



April 2011

Captain's Log

Fellow Ruffians,
I am sure you would all join me in thanking Michael Hinkson for all his hard work on our behalf during his year as Class Captain. Mike was an excellent chairman and a hard act to follow on and

off the water. This year the Committee has lost Bruce Carswell, who stayed on as past captain last year. Bruce gave us a handy scrap book of his year, to assist present and future bearers of this office. I'm all for standing on the shoulders of others!

Lambay, another great event is again started for the Ruffians. We hope to see Shillelagh on the water defending their string of victories at Lambay. HYC have offered us a feeder race this year with a little reception on arrival, in the club bar.

For those of us who can't get enough racing, the **DMYC September-October** series is another great chance to start with a clean slate.

North-South Team Racing

We are going up North on **Sunday 5th June** this year as guests of the Carrickfergus Ruffians for the annual North-South team racing event – always an enjoyable occasion. Last year there was lots of fun. Congratulations to the Carrickfergus sailors for winning the team racing trophy.

Prizes Galore

Don't forget that there is a prize for starting as well as finishing well in the season.

Fortunately, we now have a very experienced committee, and we are delighted to welcome Chris Helme on board.

The Sailing Programme

Don't forget to study the calendar in this issue, as some changes have been made since it was sent out.

The visit of the Hong Kong party is not to be this year, after all. We are hoping that, with longer notice for next year, that they will be able to agree a suitable date!

2011 is **Dun Laoghaire Volvo Regatta** year, which takes place two weeks before the National Championships. Should be quite a party! The **Nationals** are in **July (22-24th)**.

Ruffian Sailing Calendar 2011

DBSC 1st Tuesday	April 26
DBSC 1st Thursday	April 28
DBSC 1st Saturday	April 30
North-South Team Racing	June 5
Lambay Race	June 11
Bloomsday Regatta	June 18
Interclub Team Racing	June 26
DL Volvo Regatta	July 7-10
Skerries Regatta	July 16 & 17
National Championships	July 22,23&24
East Coast Regatta	July 30
Ladies Race	August 10
Fun Sail/Barbecue Sunday	August 21
Last Tuesday	August 25
Last Thursday	August 30
Captains Prize	September 8
Last Saturday	September 24

The Leaping fish trophy will be awarded to the leader of the first six Thursdays and Saturdays. The Hong Kong tankard is awarded for the best boat in the last eight Thursdays and Saturdays.

We are also going to hold the six-weekly mini-series and get-togethers. This year we will try out Thursdays. The dates for these **après-sail get-togethers** are:

May 5 in the NYC (no prizes)

June 9 in the RStGYC

July 21 in the DMYC

August 25 in the NYC

This year will also see the barbecue/sail in company on a Sunday – August 21st.

2011 Committee

Class Captain	Richard Godley 086-2465803 richgod@indigo.ie
Vice Captain	Alan Claffey 087-8180077 alan.claffey@vodafone.com
Hon. Secretary	Caoive Collins 087-2395245 caoive.collins@ymail.com
Hon. Treasurer	Ann Kirwan, 086-6065803 ann.kirwan@aerlingus.com
Measurer	Alan Kirwan 087-2555650 alan.kirwan@kmj.ie
Safety Officer	Brendan McCormack 086-2662940 mccormackbenno@eircom.net
Prizes/Merchandi	Ian Cutliffe 086-8319636 ian.cutliffe@boimail.com
Record Keeper	Chris Helme 086-8233443 chris.helme@ge.com
Regional Liaison	Henrik Heckmann 087-8207003 henrikheckmann@yahoo.co.uk
Past Captain	Michael Hinkson 086-2436008 michael_hinkson@hinkson.ie

DBSC Line duty

DBSC Line duty

Alan Claffey, our Vice-Captain, will be coordinating the Ruffian line duty roster this season. Alan will make sure teams doing line duty have each others mobile phone numbers in case of difficulty.

Tuesday helpers (2 people) will assemble at the RIYC forecourt at 17.35hrs with two cars available.

Thursday helpers (3 people) assemble at the RIYC forecourt at 17.00hrs. No cars are required. Helpers should be able bodied, familiar with DBSC procedures and capable of serving constructively on board committee boats. They should come equipped with personal buoyancy and sailing clothing.

Saturdays helpers (3 people) assemble at the RIYC forecourt at 13.00hrs. 2 cars are needed. One of the Saturday team must be equipped with personal buoyancy and sailing clothing.

Remember DBSC will impose a sanction of the loss of one race for the class if the required personnel fail to show up on time.

Boat Name	Day/Date	Requirements
Ruff N Ready	Tuesday 10th May	1 Person / 1 Car
Crescendo	Tuesday 10th May	1 Person / 1 Car
Alias	Saturday 21st May	2 People/ 2 Cars
Ruff Justice	Saturday 21st May	1 Person
Ruff Rider	Thursday 2nd June	2 People
Papillon	Thursday 2nd June	1 Person
Diane II	Tuesday 21st June	1 Person / 1 Car
Icicle	Tuesday 21st June	1 Person / 1 Car
Shannagh	Thursday 11th August	2 People
Ruff Nuff	Thursday 11th August	1 Person
Ruffles	Saturday 20th August	2 People / 2 Cars
Badger	Saturday 20th August	1 Person



DBSC RACING FORMAT

Tuesdays

The Tuesday format is unchanged.

Saturdays

Saturdays, with revised course cards, will see new courses giving fewer but longer legs. There will be three Olympic races but now all red fleet boats will sail them.

Thursdays

Big changes have been made for Thursdays. In the interest of less congestion, fairer starts and fairer finishes, two distinct circles have been laid and two committee boats will be used. The hut will only be

used on Thursdays for special situations.

Our circle (Red Fleet) is based on Omega mark and 'Spirit of the Irish' will be our starting boat. The Blue fleet is based on Middle mark & MacLir, to the North of us.



Outside the circles, four marks, Z, X, H and A can be used by both fleets. If the committee boat is out of action, we will have a hut start with Platonic courses. On Thursdays, VHF will be very important, with any changes to Hut vs 'Spirit' and any course shortening being carried over channel 72. The Hut or Spirit will use 72. MacLir uses 74. If the OD on Spirit wishes to shorten all classes, he may use the red pennant rather than the flag of every red class. Harbour mark is now a mark of the course and on Thursdays when the Hut is not in use, boats may pass inside the starting buoys

Sail Measuring

Alan Kirwan, the class measurer, among many other things, has had his first measuring session in the RSGYC on the evening of Thursday 14th April. After that Alan will arrange another date for sail measuring on request. Alan will be away from 17 to 29 April. Measuring will take place either in the Junior Room downstairs or the new Atrium just outside it.

Safety

Brendan McCormack, our Safety Officer, will be conducting his first safety check on **14th May**. The Class safety check sheet can be found on www.ruffians.ie, or ask any committee member.

The 2010 AGM

As agreed at the AGM, there are now changes to the following class rules:

Rule 1b - Compliance with class rules.

Rule 13.7 - Purchase of Sails.

Rule 17 – Instrumentation.

The amended class rules can be examined on www.ruffians.ie.



2010 Wicklow Report

It was a tale of two keelboats in Wicklow last season, as John Harte's Scamp and Tony Gillespie's Bilbo fought it out over one of the most coveted prizes of Wicklow Sailing Club: "Best Ruffian Overall". With Skua (Gavin Ralson) and Tramp (Noonan/Butterworth) only occasionally spotted off their moorings the serious racing resembled one extensive match race with one red and one green hull permanently crossing tacks - as if the Garden County had suddenly instated their own America's Cup battle: In the end it was a delighted John Harte who yet again received the precious Ruffian Half-model which bears his boat's name now more than any other one, congratulations!

In other news, we hear that formerly very successful Ruffian Humble Bumble is now being sailed in Co. Clare, while their former racing crew are currently considering to ditch their present bilge-keeler in order to acquire instead surprise surprise - another Ruffian; interested parties may wish to get in touch with Mike Fisher about this. Regarding the 2011 season, it is the fleet's intention to send at least one boat up to the Nationals, and with Trish Heckmann's Ruffage back in the water to enlarge the racing fleet, who knows, it might even be more than one?

For those feeling like a little cruise in August, WSC is happy to remind fun-loving sailors that the **Wicklow Regatta** will take place again at the **August Bank Holiday Weekend**, and if sufficient numbers appear, then a separate Ruffian class (& Trophy...) will of course be organised.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A reminder that your 2011 membership subscriptions are now due. The 2011 full subscription is €150 per boat (up to 8 crew including owners/helms), with €10 payable per additional crew member, and €20 per boat for country/regional membership. Note that in order to race in DBSC boats must be fully paid up members of the Ruffian Association. Please complete and return the attached membership renewal/application form.

2010 CLASS DINNER

The 2010 Season was rounded off with a very successful and well attended dinner in the DMYC. Donal O'Sullivan attended on behalf of DBSC and Brian Cusack from the DMYC attended the dinner at the invitation of the committee.

DBSC Gold & Silver fleets

Saturday Gold	Saturday Silver
Alias	Badger
Carmen	Blue Moon
Crescendo	Champagne
Diane II	Golden Girl
Icicle	Papillon
Nuits St Georges	Rila
Paramour	Ruff Diamond
Riff Raff	Ruff Justice
Ripples	Ruff Rider
Ruff N Ready	Sandfire
Ruff Nuff	The Sting
Ruffles	
Shannagh	
Shillelagh	



Thursday Gold	Thursday Silver
Alias	Badger
Carmen	Blue Moon
Diane II	Champagne
Golden Girl	Crescendo
Icicle	Papillon
Nuits St Georges	Rila
Paramour	Ruff Diamond
Riff Raff	Ruff Justice
Ripples	Ruff Rider
Ruff N Ready	Sandfire
Ruff Nuff	The Sting
Ruffles	
Shannagh	
Shillelagh	

Buy and Sell

Wanted: Reaching Spinnaker in good condition.

Contact: Larry Power : 0872431638 or email larryp@iol.ie

For Sale: Ruffian 23 Rudder; good condition, Contact: Robbie Keys, Skerries

Meeting the Jonathan Swift

A certain Ruffian was en-route from Howth to Dun Laoghaire the day after the Lambay race last year. It started out as a sunny afternoon, light wind and calm seas. At the Bailey, a fog descended. It was decided to proceed across the channel. After some time the fog lifted. Then the Jonathan Swift was seen leaving the Port, about to clear Poolbeg. The Ruffian doing four knots with no sails versus the Ferry - capable of 39 knots were converging. Could / would the Ferry see the Ruffian? The shipping roundabout mark lay somewhere to the East of our course. When would he make his turn and where? The two vessels were on a collision course. It was four minutes to crossing. At least it was daylight. Fortunately the crew had asked Howth Marina for the Port VHF channel. A little chat was initiated with the Jonathan Swift; the Captain could see us; he checked with Dublin Vessel Tracking System (VTS), who were monitoring and then announced he would change course to pass behind the Ruffian. All very pleasant; each wished the other a pleasant day and steamed on. Oh and what number was that VHF channel? **Its channel 12.**



Organ donation

Last week was organ donor week. Members might want to take part – the process is simple – freetext the word *donor* to 50050.

