

Training Captain Report - AGM

This year has been a very successful year with regards to training. We started the year signing up with RYANI's Focus Club scheme, the purpose of this scheme is to help clubs with their development as well as improving membership and member participation / volunteering.

Our first main event was our Push the Boat Out Day on 20th May, this was a great day despite the weather with 75 people attending to try out boating of various kinds. Our furthest visitor was from Co. Louth and he is now a member which is wonderful.

Following from Push the Boat Out people had the opportunity to sign up for a range of courses we were running over the summer including two new schemes; Women on Water and Crew Sailing Programme.

Women on Water introduced women to different types of boating, which included racing on cruising and classic yachts, dinghy sailing and powerboating over a 4-week period. Following on from this Maria Harwood and her crew of ladies on Green Ginger showed how a team of women brought together can be so successful at racing, winning both the Regatta and Frostie series in her class. None of the women except Maria had raced before.

Crew sailing programme paired those wanting to get into sailing but didn't have a boat. This again was very successful with some boats gaining permanent crew where they had been struggling before.

We plan to run all of these events again next year.

The number of courses run during the summer greatly increased from last year and included: -

- Learn to race
- Intermediate racing
- Learn to sail – youth x 5
- Learn to sail – adult level 1 x 2, level 2 x 2
- PBL2 x 3
- First aid

In total approximately 180 people attended training courses.

Over the winter it is hoped that we will run another first aid course and possibly VHF course and marine diesel engine maintenance course. We are also looking into our club being able to deliver the RYA 'safe and fun' training which is an online children's safe guarding course. We have already agreed to host a Safeguarding training course on 23rd January 19 and it is important that anyone involved in dealing with children around the club sign up for this.

We would not have had such a successful season if it were not for our fantastic team of instructors and I want to particularly thank them all, from the Senior Instructors to the Assistant Instructors their contribution has been greatly appreciated. This season we have started to look at a training structure with regards to instructors, with the senior instructors taking more of a lead role. Jack Kennedy has kindly taken on the role of chief sailing instructor, he plans to hold 2 – 3 instructor's meetings a year to get feedback from instructors

regarding issues and ways to make things better. The first meeting was held in August and went very well. The minutes of this meeting were then fed up to a Senior Instructor meeting including all the senior instructors and the senior race coach. The purpose of these meetings is to address the issues raised and plan for next season, allowing any issues to then be fed up to the commodore's committee. It is hoped this structure / process will give the instructors more ownership and feeling that their views are valued.

We have also been working in partnership with the RYA to host a Dinghy Instructors Course and Powerboat Instructors Course. We as a club provide the venue and boats, in return the RYA pay us to host the course and they do all the organising. In addition to that we have seen a return of squad training to SLYC in June and last weekend we hosted a Topper pathway training day with 26 toppers attending including 8 club members.

Finally, our junior sailing programme has continued to flourish through Sunday Sailing. We had a total of 95 children sign up although thankfully they didn't all come on the same day! We have had a lot of parents volunteering which has helped with the running of the morning and we have been selling coffee and scones, encouraging more people to stay and use the club house. We finished the season by holding a fund raiser fun day for Kodi's Krew on the last Sunday, raising over £1050. Elaine Cushley and Jack Kennedy were key in making the day such a great success.

We look forward to another successful season in 2019.

Susan McKnight - Training Captain