Club are selling a number of 4yo Martin Sly Sabots for about \$1000 each. If interested contact Graeme 0417285531, graeme@fenwick.id.au

420 BobKat, stored at the club. Well equipped and has been sailed regularly over the years. \$1500 negotiable. Contact Kevin: kevin.john.jones@gmail.com

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

- 5 November Heats 3&4 Short Course Series
- 6 November Social Sailing
- 12 November Heat 1 Club Championship for skiffs, race for other classes
- 19 November Heat 3 Club Championship
- 20 November Social Sailing