



## Tankerton Bay Sailing Club

TBSC Spring Update #1

7<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Members,

Firstly, I do hope you are all still safe and well? Secondly, on behalf of the club I'd like to say a big thank you to all the key workers keeping us safe and secure – I know many of our members fit into that category – so thank you one and all. Although still deep in lockdown, it's now great to see the government, people and the RYA are talking about the routes back to some form of normality. We don't really know what that will look like – but we know social distancing and some parts of lock down will remain as we ease our way out of this crisis. That'll be the same for sailing – in this update I'll provide you with some of the things we've been doing to keep you (our members) engaged as well as some of the thinking around what the future may hold.

### 1. Engaging with members and thinking about the future

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have been working hard to keep you engaged, with more Facebook posts, the launch of virtual sailing and increased communications. The support you've given has been great and we thank you for your patience and understanding in these difficult times when we cannot offer our usual on and off the water activities. We are continuing these discussions with the RYA, East Kent Yacht Association and the local authority (amongst other organisations) to explore what else we can do and when we can start to ease the club back into some form of safe limited use – getting boats rigged, finishing off the winter works and hopefully getting some of us out sailing. The Committee continues to meet monthly (via Zoom) and has agreed that we will offer a reduction in the 2021 fees for our loyal 2020 membership. What percentage that will be is dependent on when (or even if) and how we get back sailing this year, as well as how robust our finances remain throughout 2020.

### 2. Ross Power wins our inaugural e-sailing Championship Spring Series!

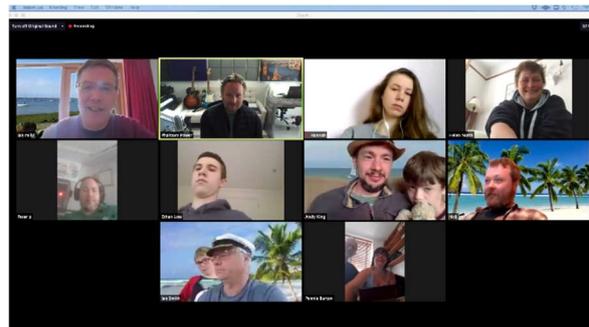
The inaugural e-sailing championship was completed this weekend. We had 12 entrants over the 3 weekends competing in 15 races. The rules are very similar to normal racing – to such an extent that Helen North is offering up online training via our own internal Zoom account.

The overall series winner was Ross Power, with Andy King in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Helen North in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ross now goes forward to the RYA Regional Championship – we wish him good luck - go Ross, do us proud!

**Our free e-sailing continues** on Wednesday evenings at 7pm and Sunday mornings at 10am – anyone can join in as we chat over Zoom and race online – just ping me or Ross an email. Come on, the more the merrier!



The virtual sailing



The virtual sailors (Ian Smith played the part!)

### 3 . Cryptic Quiz & Picture Quiz.

We have extended Pennie Burton's cryptic quiz until the end of the month. All the answers are related to dinghies, catamarans of committee members -and we've given you 2 to help you on your way. So, get your thinking caps on! Send your answers to Pennie

Last month's picture quiz answers are as attached – I hope you managed to get most of them. More appear on Facebook every 4 or 5 days. You can always add your own!

### 4. Our History

Barry is making good use of the lockdown to really dig deep into our archives and help create a historic record of the club. Last time I spoke to him, he was stuck in the 60's (some of you would probably say



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he has never escaped – but I think that's a tad unfair!). I digress – he is doing a great job and Mags and Hannah are helping him format the facts and figures to create a space that will draw people in. To help we released and 'boosted' an article on our external Facebook site around our clubhouse opening in 1967. This reached nearly 5000 people and resulted in some significant contacts from people and relatives of those from our formative years. This along with the 'club tome' has given Barry some significant momentum, so if you want to help or know of anyone who could provide information on our history, just give Barry or Mags a shout.



'Tahiti' Bill Howell – who opened the clubhouse in 1967



Lindsay Sharp receiving the Sharp Cup at first Laying Up supper

### 5. Bar sales.

Thank you to all those who purchased a little piece of Tankerton Bay Sailing Club by buying some of the excess bar stock. Jane and I played 'Deliveroo' to households across Whitstable, Tankerton and Canterbury this week delivering beer, wine, soft drinks and chocolates, and whilst it's a great shame we cannot share these together on our wonderful balcony, it was great to see many of you in person once again – at a safe distance of course! Jane also made some cakes (see below) to include in each delivery and as promised we will use some of the small profit to go towards a food and drink thankyou package for one or two of the care homes along the Tankerton sea front. More on that next time.



We now have our own TBSC club Zoom account, so if you have any ideas for online entertainment, fun or top tips or just an idea on how you can help, please let us know! Again, please keep in contact with your fellow members, especially those who are on their own or isolated. Watch out for the next update in which I hope that we can provide you with what getting back to our club looks like in the short to medium term. Until then stay safe and well.

Ian Mills (on Behalf of the Committee) TBSC Commodore

PS – still planning on getting the skegs on my old red 18 sorted – got side tracked on jobs that have never got done, finally fitting deck lights to our outside decking which Jane bought 15 years ago! Every cloud as they say..... every cloud.