

**COURTOWN  
SAILING  
CLUB'S  
QUARTERLY  
NEWSLETTER**

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# Making Waves



ISSUE 3

AUTUMN 2008



## A SUMMER TO REMEMBER?

Believe it or not, this is Ardamine Beach, during the Dinghy Sailing Course coastal trip. Yes, we all remember endless days of rain, but there were some fine days in there too. We look back on the highs and lows of Summer 2008 inside....

### *Hi all*

I hope you have had an enjoyable season so far despite the occasional monsoon conditions. Thankfully the new building was up in time for the dinghy course and it has been a big hit with the weather we have experienced.

The committee would like to pass on their congratulations to all those who are representing CSC on away events. The results have been excellent and we would also like to congratulate all those who participated on the courses this year, who took part in the Wednesday night sailing, adults Friday night sailing, Saturday cruiser racing and Sunday dinghy sailing.

Personally I would like all those who have given up their time to help with all the club activities, the volunteer rescue boat drivers, beach parents, OOD's, clean up crews - there are too many of you to mention but thank you very much - without you CSC would not be the vibrant club it is today.

The season is not over by any means. There are loads of things coming up and you can get all the details on these in this newsletter.

Quick mention re the annual club dinner dance on Oct 11th. I would like to invite all to join us that evening to celebrate the great year we have had, whether you are a serious sailor, dinghy parent, beach parent or just a sailing observer, you are all very welcome.

Numbers are limited, so if you would like to go please do get in contact with me a.s.a.p.

Also we are planning some powerboat and navigation classes over the winter season. Have a read through these, and if we are missing a sailing course, please do let us know and we will try organise one for you.

Many thanks to the committee for all their hard work and dedication to the club.

*Happy Sailing  
Aine*





### Dates to

#### Remember:

#### SEPT 27:

Last Race Party  
in the Boatyard.

#### SEPT 28:

Annual General  
Meeting in CSC  
Clubhouse at 11  
a.m.

#### OCTOBER 4:

Cruiser Liftout  
from 8 a.m.

#### OCTOBER 11:

Dinner Dance  
and Prizegiving  
from 7.30 p.m.  
in the Ashdown  
Park Hotel

#### YOU TELL US WE'LL TELL THEM

Please send  
items of  
interest for  
future  
newsletters to  
Aine Stafford at  
Courtown  
Sailing Club

#### CRUISER LIFT OUT

Please make sure you have your trailers ready as the end of the season is near AHH!!

Please on the day, DO NOT leave your mooring until you are fully ready to be lifted out, ie: boom off, rigging ready. Remember the more prepared you are the less painful it is for everyone else.

#### Club Sponsorship Fund

Last year a small sponsorship fund was set up to help those representing the club at a national or international level. To apply for this fund please write to the committee with full details of where and what you are doing. Every little helps!

The sponsorship fund will be allocated at the next meeting. All applications must be received in writing by 5 p.m. on September 26.

#### THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

Many thanks to all those who helped out with rescue boat cover this year.

#### TEXT ALERTS

Are you getting the info texts from the club? If not text 086 8066594 and we will add your number.

If you are getting them and do not want them let us know and we will remove you from the list.

#### NEW LIFEBOAT NAME NEEDED

Courtown Lifeboat is looking for suggestions for names for the new Lifeboat which is due to enter service later this year.

The funds have been raised locally, and the boat will be dedicated to the memory of deceased crew members of the Lifeboat.

So put your thinking caps on and send suitable suggestions to Sam Kennedy, at the Lifeboat Station.

#### WINTER SAILING

Good luck to all the CSC boats competing in the October series in Arklow, and to the CSC sailors taking part in the Frostbites in Wexford.

Remember to tell us all for the next newsletter.

#### MOORINGS NEWS

All the moorings are full. There is a waiting list for now. Current boat owners please make sure you check with the moorings officer before you change your boat as we may not be able to accommodate a bigger boat on your mooring.

#### BOATYARD SPACE MANAGEMENT

All dinghies that have not arranged winter storage with CSC must be removed by September 28 at the latest to allow for winter storage of the cruisers.

#### Courtown Sailing Club AGM

Courtown Sailing Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday September 28th at 11:00am in CSC club house. All members welcome.

Any proposals for the AGM must be received in writing not less than 14 days before the AGM (Sunday 14th).

Please email aines@indigo.ie or post to Aine Stafford c/o Prospect House, Ballymoney, Gorey, Co. Wexford. The minutes of the 2007 AGM will be taken as read.

These are available to view on [www.courtownsc.com](http://www.courtownsc.com) or by request from Aine on aines@indigo.ie or 086 8066594.

#### PICTURES WANTED!

Have you got any exciting CSC pics from this summer? If so please send them on to aines@indigo.ie for use on the website, future newsletters, etc.



Fun on the dinghy course



Cruiser racing



# DINGHY REPORT



Participants in the regatta

Well we didn't get off to a great start of the season with the weather hampering the dinghy sailing during a lot of May but we did manage to host a Traveller event and coaching sessions for the Topper Class Association. Both were well attended and our Topper sailors benefitted greatly from the coaching sessions so well done to all involved. At this point I should say well done to all the Courtown sailors who travelled to the Topper Worlds in Fenit and to the fantastic results achieved. (See later)

We also had several Topaz coaching sessions which were very well attended. Many thanks to Mike Jones who put in lots of hard work to make it happen. It was great to see so many Topaz sailors go to the Nationals in Wexford.

This year we ran the Dinghy Course over eight weeks which meant that there were considerably less participants each week even though there were roughly the same numbers participating in the course overall. This meant that life was a lot less hectic for instructors, participants and beach parents. At

a heartfelt thanks to everybody for making my life as Junior Organiser much easier.

Dinghy racing started in June and we had 30+ boats out racing on several Sundays which was great to see. We were certainly very grateful for all the extra qualified rescue boat drivers and the big increase in participation of parents and other helpers on Sunday mornings. It's important to remember that it can require 10+ people to run the Sunday racing and more if the launch / recovery conditions are poor. I would particularly like to thank all those water babies (they

know who I'm talking about!) who seem to spend most of their Sunday mornings up to their waist in water helping the kids. Remember,

Dinghy racing goes on until 21<sup>st</sup> September so see you all on Sunday mornings.

As usual, the Wednesday fun sailing was a tremendous success and is something that all the kids look forward to. I'd love to take credit for its success

but I had nothing to do with it! The people who made it happen are George Mahon, Niamh Cassidy, Fintan O'Donoghue and a very loyal team of helpers. Unfortunately with the nights closing in, that's it for this season.

Many people complimented me on the efficient and smooth running of the course, not least of whom was the ISA inspector, so

Dinghy sailing is not just for kids and to prove the point, Fintan ensured that the adult sailing on a Friday continued this year. While they may not be huge in numbers they certainly make up for it in enthusiasm.

This year we decided not to allocate boat spaces but operate on a "use it or lose it" policy which I'm very pleased to report worked very well. The main reason it worked was because of the level of cooperation that was shown by all the dinghy owners, so well done to all.

Finally, I would like to ask for your cooperation one more time and appeal to all dinghy owners to remove their boats from the yard by 28<sup>th</sup> September.

See you all at the AGM.

JT



Caillin Crowe, Most Promising Young Sailor



Cutting the ribbon on the boathouse extension

Regatta winners

More Regatta winners





**DSC RADIO CERTIFICATE (VHF)**  
Learn how to use a marine VHF radio, phonetic alpha bet, send a MAYDAY etc...

**FIRST AID**  
For those days when things don't go to plan! Learn some basic first aid. Required for safety boat, advanced power boat and power boat instructors

**GET IN TOUCH**  
If you would like to do any of the courses listed on this page, please text CSC on 086 8066594.  
If we have missed a sailing related course that you would like to see organised please let us know and we will see what we can do.  
Course dates will be confirmed as soon as we have an enough people interested in taking part in a particular course.

# KNOW THE ROPES

## Available Courses

### NATIONAL POWERBOAT COURSE €200 CSC members

The aim of this two day course is to develop the skills and knowledge that allow participants to safely and effectively skipper an open powerboat by day, on inland and coastal waters with which they are familiar.

The ISA recommends this Certificate as the minimum level of training/knowledge required before anyone uses a power boat on their own. In the majority of cases beginners would do this course and the Introduction to Powerboating as part of the same two day course. The certificate can also be achieved through direct assessment by a Powerboat Instructor.

### SAFETY BOAT COURSE €350 CSC members

By the end of this course, the successful candidate will have a wide range of boat handling techniques and experience in the provision of safety cover for sailing events. Areas covered will include, towing, assistance with race management, mark laying and the provision of assistance for sailing dinghies (single handed & crewed), sail boards and canoes.

The ISA recommends this certificate as the minimum level of training/knowledge required by the coxswains of boats providing safety cover at Clubs, Regattas, Coaching or courses of Instruction.

### ADVANCED POWER BOAT COURSE €350 for CSC members

By the end of this course, the successful participant will have a sound introduction to using fast open boats at sea. An essentially practical course equipping experienced boat users with the tools necessary to take fast open boats like RIBs on coastal passages, this course covers skills ranging from advanced boat handling through to pilotage by day and night.

It will be assumed that every student starting this course has already mastered the skills and absorbed the background knowledge required for the ISA Day skipper (shore based course).

### COASTAL NAVIGATION FOR SMALL BOATS €100 for CSC members

This course provides recreational powerboat users the skills needed to plan and use boats during day light hours, in waters in which they are familiar. It will include the typical skills necessary to enjoy family day trips, longer coastal passages and sports activities like water skiing. Participants must hold the ISA National Powerboat Cert (Level 2).

### NATIONAL POWERBOAT INSTRUCTORS COURSE

A instructors course will be organised if suitable numbers are interested.

An intensive course training you how to teach ISA National Powerboat sailing, with an external examiner moderating. You learn how to organise boats and teach on the water, to make a presentation in the classroom, the importance of understanding your student, how to communicate and much much more. Min age 17 and must hold National Powerboat Cert.

Frank Byrne collects his Dinghy League Prize



Dinghies in action



Prizewinner Andrew Wafer



# Cruiser News



## News from the Race Officer

### Hi all

As we all know the weather this year did not help our sailing season. The number of races that were sailed was down on last year. So let's start praying now for better weather next year.

However, the year is not over yet, and as ever the Arklow marina series will be on to try to extend the sailing year.

The South East Regatta went well with all CSC boats putting in a good performance with Animal coming third and Flying Fish winning Class 3 Echo. Cul8r came third and the 8 Team won Class 1 Echo. Cul8r was the only CSC boat in the IRC Class and came a very respectable third. Also the CSC team came in second.

A few CSC sailors will be competing in an invitational only match racing in the Royal St George Yacht Club on the weekend of the September 13 and 14, so we wish them well and all the best.

**CUL8R**

*James*

### Courtown SC wins Kilmichael Regatta

The three races took place on Saturday the 7th of July, just south of Kilmichael Point in about 7 to 10 knots of SE winds. They were efficiently organised and run by OOD Iain Biddulph of Courtown Sailing Club.

The contestants exhibited great humour and consideration for others, and many boats enjoyed successes across the three races and two classes.

Iain gave a very entertaining results roundup, and the Commodores of both clubs were pleased to award prizes to the skippers and crew of Niamh Cinn Oir ASC, Yasemin CSC, Mutt's Nutts ASC, and Cul8er CSC. Courtown won the Best Club award by a well deserved 8 points.

### COURTOWN ENTERS ISA RIB Championship

Courtown Sailing Club is entering a team in the ISA's Yachtsman Rib Championship which has a rib worth 22,000 euro up for grabs.

The regional final took place in Wexford recently and Courtown qualified for the national finals in Lough Derg at the end of October.

The competition will consist of two water based skills and two land based competitions.

Denis Dillon of the ISA remarked 'The Team competition was won by the Courtown team who displayed superb teamwork and boat handling'.

Good luck to Iain Biddulph Jr, David Switzer, Andrew Wafer and Donal Murphy in the National Finals.

## CSC to enter ISAF Nations Cup for Match Racing

Courtown Sailing Club is to enter a team in the ISAF Nations Cup for Match Racing in October.

The Nations Cup is based on a series of Regional Finals with the top crews meeting at a Grand Final.

The event is a match racing format, similar in style to the Americas Cup. Each race consists of two boats only, who duel their way around the course and first across the finish line wins.

The final line-up of ten Open and ten Women's teams will do battle on the waters of Cork Harbour to be crowned the ISAF Nations Cup champions.

A gruelling round robin of races will

challenge the crews, which is likely to see some of the world's celebrity match racing skippers fighting it out against some lesser known teams.

Match Racing is a fast growing aspect of the sport, and with the Americas Cup in Europe for the first time in 2007, it is likely to grow further and bring increased profile to the sport of sailing within the continent.

James Mahon, Conor Kinsella, David Switzer and Martin Mahon were invited to compete in the event which takes place in the Royal St. George Yacht Club in Dun Laoghaire on September 13 and 14 with the finals in October.



Lydia Wafer, Lady of the Lake winner Class 1



Cruisers on tour in Cork



Hurney and Phillip O'Brien at the British Nationals



## CONGRATS GUYS

Congratulations to Aoife Hurney who came fifth in Silver fleet and Philip Doran who came sixth in Gold fleet at the British National in Paignton, England

## SUTTON REGATTA

The Sutton Regatta took place on the 3rd of August with a large entry of 89 boats.

Niall Egan, Joseph Morrin and Donal Egan represented Courtown Sailing Club in an attempt to retain the Henry Cup.

In the Laser class Niall Egan came first in Laser radials and second overall.

Joseph Morrin came third in Laser Radials and fourth overall.

Donal Egan came first in the Laser Pico class.



Ian Byrne League winner

## Courtown fares well in National Championships

At the recent Topper Nationals in Carrickfergus, Philip Doran from Courtown Sailing Club was crowned the National Champion. Sixty-two sailors from across Ireland and the UK competed in the three day event.

Aoife Hurney from Courtown Sailing Club won first Lady coming 14th overall. Stephen Duke was second Under 14 and 22nd overall. Ruth Harrington was 24th overall.

Philip Doran was a deserving champion securing three first places. Philip has had a very successful year coming fourth in the Topper Worlds recently and sixth in the British Nationals.

Philip's younger sister Niamh also competed in the event in a 4.2 sail along with Jenny Roberts from Courtown Sailing Club. Great credit is due to the girls for braving the tough conditions.

## Courtown's Ruth and Philip take on the world in Croatia

Congratulations to Ruth Harrington and Philip Doran who were both part of the Irish team at the Laser 4.7 Youth World Championships in Croatia recently.

Ruth qualified in the girls gold fleet in the event and finished 53rd of 122 overall.

Philip qualified in the boys gold fleet and finished 29th of 280 overall and first boy born in 1993. There were a total of 42 countries represented. The competition was limited to those aged 12-17 years.



## TOPAZ EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Courtown Sailing Club's domination of the Topaz class continued on Sunday July 1st, when Michael and Kevin Harrington in an Uno Plus retained the Topaz Eastern Regatta trophy as overall winners.

The event, run off Courtown's south beach, proved even more popular than last year's inaugural with over 40 boats committed to racing.

Visitors came from Wexford Harbour, Malahide and Baltimore, West Cork.

Facing the prospect of high winds and the negotiation of

a substantial wave break, 36 boats eventually participated. The sea was substantial with winds a steady Force 4. Many younger sailors retired early. But the older and heavier competitors relished the windiest Topaz regatta to date.

The planned four races were completed on schedule.

### Final Placings:

**Overall Winners:** Michael and Kevin Harrington CSC

### Uno class:

**1st:** Ian Byrne CSC

**2nd:** Michael Redmond CSC

**3rd:** William O Morchoe CSC

### Uno Plus class:

**1st:** Michael and Kevin Harrington CSC

**2nd:** Ruth Harrington and Aoife Hurney CSC

**3rd:** Brendan Costello and crew Malahide YC

### Best U12:

Fionn Lyden Baltimore SC

### Best U14:

D McCormack Baltimore SC

### Best U16:

Darren Mullins CSC

### Best female helm:

Aideen Costello Malahide

### Youngest boy:

Pierce Ryan Baltimore SC

### Youngest girl:

Fiona Murphy CSC



The OCM Formula Regatta



Another dinghy winner



Topper coaching



### SENIOR INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT 1

Life as a senior instructor is often filled with traumatic experiences but I feel that this year with my team of dedicated instructors that we achieved awesomeness! We're not going to lie. This year was by far the most successful and rewarding teaching experience of our lives.

Despite the weather conditions, the atmosphere on and off the water was electric. When Mother Nature curtailed our afloat activities, the additional space proved itself able to accommodate all participants.

Then when the west wind blew, the instructors were quick to discover the obvious natural talent that runs through the veins of our young sailors.

We can not take full credit as the beach parents were eagerly awaiting the 'coldies' with steaming mugs of sweet hot chocolate. A shout out to JT who was behind the scenes reshuffling the course to a longer more manageable eight weeks thus achieving a fault free inspection from the ISA.

Special thanks to all club members who gave up their precious time to support and help us through this emotionally fulfilling season.

All in all we were thrilled with the year.

*YVETTE DEACON*

### SENIOR INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT 2

Despite the unfortunate weather we endured for the last month of the sailing course our sailors all managed to get plenty of time on the water, learn a lot, and have a great time! The summer of 2008 was the first opportunity I had to operate as Senior Instructor in Courtown Sailing Club and I wouldn't have managed it without the great team of instructors. Needless to say Yvette is a hard act to follow! Thanks to the ever energetic beach parents, we would be lost without you!

Our instructors and sailors all rowed in to ensure a safe and constructive teaching environment, both in the boatyard and on the water. The improved changing and teaching facilities have helped make theory sessions more effective and enjoyable for CSC participants. It is great to see everyone improve their sailing skills so much over the course. Congratulations to all young sailors, from level 1 to 4A for participating with such enthusiasm. Hopefully next summer will bring brighter, better weather!

*KERRIE McGINN*

### FACES FROM THE PAST

Do you recognise many faces in this old Sailing Club photograph? Among them are a future race officer and entertainments officer.



### Topper Traveller Event in Blessington

A great turnout of young class with Aoife Hurney respective age groups Duke, Aoife Hurney, Elaine Courtown sailors did finishing second. This In the 4.2 smaller rig class Murphy, Ailile Bergin, Fiona Courtown Sailing Club resulted in Stephen getting Conor Sherriff managed a Murphy, Caitlin Crowe, proud at the Topper a highly credible 2nd overall third overall finish with Conor Sherriff and Rachel Traveller event at finish and Aoife finishing Rachel Duke doing very well in her first regatta in The next traveller event is Blessington recently. best overall girl in the event. well in her first regatta in at Lough Erne Boat Club on Stephen Duke won the third All the other sailors did very the same class The full Sat 14th Sept. All welcome. race of the day in the full rig well coming well up in their group included Stephen



Dinghy sailors



Cruiser racing



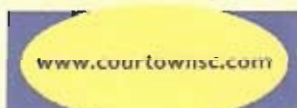
Dinghy Daddies





**Courtown Sailing  
Club's Quarterly  
Newsletter**

Courtown South Pier  
Courtown  
Gorey  
Co. Wexford  
Phone: 086 8066594



## **CSC COMMITTEE 2007/2008**

**COMMODORE:** Áine Stafford  
**VICE COMODORE:** Peter Timmons  
**SECRETARY:** Orla Woods  
**MOORINGS OFFICER:** George Mahon  
**DINGHY OFFICER:** John Timmons  
**TREASURER:** Yvonne Rankin  
**RACE OFFICER:** James Mahon  
**BOATYARD MANAGER:** Kevin Conroy  
**LOGISTICS OFFICER:** Mark McKernan  
**ENTERTAINMENTS OFFICER:** David Switzer

### **THE NOTICE BOARD**

#### **LAST RACE PARTY**

The last race party will be held on Saturday September 27 at 6 p.m. in the boatyard. The cost is ten euro per person including barbeque. BYOB.

Monies raised go to this year's chosen charity, the Children's Sunshine Home. At the party we will hold the Golden Buckets sandcastle competition. All ages welcome.

#### **CARD PLAYERS WANTED**

Winter cards will resume in the coming weeks.

Whist is played in the Tara Vie on Thursday nights during the winter months after the boats come out. All are welcome along to join in the fun.



#### **FINAL NOTICE: THESE DINGHIES WILL BE DISPOSED OF IN THE COMING WEEKS**

Do you own these abandoned dinghies ??????

Blue topaz 2561; Laser 123702; Laser 16035; Laser marked NO:47; Yellow PICO 6570. You need to contact the boatyard officer Kevin Conroy a.s.a.p.



#### **PAST COMMODORES DINNER**

On July 25th last all the past commodores gathered together for a meal in Corkscrew restaurant, Gorey. Many thanks were sent to all those present for their continued dedication to the club.

The commodores have seen CSC grow from just a few boats on Ardamine beach when it started, to the some 200 adults and 400 children that are now members. A great evening reminiscing was had by all.

*You are cordially invited to*

### *The Courtown Sailing Club Annual Dinner Dance and Prizegiving*

**Venue:** The Ashdown Park Hotel

**Date:** Saturday, October 11

**Time:** 7.30 p.m. Dinner served at 8.30 p.m.

*Neat Dress Essential*

**Disco by:** Sounds Electric

*Late Bar*

**Admission by ticket only. Tickets: Euro 50**

*To book, phone Aine on: (086) 8066594*