

Junior Regatta 2007

Dear Member,

The format for the Junior Regatta is gently evolving in an attempt to provide the most inclusive range of racing. This year we have made a few small adjustments that I would like to draw to your attention.



1) Sponsorship.

This year in addition to the sponsorship from Flick & Son we are pleased that Suffolk Marine Centre, supported by Musto, have agreed to sponsor the Junior Regatta. As the event has grown in size the costs (especially patrol boat cover) have grown considerably. The generosity of our sponsors has allowed us to keep increases in the entry fee down to a minimum.

2) Shirts and Caps

This year we will be offering event polo shirts, and sailing caps with the unique Junior Regatta logo. These quality Musto pieces are made available at well below normal retail prices through the sponsorship arrangements with Suffolk Marine Centre. If you would like one of these you should fill in the enclosed order form and return it with your entry. Your order will be available to be picked up at registration on Sunday 5th August. We have ordered a limited amount of shirts and caps so to ensure you will not be disappointed you should send in your entry early.

3) Classes.

Sadly for someone who grew up in Junior Lapwings, the number of entries has fallen over the last few years to the extent that it no longer makes sense to have the Junior Lapwings race as a separate class. The same is true for the Mirrors. This year we will have three handicap classes:

a)

for boats faster than a Portsmouth Yardstick of 1174. This will include RS 400, Laser full rig and Radial, 29er. National 14 etc.

b)

for boats between 1175 and 1210. This will include Laser 4.7 rig and all Topaz and Feva configurations etc

c)

for boats slower than 1210. This will include Junior Lapwings, Mirrors and Laser Pico etc.

There will continue to be classes for Toppers and Optimists.

4) Age Eligibility.

Youth sailors (over 18 but under 23 on Jan 1st 2008) will be eligible for Handicap "A" morning and afternoon and Handicap "B" and Toppers in the afternoon only.

5) Disco

This year the Disco reverts to the Thursday. Entry (to include food) will be free to competitors. If a boat is entered with different crew for morning and afternoon, the morning crew get in free and the others pay on the door. Non competitor guests are also welcome with a maximum of two per competitor.

6) Entry Forms and Registration.

In the past some Entry Forms have been sent in with minimal information included. Could I ask that you please fill in the Entry Forms as completely as possible noting, that if a boat is to be entered in the morning and afternoon with a different rig or helmsperson, a separate Entry Form should be completed? Entry fees continue to be payable per boat even if two Entry Forms are required. The Parent/Guardian declaration form is required for all competitors who are under 18 years of age on the day of the race, and should be included for the helm at the time of entry. Declaration forms for crews can be accepted at registration. If you require extra Entry Forms they are available online at www.aldeburghyc.u-net.com or from the office. All entrants must register between 16.30 and 18.00 on Sunday 5th at the Yacht club. Please note that because the Regatta is early this year the cut off for late entrants is **12.00 noon Wednesday 1st August.**

7) Club Fevas.

The club has 6 Fevas which are available to be chartered for the regatta as a whole. Potential helms should be able to demonstrate their competence and will be responsible for any damage they cause to the boats. Enquiries should be made to the Secretary.

8) Main Regatta

The success of the Junior Regatta has meant that junior participation in the Main Regatta has been reduced. I would like to emphasise that for those who can handle two weeks of racing there are laser class races and handicap classes in the main regatta where juniors are welcome.

The running of the Regatta depends heavily on the volunteer support of parents of the entrants to staff the bridge, marshal the slipways and assist in the rescue boats. For those of you who have not done it, the bridge is not a frightening place and all help is welcome.

If you are able to help please e-mail me at r.gillingham@virgin.net .

Many thanks

Rick Gillingham