



Royal St. George Yacht Club- Snapshot of Sailing activities week of 15th May 2017

The Royal St. George Yacht Club is one of the busiest Yacht Clubs in Europe with a wide and diverse range of activities taking place regularly. As an example of what is taking place I have put together a summary of last week's activities.

- Monday WeSail
- Tuesday Schools Sailing, uSail, Dinghy & Keelboat racing
- Wednesday Corporate sailing, Water Wag racing, Optimist Team Racing Coaching
- Thursday DBSC Racing
- Friday Schools Sailing, Friday evening junior racing, Adult Laser Coaching, Event pack up
- Saturday DBSC Saturday Race day, Optimist Coaching
- Sunday Sea Squirts & Tigers sailing, Adult Sailability, Optimist Coaching, Instructor training
- Daily Regular Boathouse activities, Volunteer Launch driving

Monday 15th May *WeSail* **10 sailors each week, 4 Volunteers**

WeSail (formally known as Special Needs Sailing) has started for the 2017 sailing season. WeSail is a sailing program for adults from the age of 18 with intellectual disability. This program runs on Monday evenings with up to 10 sailors spending the evening on the water building their confidence and sailing skills aboard the three Club Squibs. Some of the athletes race on Tuesday evenings with the Squib class. The WeSail program is a program run by volunteers and is seeking additional experienced sailors and volunteers to contribute to the continued success of a growing program.

For more details see <http://www.rsgyc.ie/sailing/special-needs-sailing/>

Tuesday 16th May *Schools Sailing* Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Schools Sailing program
120 sailors each week, 16 instructors

The RSGYC offers a number of sail training and sailing activities for schools in the locality. For six Tuesdays and Wednesdays in April and May the RSGYC welcomes 60 sailors from local schools each day for an afternoon of sail training in Optimists. The program is run in conjunction with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown council and the dlr Sports Partnership and facilitated in conjunction with our sailing partners the INSS. This program provides these children with a great introduction to sailing and being safe around the water while also showcasing the RSGYC in the local area.

***uSail* 7 new sailors**

uSail is the RSGYC Adult Sail training program which runs May – September. This program offers sailing lessons aboard the Club 1720's in a fun and relaxed environment. Sailing gear is provided; all that is required is an appetite for fun and learning. The uSail program is a popular program for introducing new members to the Club and also for those members and their friends who wish to get some formal sail training while having a good time and meeting like-minded individuals. The uSail

program has new courses starting most weeks, with sessions typically taking place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and/ or on weekends. The uSail program has been popular also with providing crew to Club member's boats. More details on the uSail program can be found here <http://www.rsgyc.ie/training-3/usail/>

DBSC Dinghy & Keelboat racing **approx. 60 sailors**

Regular DBSC racing takes place each Tuesday evening with the RSGYC having a very active and committed number of sailors taking to the water for some great racing and fun followed by 'de-briefs' in the Club bar. On any Tuesday there are Ruffians, Glens, Squibs, Lasers, Finn's, Fireballs and more launching from the Club for some magnificent racing and sailing and the perfect de- stress after work.

Wednesday 17th May ***Group & Corporate Sailing*** **35 sailors, 7 coaches**

On Wednesday the RSGYC has hosted a group sailing activity for an afternoon sail training/ regatta for a Club member's company outing. The Club member invited his company & team to the RSGYC for a unique and memorable 'off site' activity. The activity was tailor designed to suit the individual requirements of the group. An afternoon cruise in the Bay and 'Try Sailing' sessions are popular. This group were thrill seekers elected the 'Regatta' option where the competitive nature of the team was embraced. Sailing took place aboard the Club 1720's and was followed by a BBQ or dining option as per the groups' requests. For more information please see <http://www.rsgyc.ie/sailing/corporatesailing/>

Water Wag racing **approx. 20 sailors**

Each Wednesday evening the Water Wag class race in the harbour. This class is growing with over 25 boats regularly on the start line for competitive and fun racing.

Optimist Team Racing **approx. 14 sailors, 2 coaches**

As the RSGYC is the home of Team Racing we start the training when our sailors are still in Optimists. This group of 14 sailors are training to compete in the Vice Presidents Trophy on the 17th June at Howth Yacht Club

Thursday 18th May ***Regular DBSC Race evening*** **approx. 300+ sailors**

Thursday evenings is a busy one with over 300 sailors taking to the water in all classes and types of boats to compete in the DBSC Thursday evening race series. The Club launches are busy ferrying sailors to boats on moorings and the West Bight, the two Club cranes are launching Dry Sailed boats and the slipway is also busy with the launch of the first Flying 15 launching from the Club slip in a number of years. Needless to say, the racing is great fun and returning to shore for the Club BBQ and refreshments is eagerly anticipated.

Friday 19th May ***Schools Sailing*** **approx. approx. 40 young sailors each week**

Fridays are busy with Schools sailing activities taking place in the afternoon and evening with St. Conleth's School & St. Marys National School, Donnybrook.

This is the second year of our Club member schools sailing program where we welcome schools for Fridays in May with the students have spending Friday afternoons/ evenings learning to sail. St. Conleth's have been learning to sail using the fleet of Club Optimists while St. Marys have been

cruising around the harbour and Bay aboard the Club 1720's. The new sailors are having a great time afloat (and in the water after sailing) with their interest in sailing most definitely awakened.

Combined Clubs Junior Friday evening race series **approx. 30+ sailors and 10 volunteers**

Each Friday up to mid- June there is Friday evening racing for all Junior Classes. This racing takes place inside the harbour with over 80 sailors from all Clubs taking to the water every Friday. Two races are run each evening and all race management and safety support is provided by parents and volunteers who are happy to start their weekend afloat on Friday evenings followed by some enjoyable food, refreshments and comradeship ashore afterwards.

Friday Laser Coaching **10 – 12 sailors, 1 Coach**

Friday evenings and Sunday mornings at the RSGYC has regular Laser Class coaching for the 'Masters'. Parents and seasoned sailors have come together for coaching in the laser class for adult sailors of all abilities. This group trains regularly and is most welcoming to any Laser sailors who would like to become involved. For more information and to get involved see www.rsgyc.ie/lasermastercoaching

Event Pack Up & preparation

Friday at the RSGYC was a hive of activity with a good number of RSGYC Laser sailors packing up to go to Ballyholme to compete in the Laser Master Northern's. Great results and strong showings by RSGYC sailors with Shirley Gilmore in 2nd overall in the Radial Class and Theo Lyttle 3rd in the standard class.

Also on Friday we sent off a couple of Water Wags on their merry way to southern Brittany's incomparable inland sea of the Morbihan, to join the with a fleet of 1400 craft of all sizes for the biennial Festival of Sail. We are looking forward to hearing more of the festival.

Saturday 20th May ***Regular DBSC Saturday Racing, Optimist Coaching weekend*** **200+ sailors**

Saturday saw regular DBSC Saturday racing for boats of all shapes and sizes. Also taking place on Saturday (and Sunday) was a weekend Optimist coaching clinic. These clinics have some of Europe's top Optimist coaches training and preparing our Optimist sailors for the many regional, national and international competitions that the sailors compete in. The optimist sailors are some of the most dedicated sailors and can be seen coaching and sailing on practically any given weekend.

Sunday 21st May ***Sea Squirts & Tigers*** **20+ sailors, 5 instructors**

Sunday mornings for some is a quiet time- not at 9:30am at the RSGYC when over 20+ new and improving sailors between the ages of 6 and 12 are welcomed to their Club for a morning of sail training and their weekly fix of 'messaging about in boats' as part of the Sea Squirts & Tigers program. This program introduces our youngest sailors to sailing and encourages them to be safe and comfortable around boats and the water. These budding sailors truly are a sight to behold. Their excitement is infectious and the fun they have really is truly invigorating. The program runs every Sunday morning under the expert and safe instruction of our ISA qualified instructors and the watchful eyes of parents who assist with the program. The program welcomes friends of sailors/ members who wish to try sailing and has been a great introduction to the Club for non- members who are interested in becoming Club members. While the Sea Squirts and Tigers sail, the parents catch up and meet new friends. Newspapers and Coffees are also enjoyed in the Reading Room.

More information can be found at <http://www.rsgyc.ie/training-3/juniors/sea-squirts-sea-tigers-2017/>

Dun Laoghaire Adult Sailability

20+ sailors, 10+ volunteers

Sunday afternoons in May have seen the inaugural sailing sessions of the Dun Laoghaire Adult Sailability program run under the watchful eyes of the Dun Laoghaire Sailability group which is a combined Clubs program with the DMYC, NYC, RIYC and the RSGYC. The Sailability program provides sailing opportunities and training to sailors with physical and sensorial disabilities aboard specially designed boats such as the International 2.4m class and the Hansa sailing dinghies. These boats safely and comfortably facilitate sailors in their training and sailing experiences each Sunday afternoon at the host clubs. The Sailability program is run by volunteers and will always welcoming new sailors and volunteers to assist with the program. For more details see <https://www.rsgyc.ie/2017/05/dun-laoghaire-sailability-programme-2017/>

ISA Advanced Instructor training course

9 Instructors, 1 Instructor Trainer

Sunday was the start of a week-long ISA Advanced Instructor training course where some of the Club's instructors are adding to their certifications and training to become advanced sailing instructors. This course covers a wide range of topics, boats and activities and is an intense course for the instructors.

Other Regular Activities

Daily Boathouse Activities

Our Boathouse is the busiest on the Waterfront with crane lifts; mast stepping & unstepping, slip launchings, scrubs, antifouling jobs, rib launching and recovery and regular day to day boat parking, maintenance and activities taking place. Our team of Boatmen are busy keeping all Club craft maintained, operational and afloat along with the facilities and equipment. As can be appreciated this is not a small task and one that is carried out quietly and efficiently in the background resulting in the provision of world class facilities, equipment and services in Irelands busiest yacht Club.

Volunteer Launch Driving

Our launches are manned by Club members on a regular basis to assist during our busiest periods. Club members skipper the launches for a couple of hours or less on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturdays and Sundays.

Special thanks to these volunteer launch drivers who happily provide their time to drive the launches. We are always seeking to add to our Volunteer roster.

For more information on any of the above please contact the Sailing Manager- Ronan Adams on 01 214 7852 or by email at SailingManager@rsgyc.ie