

**WEST KIRBY SAILING CLUB**  
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## **2009/10/Season**

### **BACKGROUND**

West Kirby Sailing Club receives many enquiries about membership and the various facilities we offer. This brochure has been designed to assist enquirers.

Sailing takes place on the Marine Lake on weekday evenings between April and October and at weekends from April to December. There is also tidal sailing between April and October.

The Clubhouse opens six nights each week (not Sunday nights) and at lunch time at weekends, Bank Holidays and Wednesdays.

It is Club policy for a whole family to join at the same time whenever possible - when children may join from age seven - otherwise they must be over ten. The application procedures are designed to ensure that prospective new members are acquainted with the Club facilities and have had the opportunity to meet members with similar interests to their own before joining. We always aim to be as welcoming and helpful as possible.

Membership categories are grouped into various price bands which take account of different circumstances including age, distance living away from the Club and number of people in household. Those aged over 65 (after 3 years membership) or under 26 can enjoy subscriptions at a reduced rate. We also have an outport membership category for those who live a distance away from the Club (defined by postcodes) for more than eight months of the year. Family membership means that only one subscription is payable for all the children in the household aged between 7 and 18.

A variety of social functions are arranged for members by the House Committee and details of forthcoming events are displayed on the notice board behind the bar in the Main Room and on the website. Members may hire rooms for private functions subject to the approval of the General Committee well in advance.

There is a busy programme of events in the winter months including ShipShape on Tuesdays, a quiz on Wednesdays and Bridge is played in the Wilson Room on Thursdays throughout the year. Each Friday evening is Club night in the Main Room and the 200 Plus Club is held on the last Friday of each month in the Main Room.

The various notice boards around the Club advertise sailing events, social functions and official notices. There are also notice boards in the entrance hall where members may advertise boats for sale and crewing requirements. This is the only unauthorised advertising in the Club. The website is also regularly updated with a wealth of information and photographs.

The Club magazine, Seldom Seen, is published three times a year and is financed by advertising. It is named after a buoy in the Dee Estuary.

In addition, on the basis that nobody ever reads notices (!) you can also subscribe to a weekly e-mail Newsletter (from the "Newsfairy") which will update you with details of imminent Club events and the Club website will keep you informed of a variety of Club information

## **RULES AND TRADITIONS**

The General Rules and the Club Handbook are given out on election. Bar opening times, Club Rule 44 (Liability of Club) and the House Regulations are displayed on the Official Notices Board in the rear entrance.

Children under 10 must always be under parental supervision when on Club premises and may use the Main Room at lunch times, weekends or Bank Holidays. Juniors aged 10 to 14 can also use the Main Room on Friday evenings and after bona fide sailing in the week until 22.00. Juniors 14 to 18 may use the Main Room until 23.00 on a Friday. Juniors are not permitted to use the Macdona Room or consume alcohol. Please see House Regulations for full information.

Guests must be signed into the Visitors' Book and may come to the Club a maximum of six times in any one year. Non members aged under 18 must be introduced to a Club Officer and shall be subject to the same Rules as a Junior Member of an equivalent age.

The Club has several traditions. Please remove all headgear when entering the premises. The bell in the Main Room must only be rung for official announcements, when there are a prescribed number of rings for each Officer. The traditional penalty for breaking these rules is drinks all round! Gentlemen (and ladies) are requested not to be bare chested in the Clubhouse.

We ask all members and guests to respect our Rules and Traditions which make our Club special, as well as complying with the law and we hope that you will find that they enhance your regard for the Club.

The members of the membership sub-committee are set out below. Should you have any queries at this stage, please feel free to contact any of these and they will try to assist you.

### **MEMBERSHIP SUB COMMITTEE**

Chris Riley - Vice Commodore

Peter Williams - Hon. Secretary

Pam Dodd - Hon. Registrar

Val Braide – Member

## **SAILING AT WEST KIRBY SAILING CLUB**

The Dee Estuary is tidal and the trot moorings flood approximately two hours forty minutes before high water. Our racing finishes about an hour and a half after high water on an average tide. The height of tide varies and the best racing occurs with a height over eight metres.

There are three tidal moored classes, **Stars, Falcons and Hilbres**, which have organised races, usually at weekends according to the height and time of the tides.

Stars are the Club's senior class and are clinker built (ie overlapping planks) and date back originally to 1906. Falcons are similar to a large dinghy and are now all of glass fibre construction. Hilbres are heavier clinker built boats with a cuddy (cabin top).

The dinghy classes use the Marine Lake in the evening during the week and either the tide or lake at weekends. Our dinghy classes comprise **Fireflies** (highly manoeuvrable, 12 foot, 2 sail boats) **GP14s** (14 foot, 3 sail, general purposes dinghies), **Lasers** (nearly 13 foot, glass fibre, single sail dinghies), **Larks** (14 foot, glass fibre, 3 sail dinghies), **Illusions**, (a single handed keel boat, in miniature). and **Mirrors** (small gunter rigged dinghies).

Exclusively for junior members are the fleets of **Cadets** and **Optimists**. **Cadets** are small 3 sail boats for 2 people. **Optimists** are single sailed, solo crewed boats, particularly suitable for the younger helm.

Most recently, a few senior members have acquired **Solos** - a single hander dinghy – but a little more comfortable than a Laser ! To date the Solos have races in the Handicap fleet but from 2008 the class has been adopted by WKSC and will have its own class racing on Tuesday evenings.

In this day and age the Club is very fortunate to have thriving class racing and you are encouraged to sail in one of these classes. However if you sail another type of dinghy you are still very welcome to participate in dinghy Handicap racing.

An outline of the week's dinghy sailing programme is :-

Mondays: Training

Tuesdays: Fireflies, Lasers and Solos

Wednesdays: Handicap dinghies and Illusions

Thursdays: GPs

Fridays: Cadets, Optimists, Slow Handicap and Youth Handicap

Saturdays: Junior Training

Sundays: Handicap Dinghies and Illusions

If you are new to sailing, you may be able to acquire practical sailing experience by crewing for other people during the season or you may wish to take sailing lessons. The Club is an RYA Recognised Training Establishment, a Volvo Champion Club, and an RYA Onboard Hub. We have a resident Onboard Development Officer whose objective is to promote sailing for youngsters. The Club Training Committee is extremely pro active, offering courses on most aspects of sailing, power boating and a number of onshore courses for those dark winter evenings !

If you wish to buy a boat, you may wish to be introduced to the Class Captain(s) to discuss the different merits of various boats.

**Craft using the Marine Lake require a licence, obtainable from Wirral Borough Council. Members need a “south end licence”.**

All boats must be adequately insured at all times when sailed or stored on Club premises. Approved buoyancy aids must be worn when afloat. We encourage every member to mark all items of gear and clothing so that they can be easily identified.

### **PARKING YOUR BOAT ON CLUB PREMISES**

Boat parking is for members' boats only, subject to availability and on a strict prepayment basis. Spaces provided are seasonal and all dinghies must be removed when the racing season is over. Financial details are given later in this brochure. Boats are parked at owners' risk and should not be brought on the premises without the Captain's permission.

### **USE OF THE CLUB HOUSE**

The Clubhouse is for members' use only. In addition to the **Main Room**, there are a number of other rooms used for different purposes.

The **Macdona Room** has a snooker table and is for the use of Senior members only (i.e. aged 18 and over). The **Wilson Room** is upstairs and is used for committee meetings and small functions. In 2006 we opened a new Training Facility (nicknamed the TTR) which is a real bonus for training events.

## THE WAY FORWARD

Thank you for reading this brochure and for your interest in the Club. If you would like to become a member, please let us know so that you can arrange to meet the Flag Officers and/or Hon Secretary and obtain a Nomination Form. Usually, we find the best time to meet is on a Friday evening, after sailing on Sundays in the summer or lunch times on Sundays in the winter, by appointment.

When you are given a Nomination Form(s), please note the following points :

- You will need a proposer and a seconder, both of whom need to have been senior members for at least three years. If you do not know anybody who can propose and second you, then please ask to speak to someone from the Membership Committee.
- A separate Nomination Form will be required for each person wanting to join and a different form is used for applicants under 18 which should be signed by a parent or guardian.
- Each form must be completed fully on both sides and a cheque attached in full payment, subject to election.
- If you have any queries, then please contact one of the Membership Committee.

Thank you once again for your interest.

**Peter Williams**  
**Hon. Secretary.**

## APPENDIX - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ENTRANCE FEES 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2009 – 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2100

	<b>Subscriptions</b>	<b>Entrance Fee</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Members aged over 26	170.67	50.00	220.67
Members aged 18 to 26	85.33	25.00	110.23
Members over 65 with +3 years membership <i>(applications in writing to the Hon Registrar)</i>	85.33	50.00	135.23
Outport: over 26	51.20	50.00	101.20
Outport: 18-26	51.20	25.00	76.20
Junior	51.20	-	51.20
<b>Groupings taken from above:</b>			
Family (married or established couples and all their children who are junior members)	273.07	100.00	373.07
Married couples (husband over 26)	221.87	100.00	321.87

#### Notes

- 1 The subscriptions of members elected after 1 October shall be at the level subsisting for the following year.
- 2 Children under ten may not join unless their parents or legal guardians are members.
- 3 Subscriptions fall due on 1 January each year. Late payers incur a 20% surcharge, without exception.
- 4 Juniors are not required to pay an entrance fee.

**BOAT STORAGE FEES**  
**Winter 2009/10**

<b><u>Tidal Classes:</u></b>	<b>Oct -Mar 10 Yard £</b>	<b>Oct – Mar 10 Undercover £</b>	<b>Recovery £</b>
Star	70.00	135.00	25.00
Hilbre	78.00	144.00	30.00
Falcon	78.00		

<b><u>Cruising Boats:</u></b>	<b>Oct-April 10 £</b>	<b>Recovery £</b>
Less than 20ft (6m)	17/m	7/m
Over 20ft up to 27ft (6.1m to 8.4m)	20/m	7/m
Over 27ft up to 34ft (8.5m to 10.5m)	21/m	8/m

<b><u>Dinghies:</u></b>	<b>April 09– March 10 £</b>	<b>Possible Refund* £</b>
Dinghies	88.00	35.00
Illusions	54.00	17.00
Optimist racks – ground/middle/top	£27/£19/£16	6.00

\* **Possible Refund:** Applicable if boat is removed at the end of the Frostbite series.

**Notes**

1 The above figures apply only for payment received in ADVANCE of service requested. Late payers should add 50% storage.

2 Boat parking is only available to members and is subject to availability.

3 Application for boat parking and other services should be made by completing the appropriate form and sending it to the Office Administrator with the fee.

4 **All boat owners must have a valid and current insurance policy for the boat, with a minimum third party cover of £2,000,000, whilst it is on West Kirby Sailing Club premises and on the water.**

5 If you have any queries about boat parking or the other boat services available, please contact the Office Administrator or the Yard Manager.