



**Welcome to the October edition of On the Pier.**

**COVID Team:**

With regard to the tightening of restrictions now and over the next 4 weeks, as announced by the NI Executive on 14/10/20, the Covid Team at EABC have met to review the club's current operations

- The bar will be closed for 4 weeks beginning Friday 16th October) and, unless further restrictions are announced, will be eligible to open again on Saturday 14th November. More details on this will be sent to members as necessary.
- The Topper Northerns, scheduled for the 24th and 25th of October, has been cancelled. The organising committee felt that it could not run the event in good faith with the latest restrictions in place.
- Updated advice from RYA NI is that we are currently restricted to no more than 15 individuals on the water for organised activities at any one time (including race officials, rescue cover etc.). As a result, we have to revert to the format used earlier in the season, with two separate start times. The Topper's and Optimists will have 2 races scheduled back-to-back with the first gun at 12:30. This race will immediately follow the morning's training session. Double handers will have their first gun at 14:00 with the Singlehanded Handicap (including all laser rigs) scheduled to start 5 minutes after. Again, these classes will have 2 races back-to-back.

Due to these reduced numbers, all sailors must register to race on the club website, available from the following link -

<https://membership.eabc.club/events>

If anyone is having any difficulty registering, please contact Ryan Brown on [comms@eabc.club](mailto:comms@eabc.club) and you can be added to the list.

Our racing remains limited to members of the club and this will likely be the case for at least the next 4 weeks. A decision on the format of the Halloween Regatta and Winter Series has not yet been made. More details, including how to enter, will be made available in the coming days.

**Training:**

Sunday morning sessions (11am-12.30pm) will be continuing in October and through Winter all being well. 'Open Sailing Sessions' are for all ages and abilities, these can be sailed in your own dinghy or the club toppers/ RS Quest with our instructors supervising. Sign up online to book a place each week.

Junior race training will be running each Sunday morning at the same time.

Contact [training@eabc.org.uk](mailto:training@eabc.org.uk) with any queries about suitability, you can be added to the WhatsApp group where we keep updated on the weather each week in case of cancellation.

**Juniors:**

Our juniors have excelled in the RYA NI Youth Championships held at Ballyholme.

Results:

Laser Radial

1<sup>st</sup> Tom Coulter who was also the best junior.

10<sup>th</sup> Kelly Patterson

12<sup>th</sup> Mathew McClernon

18<sup>th</sup> Mathew Liddle

Laser 4.7

5<sup>th</sup> Joshua Kane

Topper 5.3

1<sup>st</sup> Zoe Whitford, Zoe was also best junior and best female competitor

4<sup>th</sup> Charlie Patterson

27<sup>th</sup> Fraser Doig

Topper 4.2

2<sup>nd</sup> Freddie Doig

13<sup>th</sup> George Doig

15<sup>th</sup> Tom O'Neill

Congratulations to all of them.

### **Committee in Focus:**

General Committee member- Ryan Brown

**Roles on Committee?** Club communications and 'Covid-19 Team' sub-committee

What attributes are needed for your role?

Mostly technical abilities. You need to have a good general understanding of technology, particularly IT. Previous experience of designing websites would be beneficial. It is also important to be optimistic and cheerful as you try to promote the club in the best light and encourage participation from members.

Main goal/ achievement in this year on committee?

The biggest achievements from this past year has been getting the vast majority of our systems online. The club website is now a modern design and is kept up to date. Members and visitors alike can glean lots of information from there. We have also improved integration between the website and our Sailing Club Manager. This proved invaluable when Covid-19 hit as we were able to easily update members, limit numbers on the water, and also track who was taking part in activities.

Where and when did you start sailing?

I worked behind the bar at EABC for a stint and was eventually coaxed onto Wildwood to give sailing a try one Tuesday night. I enjoyed being on the water and was intrigued by the technical discussions and seemingly random events taking place around me. I began to sail regularly in the evenings, and started reading books and watching Youtube videos, before buying my own Laser a few months later.

What classes have you sailed?

I currently sail my Laser or RS 400 most Sundays at the club and was due to compete at the Laser Irish Nationals in Cork, before Covid got in the way. As well as sailing on Wildwood, I have also sailed with Richard Doig on Sirius - in my second time at the Scottish Series in Tarbert we managed to finish 3rd in our class. Last year I crewed for Rory Fekkes on F'N Gr8 where we won our class at Dun Laoghaire Regatta. Currently I do most of my keel boat racing on Peter Doig's J92s, Jack.

What is your favourite place to sail?

My favourite sailing trip would be cruising to Inverness on Sirius with Richard and Michael

Kane. I got to experience both the Caledonian and Crinin Canal, which included a great sail in Loch Ness with the spinnaker flying. We also stopped off in Gigha – a unique little Scottish island.

What do you enjoy about being a member at EABC?

I consider EABC to have a brilliant core membership who are friendly and welcoming to all. We have a great balance between competitive sailing and having a laugh in the bar afterwards.

### **Date for your Diary**

This year due to COVID-19 restrictions we will be holding our AGM online on 26th November and we will providing more details on how you can join the meeting in the next couple of weeks.

The first stage in this process will be nominations for Committee positions. Nomination papers have been emailed to members and there are a small number of hard copies available from the clubhouse. Nominations can be emailed to Kathryn [Honsec@eabc.club](mailto:Honsec@eabc.club) or returned to the internal black postbox.