

## Abbotsford Sailing Club News 30/11/2016

### A nice day for Course 4 again

Another mild day, with 10 - 15 knot Easterly breezes. It turned out to be a perfect day for some tight Junior Fleet racing, with the whole fleet of 6 boats finishing within 8 minutes of each other. Because two of the Cherubs and the 12' Arrogant Frog were at their State Championship, the main fleet consisted mostly of Lasers.

This next Saturday is a short course day for all classes. It promises to be another interesting day with the long term forecast indicating a southerly.

Our annual Yuletide dinner is rapidly approaching and will be held after racing on the 17 December. Please note this in your calendar. All are welcome and a sign-up list is at the club, or e-mail Annette on [aa.vervoort@gmail.com](mailto:aa.vervoort@gmail.com)

We are also looking for donations for the Xmas hamper as raffle prizes on the night. You can drop these off at the club anytime.

**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, Neil and Tom are rostered on.

Any news to be included in the next newsletter should be sent to [willemvervoort@gmail.com](mailto: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 was a much nicer day for the LtS Fleet and this meant that everybody got some good practice in sailing between two marks (see photo). With Nathan and Connor away sailing their Cherub (see later) at the State Titles at Drummoyne, Judy, Willem and Chris, as well as many parents helped on and off the water. After a very light start, eventually there was even enough breeze to allow Ben and Finn, the two oldest boys, to go quite fast in Sabots. Some of the younger sailors were a bit worried at various stages of the morning. This is quite normal! Parents: please convey that the children are safe and that the worst thing that can happen is they get wet. With the water warming up, capsizing can even become a welcome distraction. Working through the scariness is a common part of learning to sail, so children should not feel bad about this. The right attitude is to recognise being a bit uncomfortable, to assess the risks, to think about what they already know and are being told at the time, and then just get on with sailing.

After coming in (remember: centreboard half up, slow down by letting the sheet right out, and then turn into the wind) Judy had a further chat and we went over hand signals and all the things the children had already learnt.



## Junior fleet

The Junior fleet had a great day, with another 6 starters for the the day. This time Evan in Boatzilla came first, followed by Luke making a guest appearance again in Lightning Flash, with Marco coming a solid third. India had a great day coming fourth and challenging for third at times. Evie and Nick were the last two finishers, but, there was only 8 minutes between first and last, so the race was pretty tight. On the first work while going through the narrows to Abbotsford Bay the places changed many times. At various times all sailors had their boats “in the groove” going fast in the right direction! The challenge now is to do this all the time. All sailors also started better: no need to be miles back from the starting line in the last minute! After the race, Chris introduced wind shifts and how to use them. All sailors are now getting to this stage of sophistication, having mastered the basics of boat handling and getting around the course. We will increasingly be working on “race craft” (strategy and tactics) and being smart with their sailing in using the wind changes, tides, waves and all the other elements to the best advantage. Finally, it was interesting that before we went on the water we all went up to the eastern end of the reserve to look at the breeze. All sailors thought it was quite windy and appeared a little nervous. It is a testament to their skills that they all had no problem when actually on the water! Not even a hint of a capsized seemed likely. With sailors going so well, we may have to increase the length of courses as everyone had finished by 3:30pm.

Here is a photo from India, and one showing how close the racing was.



More photos in this album: <https://goo.gl/photos/WsQKCyUX2Q17DtCr9>

Racing starts on time (check the sailing instructions), so make sure you arrive around 12:30pm 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

There was some interesting racing in the Lasers, while the single 420 and the single Cherub had the course to themselves. Despite the relatively mild conditions, there was some good gusts and some un-expected holes in the breeze. The final results were Lee in Vibe, followed by Neil in SeaCure and Greg in Purple Haze in third. In the handicap, Judy in Because I can was followed by SeaCure and Purple Haze.

Conditions Apply was the single 420, and Fast Forward the single Cherub. A good day for some practice.

Here Greg was still leading Neil and a nice shot of all the Lasers going towards Glades.



More photos in this album: <https://goo.gl/photos/WsQKCyUX2Q17DtCr9>

Thank you to Kevin S and Glenn for support and Annette and Elena for starting. Thanks to Gai for finishing.

General News

**Yuletide dinner:** It is only a month away so start planning for this wonderful traditional dinner to be held at the club after Heat 4 of the Club Championship on **17 December**. Who would want to miss the visit from Santa? A sign-up list for the dinner will be up soon.

All members and family and friends are welcome.  
We again plan to have a Christmas hamper raffle. Donations of goods can be left near the canteen.

**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 on 4 December. Please contact Graeme on [socialsailing@abbotsfordsailingclub.org.au](mailto:socialsailing@abbotsfordsailingclub.org.au)

### 80th Birthday glasses for sale!

Good looking glasses as Xmas presents 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 5 December. **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](mailto:Tom.Biskupic@gmail.com)

### Boats for sale

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](mailto:kevin.john.jones@gmail.com)

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

## Dates for your diary

- 3 December Short course sailing
- 4 December Social Sailing
- 17 December Heat 4 Club Championship and Yuletide Dinner
- 18 December Social Sailing
- 22 January Social Sailing

