



Streaker Class Owners Association

December 2018

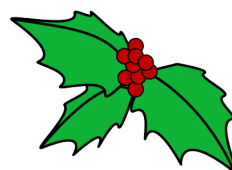
A newsletter circulated to all members of the **Streaker Class Owners Association**



Nationals start line action
Photo by Karen Langston

Chairman's Message

By Ian Priest



About this time five years ago, I was looking for a single-hander as second boat to sail in club racing. I chose a Streaker because it looked nicer to sail than the old Laser I had, and that there were a few at my local club. A few years later it had become the boat I sailed pretty much all the time, I joined the committee to help out organise the Northern Paddle series, and then now ended up being asked whether I'd consider being class chairman.

A fair bit of this may not seem particularly relevant, but it does help show what we all can do to ensure the class we all enjoy sailing continues to thrive. I'd probably never have even considered a Streaker if they weren't being sailed regularly at my club. It was on my radar as one of the many smaller singlehander classes, but I'd never looked closely at one. Neither the association, nor our builders will ever have the marketing budget of the big players for a

demo fleet, but what we do have are boats spread across many clubs across the country. If there's someone at your club who's thinking about changing boats, why not suggest they go for a quick sail in your Streaker? The boat does a pretty good job of selling itself once people have sailed it.

The 2019 calendar is now taking shape and will be up on the website very soon. The highlight of the year will be our National Championships, where we are returning to the Weymouth & Portland Sailing Academy who hosted our very successful 40th Anniversary championships back in 2015. Portland Harbour is an ideal sailing water for Streakers with flat, open water and no significant tidal currents to bother about. If you've never been to the nationals before, please don't be daunted by the title "National Championships". Anybody who owns or can borrow a Streaker is welcome, and it is as much a festival of Streaker sailing as it is about finding the best Streaker sailor in the country. Why not encourage everyone from your club to go, and make it the club fleet 'outing' for the year?

This year, we welcomed two new venues onto the Northern Paddle circuit at Shotwick and Delph, both clubs which have a growing and enthusiastic local fleet. Both events were very successful and we will be returning again next year. For 2019, for those in the South we have a new Southern Paddle event as part of the Medway Regatta, and those in the far north of England and in Scotland will get the opportunity to race in new events at Bassenthwaite and a second event in Scotland at Annandale. These two events will join with the long-standing Scottish Championships at East Lothian, and one further venue TBA to form a new "Border Reiver" series as well as being part of the wider "Northern Paddle" series. Thank you to Elaine Ross for organising this. Most of our favourite regular venues have also agreed to hold an open meeting again, so there are plenty of opportunities to visit other clubs, and sail somewhere different for a change. For the majority of sailors, there should be an open meeting within less than an hour's drive of your home club, so even if you've never travelled to an open meeting before why not make the trip?

You'll find the open meeting regular travellers are very friendly, and very willing to offer help and tips.

To help club sailors make the step up to sailing away from their own club, we hope to run some training events during the season. Details aren't confirmed yet, but please keep an eye on the website and on the Facebook page to see what's planned.

As an association, we also continually look at whether any minor changes are needed to the boat and class rules. Although not a development class, we do feel that very gradual developments to keep up with the available technology are a benefit to ensuring the long life of the class. The rule change agreed to allow laminate sailcloth in a colour other than white is typical of these. We are continuing to look at the possibility of carbon booms, with a trial ongoing, but nothing has been decided either way yet. We are very interested to hear everyone's views on carbon booms and any other changes people think we should consider. Please do feel free to email us your views, both positive and negative.

Finally may I wish everyone a merry Christmas, and good luck to anyone who's brave enough to compete in any of the major winter handicap events. My boat will stay wrapped up in the garage until March though!!



All the best, Ian

2019 FIXTURES LIST (draft)

Our programme of events for next year is developing nicely. Here's the latest draft. If your club would like to host an open meeting, please email secretary@streaker-class.org.uk. We try to avoid clashes of events as much as possible but sometimes clashes between events in different travellers series can be tolerated.

Date	Club	Event	Super Series	Northern Paddle	Southern Paddle	South East Series	East Anglian Series	Border Reivers Series
Mar 23	Tamworth	open meeting		✓	✓			
Mar 30	Ripon	open meeting		✓				
Apr 6	Bough Beech	Southern Area Championships	✓		✓	✓		
Apr 27	Burghfield	open meeting			✓			
	Shotwick	open meeting		✓				
May 4	Annandale	open meeting		✓				✓
May 11	Hornsea	open meeting		✓				
May 12	Downs	open meeting			✓	✓		
May 18	Hykeham	open meeting		✓				
Jun 1-2	East Lothian	Scottish Championships	✓	✓				✓
Jun 7-9	Weymouth & Portland	National Championships	✓					
Jun 16	Burwain	open meeting		✓				
Jun 22	Bassenthwaite	open meeting		✓				✓
Jun 29	Newhaven	open meeting			✓	✓		
Jul 6-7	Medway Regatta	open meeting			✓	✓		
Jul 13	Oulton Broad	open meeting			✓		✓	
Jul 14	Beccles	open meeting			✓		✓	
Jul 20	Delph	Northern Area Championships	✓	✓				
Aug 17	Pennine	open meeting		✓				
Aug 31	Scaling Dam	open meeting		✓				
Sep 8	Leigh & Lowton	open meeting		✓				
Sep 14-15	Beaver	Inland Championships	✓					
Sep 21	Haversham	open meeting			✓			
Sep 28	Island Barn	open meeting			✓	✓		
Oct 5	Welton	open meeting		✓				

The Border Reivers Series is new for 2019. Many thanks to Elaine Ross for setting it up.

There are also many regattas around Britain that offer racing for Streakers, either in handicap fleets or with their own starts. They can offer some great racing in super parts of the country. Swanage Regatta will be one of these next Summer, over the weekend of August 3-4. Likewise, Dartmouth Sailing Week in Devon will include Streaker racing in late August as the fleet at Dittisham on the River Dart now has 6 boats.

RYA Dinghy Show 2019



The annual RYA Dinghy Show at Alexandra Palace is widely considered to be a starting point for each year's new sailing season. As usual, we'll be there, this time on Stand C38 in the Great Hall. Do come along and visit us. We plan to have 2 boats on display – more info on this in due course – and there will be a team of us there to talk about Streakers and take your 2019 subs!

If you can spare the time to help on the stand, please email secretary@streaker-class.org.uk

Also, Streaker class members can claim a 10% discount on ticket prices by quoting RYAEX06870 when applying for tickets.

Tickets can be purchased from the RYA Dinghy Show website <https://www.rya.org.uk/dinghy-show/Pages/tickets.aspx>

What's been going on in 2018?

At this year's AGM a couple of significant rule changes were agreed. No longer do the rules specify that sails must be white. This allows us to use different laminate sailcloth although it can't be lighter in weight than what we've been using. Isaac Marsh was given dispensation to trial this early in the season and now all our sailmakers can produce sails with darker cloth.

Another development that Isaac trialled was a more effective adjustment for the stern mainsheet bridle and this too has been allowed as a rule change.

The updated rules are on our website at <https://www.streaker-class.org.uk/images/gallery/general/Rules%20and%20Forms/Streaker%20Class%20Rules%20Sept%202018.pdf>

A possible development that's still being trialled is the carbon boom. Ian Jones has produced some booms which can be borrowed by SCOA members so that they can try them for themselves. So far the responses have been positive but the cost is significantly more than our alloy booms. The main advantage seems to be that they are more forgiving in a gybe (don't crash across with such force – and don't hurt so much when you forget to duck!)

This year was also when we made the jump in sail numbers to miss out 2000-2099 (which Jack Holt used for exported boats in the early days) and started again at 2100. The latest number for which a Measurement Certificate has been issued is 2117.

Who won what in 2018?

Noble Marine National Championship at Carsington S.C. (35 entries)			
1	1951	Tom Gillard	Sheffield Viking S.C.
2	1759	Ian Jones	Dovestone S.C.
3	1995	Isaac Marsh	Dovestone S.C.
4	1942	Phil Manning	Delph S.C.
5	2106	Ian Priest	Scaling Dam S.C.
6	1982	Martin Penty	Beaver S.C.
7	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
8	2102	Duncan McDonald	Newhaven & Seaford S.C.
9	1923	Lawrence Creaser	Hayling Island S.C.
10	1881	Steve Blackburn	West Lancs. Y.C.
Silver Fleet			
1	1957	Debbie Degge	Bartley S.C.
2	1977	Neil Firth	Banbury S.C.
3	1920	Mark Langston	Beccles Amateur S.C.
Inland Championship at Northampton S.C. (16 entries)			
1	1759	Ian Jones	Dovestone S.C.
2	1995	Isaac Marsh	Dovestone S.C.
3	1942	Phil Manning	Delph S.C.
4	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
5	1972	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
Silver Fleet			
1	1977	Neil Firth	Banbury S.C.
Northern Area Championship at Beaver S.C. (25 entries)			
1	1982	Martin Penty	Beaver S.C.
2	1759	Ian Jones	Dovestone S.C.
3	1881	Steve Blackburn	West Lancs. Y.C.
Southern Area Championship at Blakeney S.C. (13 entries)			
1	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.

2	1972	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
3	2102	Duncan McDonald	Newhaven & Seaford S.C.
Scottish Championship at East Lothian Y.C. (11 entries)			
1	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
2	1973	John Hookway	East Lothian Y.C.
3	1970	Richard Eagland	Ripon S.C.
End of Season Championship at West Riding S.C. (12 entries)			
1	1982	Martin Penty	Beaver S.C.
2	1759	Ian Jones	Dovestone S.C.
3	1977	Neil Firth	Banbury S.C.
Rooster Super Series (61 entries; 14 qualifiers)			
1	1759	Ian Jones	Dovestone S.C.
2	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
3	1982	Martin Penty	Beaver S.C.
4	1972	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
5	1942	Phil Manning	Delph S.C.
Silver Fleet			
1	1970	Richard Eagland	Ripon S.C.
Sail Register Northern Paddle Series (84 entries; 10 qualifiers)			
1	1982	Martin Penty	Beaver S.C.
2	1942	Phil Manning	Delph S.C.
3	2106	Ian Priest	Scaling Dam S.C.
4	1970	Richard Eagland	Ripon S.C.
5	1914	Peter Kitchen	Tees & Hartlepool Y.C.
Raffle winner of Sail Register sail: Steve Hill			
Pinnell & Bax Southern Paddle Series (43 entries; 12 qualifiers)			
1	1972	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
2	2102	Duncan McDonald	Newhaven & Seaford S.C.
3	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
4	1985	James Dawes	Redditch S.C.
5	1920	Mark Langston	Beccles Amateur S.C.

Raffle winner of Pinnell & Bax sail: Jeremy Daniell
South East Area Series (25 entries; 7 qualifiers)

1	1681	Rupert Smith	Newhaven & Seaford S.C.
2	2102	Duncan McDonald	Newhaven & Seaford S.C.
3	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.

East Anglian Series (20 entries; 6 qualifiers)

1	1972	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
2	1920	Mark Langston	Beccles Amateur S.C.
3	1817	Ian Bradley	Ouse Amateur S.C.



Tom Gillard receives the National Championship Trophy from the Commodore of Carsington S.C.

Photo by Karen Langston

(Full results of open meetings and series can be found on the class website <https://www.streaker-class.org.uk/index.asp?selection=event-results&resultyear=2018>)

Making plans for 2019

With the open meeting programme coming along nicely and the Nationals now sorted for Weymouth in early June, you might think the Streaker Committee can take it easy but the next couple of months will be when a lot of ideas will be batted about and if you would like to contribute your own suggestions, please do so.

Currently the main topic is:

Encouraging older boats to join in our travellers circuits and major events

We know that older boats are racing regularly in clubs around the country but few travel to open events. There could be several reasons for this. Some may be owned by people who used to do the circuit but having done that, now want to stay at their own clubs. Some may now be involved in running their clubs and find it hard to get away. Some older boats don't have roadworthy trailers. However, more worryingly, some owners of older boats might feel that there's no point in going to events just to be beaten by newer boats.

The open results are dominated by newer boats. But if older boats aren't turning up, then that's bound to be the case. This then has the knock-on effect of making the older boats less competitive because owners are not learning from the top guys. Going to open meetings means you get to talk to them, look at their boats and watch their sailing techniques. Although the class has developed over the years, basically we are all sailing the same boat and older boats can benefit from upgrades just as the newer ones do and improving your technique could help you be more successful in your club racing.

The benefits of getting more older boats to compete in open meetings aren't just for the individual owners but the class as a whole. More entries for open events will reflect well on the class. If older boats can do well, it will help the second-hand market for older boats and may encourage more people into the class, people who want a cheaper way into the class but still be able to compete.

The photo below shows Tamsin Highfield sailing 1493 (a 20-yr old boat) at Rollesby Broad in Norfolk. She was very competitive against good competition in the open meeting there in the spring. (And yes, that laser was in the same race!)



Photo by Karen Langston

At the Nationals we have a really nice trophy (the Fifteen Transom Trophy presented by Dave Butler in 2011) for the 1st boat over 15 yrs old but it hasn't been competed for in the last three years. The last winner was Roger Wallis in 1360 at the 2015 Nationals at Weymouth. In 2018 the oldest boat was Jonathan Blankley's 1568 – missing out on qualifying for the trophy by a year!

So how do we attract older boats to go to opens and, in particular, to the bigger events i.e. the Nationals and Inlands?

This year we made some outline rules for deciding who qualifies for 'Silver Fleet' prizes (see the notes on Gold Fleet below). However, maybe this doesn't go far enough. Maybe we need more trophies that relate to the boats themselves, e.g. boats with sail numbers below 1600, below 1700, etc? This might be a bit arbitrary but sail numbers would make it easy to see who your competitors are for these trophies.

Is the 'Silver Fleet' too mixed ability? There are a lot of good sailors who aren't in the Gold Fleet list. Should we have a 'Bronze Fleet' too?

We usually try to run a training day at the Nationals, on the day immediately before the racing starts. This worked well at Carsington this year and at Torbay in 2017. But if older boats aren't entering the Nationals, they're unlikely to take part. So maybe we should organise more training days at clubs so that owners of older boats (and newer ones!) can improve skills and learn about rig settings etc? At the AGM the suggestion was made that clubs with a certain number of paid-up SCOA members (10 members?) would qualify for a class-organised training day. Nothing has been sorted yet but if your club would like us to get something set up for 2019, let us know.

All ideas gratefully received!

Email: secretary@streaker-class.org.uk

Who's in the Gold Fleet for 2019?

The following sailors are in the Gold Fleet list because they have finished in the top third of a National or Inland Championship in the last 3 years (2016-18) or are new to the class and have been assigned to the Gold fleet because they're really rather good!

Everyone else is Silver Fleet and so eligible for Silver Fleet prizes, unless the Streaker committee decides otherwise! – some names are likely to be added to the Gold Fleet list as the new season gets underway.

Jon Aldhous	Alan Gillard	David Lawson	Ian Priest
Steve Blackburn	Tom Gillard	Mark Lunn	Andrew Rawson
Graeme Bristow	Ben Hollis	Phil Manning	Peter Robinson
Lawrence Creaser	Doug Horner	Isaac Marsh	Rupert Smith
James Dawes	Brenda Hoult	Duncan McDonald	
Veronica Falat	Ian Jones	Martin Penty	

A reminder of Summer!

Photos by Karen Langston



Sunshine at Carsington.



Tom Gillard on his way to victory

The Streaker Class Owners Association

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