



# Streaker Class Owners Association

**March 2017**

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



*2016 National Champion Tom Gillard Photo by Karen Langston*

## Chairman's Message

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**By Alan Gillard**

May I welcome all fellow Streaker sailors to this Newsletter? You might say it has been a while since we have posted a newsletter directly to members. There are a number of reasons for this of course, mainly that the committee has concentrated on getting the new website fully functional. The necessity for a functioning website that was easily up dated with news, race reports and articles became a priority. I hope that you will agree with me that we have a very professional looking website now? Of course a good deal of the information there is the same but it is in the presentation that the new website has moved on. Veronica and Mark Langston have spent a great deal of time adding information to the site, for which I thank them both on your behalf. To some extent the

requirement of newsletters is slightly diminished when the website is available for the class to pass on all information on things Streaker. Now and again though a newsletter directed specifically at members only is required.

This week will see the Streakers once again at the Dinghy Show. I hope some of you will be visiting the show and come and say hello to us and of course renew your membership of the class. Both the Boatyard at Beer and Butler Boats will be showing the latest new Streakers, the Butler Boat being fitted with centre-main track and traveller. Come and ask us any questions you may have relating to Streakers, and not just about the FRP boats on show but about building from kit or a composite;

somebody on the stand will be able to answer your questions.

The benefits of being a member justify the £15 membership fee. We are one of the cheapest associations to join. Without the SCOA of course there would be no website, measurement certificates, newsletters, sailing events such as the National Championships and area open meetings, and contact with other Streaker sailors throughout the country.

2017 will be the first time the class has held a nationwide travellers series. There will be more information elsewhere in this newsletter on this, but thank-you to Rooster Sailing for sponsoring the series. Of course Rooster have been long established supporters of the class and this will further strengthen ties between SCOA and Rooster. Noble Marine (insurance) continues to support the class with money that we use towards the costs of the National Championships. This is another benefit of being a member of the SCOA; the link from our website provides discounted premiums when insuring your Streaker through Noble Marine. The class Northern Paddle and Southern Paddle series continue to be supported by Sail Register and Pinnell & Bax. Our thanks to them, which yet again will give all that take part in the paddle series events the chance to win a new Streaker sail.

What keeps the Streaker class very much going is the sale of new boats from our 2 professional boat builders and a small number of plans purchased. Up to the end of September 2016, 27 new boats had been registered. This compares to 24 boats registered up to the end of September 2015. You might say that the Streaker is holding its own with regard to new boat sales, but the RS Aero is to some extent direct competition for us although RS are perhaps aiming more for the guy who would sail a Laser? Their professional sales team are geared up with taster days and boats to borrow should anybody fancy a go. Our major problem is getting some of these people to actually try a

Streaker. We all know what a good boat the Streaker is, and the class has worked hard to develop the boat from its cheap and cheerful beginnings to the thoroughbred racing dinghy we have today.

The Streaker has, through the hard work of the association and its members, improved on the original Holt design. So the class now has all the options of construction, from wood kit or plans, Composite FRP hull and wood deck or full FRP. Deck layout improvements have all been instigated by the owners and association, so we now have false floors and we don't have so called dry lockers which were anything but dry, and an extra long cockpit, which allows for the sail and boom to be stored inside the boat. The fit out of the boat is whatever you want it to be. Control lines for sail and rig control where you want them. A mainsheet system to suit how you want it - full track and traveller centremain or transom sheeting, or laser style sheeting, whatever you are most comfortable with. I think I would be right in saying that some of our benefits are not seen by RS Aero sailors until they have bought the wrong boat, I really believe the Streaker to be a better sorted boat than an RS Aero.

Have a great season sailing your Streaker, please try and give a go one or more of the Streaker open events, we are always pleased to see new people on the circuit. It also gives you the chance to question us on all things Streaker.

Alan Gillard



## Introducing . . . . the Rooster Super Series



We're pleased to announce that Rooster Sailing has agreed to sponsor a new series that consists of our championship events through the season. This includes the Nationals, the Inlands, Scottish and the Northern and Southern area championships.

### Dates:

April 1	Bough Beech SC	Southern Area Championships
May 6-7	Leigh & Lowton SC	Inland Championships
June 3-4	East Lothian YC	Scottish Championships
June 23-25	Royal Torbay YC	National Championships
Oct 21	West Riding SC	Northern Area Championships

### Qualification:

- You will need to compete in at least 3 events.
- It's your overall finishing positions in the events that will count, except that:
- Your score for the Nationals will be based on results calculated by counting each competitor's best 4 race results. (This means if you suffer gear failure or decide not to race on a windy day, you still stand a chance of having a good score for this series.)

### Prizes:

As well as overall prizes there will be Rooster goodies to be sailed for at each event.

Don't forget that the Bough Beech event also counts towards the P&B Southern Paddle Series and the East Lothian and West Riding ones count towards the Sail Register Northern Paddle Series.



*Action at last year's Inland Championships at Welton SC*

*Photo: Stan Lubner*



## Paddle Series 2017

### Northern Paddle

March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Tamworth SC
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Burwain SC
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Hornsea SC
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Elton SC
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup>	East Lothian YC (first 3 races)
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Beaver SC
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	Pennine SC
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	Welton SC
July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Hykeham SC
Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Scaling Dam SC
Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Girton SC
Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Ripon SC
Oct. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Yeadon SC
Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup>	West Riding SC

### Southern Paddle

March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Tamworth SC
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Bough Beech SC
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Burghfield SC
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Downs SC
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Royal Harwich YC (tbc)
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Beccles Amateur SC
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	Island Barn SC
Sept. 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Blakeney SC (first 3 races)
Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Broxbourne SC

To qualify for the Northern Paddle you need 12 race results. That means competing in at least 4 events.

To qualify for the Southern Paddle you need 9 race results. That means at least 3 events.

The full rules of the Paddle Series can be found on the Rules page in the Technical section of the Streaker website.



*Burghfield SP open 2016 won by Brenda Hoult (1914)*

*Photo: Karen Langston*

## Other Series

### South East Series

April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Bough Beech SC
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Downs SC
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	Island Barn SC
Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	Broxbourne SC
Sept 30 <sup>th</sup>	Redoubt SC

### East Anglian Series

May 1 <sup>st</sup>	Hickling Broad SC
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Royal Harwich YC
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Beccles Amateur SC
Sept 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Blakeney SC
Oct 8 <sup>th</sup>	Waveney & Oulton Broad YC

## Noble Marine Streaker National Championships 2017

### Royal Torbay Y.C. June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>

Royal Torbay YC at Torquay, Devon will be hosting our Nationals this year. The Notice of Race is being worked on right now; it will be posted on the class website as soon as possible.

The race programme is likely to be as we've had in the last couple of years with 2 races planned for Friday, 3 for Saturday and 2 for Sunday.

The class AGM will be held on the Friday evening and then we hope to have a championship dinner on Saturday.

Royal Torbay is a club that's well practised in running major events. As well as our Championships they'll be hosting the RS Feva, D-Zero and Solo Nationals. There are good launching facilities and it's usually a short sail to the racing area. The racing takes place in Torbay, a bay that covers an area 4 by 3 nautical miles between the headlands.

This part of Devon is known as the English Riviera because of its climate and it's a popular holiday destination. Torquay boasts lots of B&Bs and hotels. More info about the Championships will be available soon but it's worth getting your accommodation booked now.

Check out the Royal Torbay YC website at [rtyc.org](http://rtyc.org)



*420 Spring Championships 2016*



*RS Aero Nationals 2016*

## New Streaker Website

As you're no doubt aware, the new Streaker website became live last autumn. It's still at the usual web address of [www.streaker-class.org.uk](http://www.streaker-class.org.uk) and so is easy to find.

Please help to keep the information on it up-to-date and relevant to class members and to people interested in buying Streakers and joining the fleet. In particular please:

- Provide info about Streaker sailing in the club and region that you're in. Email the website editor and he'll add your info to the page about **Fleets**.
- Keep the **Boat List** up to date. If you've bought a new boat or one that's not already on the List, click the 'Boat Not Listed' button.

If you want to show you're now the owner of a boat that's already listed, click on its sail number and you'll be able to see what's recorded about that boat. Click on 'Add Details' to show change of ownership.

If you just want to correct info about your boat, email [secretary@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:secretary@streaker-class.org.uk) to say what needs changing.

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## RYA Suzuki Dinghy Show 2017

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Visit us on stand C52 at the RYA Suzuki Dinghy Show. With two new boats on display it's the ideal opportunity to find out about the latest developments in the class, get tuning advice and chat about the coming season.

Volunteers to man the stand are particularly welcome! If you can help, please email:

[secretary@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:secretary@streaker-class.org.uk)



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## SCOA membership renewal now due

Don't forget to renew your membership of the Streaker Class Owners Association. Our membership year starts on March 1<sup>st</sup>. If you're coming to the Dinghy Show you can pay your subs when you visit our stand. Otherwise, follow the instructions on the class website at <http://www.streaker-class.org.uk/scoa>

The fee is still just £15 for ordinary Single membership, £10 for Associate and Junior (under 18s) and £20 for Family (where family members share a boat).

Your continued support of SCOA is greatly appreciated.

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## Just bought a Streaker? What to do next

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**Brand new boat** – You will get a measurement certificate sent to you if your boat is supplied fitted out by Butler Boats or The Boatyard at Beer, with a sail from an approved sailmaker (Sail Register, Pinnell & Bax, Rooster, McNamara, Morgan and North).

If you have built your own boat or completed the fit-out of it yourself, it will need to be measured before a certificate can be issued. If you have a sail from a sailmaker who's not yet approved, it will need to be measured. Please contact Alan Gillard to make arrangements for measuring (email [technical@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:technical@streaker-class.org.uk)). The cost of measurement and certification is included in the fees paid by the builder to the class association; there is no charge to you as the first owner.

If you're new to the class, you'll get your first year's membership of SCOA free. Please make contact with the Membership Secretary (email [membership@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:membership@streaker-class.org.uk)).

**Secondhand boat** – You will need to get a new measurement certificate issued for the boat. It is always sensible to check that the boat was issued with one when new; if for some reason it wasn't, you could find that it will need measuring now. If the person selling the boat can't show you a certificate, you can contact Veronica Falat (email [secretary@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:secretary@streaker-class.org.uk)) to see if the class association has a record of a certificate for that boat. If all is well a new certificate can be issued for the fee of £7.50. You can pay this via the website – click on 'To Pay via Paypal' on the SCOA page under the heading Association; this allows you to pay by credit/debit card as well as by Paypal. It's Veronica Falat who issues the certificates so let her know that you need one.

Please remember that you must be a member of SCOA for the certificate to be valid. So if you haven't already joined, now's the time!



## A Review of the 2016 Season

by Veronica Falat

Hmmm . . . where to start? I think by calling it a 'mixed season'. There were certainly some very good points but it probably won't go down as a classic year. The turnout at some of the events was lower than expected. There were various reasons for this, e.g. poor weather or regular sailors just being too busy, but it was certainly noticeable that some of the opens, especially in the north such as Hornsea which normally attract really good turnouts, had significantly fewer entries.

The Nationals at Rutland had a low entry compared to recent years (only 32 entries and 3 of them never got on the water) but there again it was very windy. A lot of people wait until the last minute to see what the weather forecast is before entering and some of those were probably sitting at home that weekend quite happy they had not made the trip! Despite that, the Nationals was a very good event – pretty challenging but the racing was excellent.



*For inland water it was pretty rough! Photo: Karen Langston*

Tom Gillard won (for the 6<sup>th</sup> time and the 5<sup>th</sup> year running) but there were also good results for newcomers in the fleet, e.g. Isaac Marsh in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Mark Lunn 4<sup>th</sup>, Doug Horner 5<sup>th</sup> and Graeme Bristow 7<sup>th</sup>.

Earlier in the season, the Inlands at Welton near Hull were also fun. The weather was lovely and the racing very good and competitive. Unfortunately few of the 32 boats sailing were from the south of England (really just a couple from the Midlands and me from Suffolk) but Paul Noble came all the way down from Scotland so well done him.

The Scottish Championship at East Lothian had a disappointing entry of just 4 boats, perhaps because the event had been blown off the previous year and few people wanted to risk the trip again. Doug Horner was the clear winner



and says it was still a really enjoyable event. This year it will be part of our new Rooster Super Series so hopefully more people will give it a go.

*Doug Horner  
Photo: Derek Braid*

The Northern Paddle series was won by Steve Blackburn for the second year running. You needed 11 race results to qualify which meant going to at least 4 opens – and only 7 people qualified which seems rather disappointing. Meanwhile in the south I won the Southern Paddle in which you needed just 9 race results and there were 9 qualifiers.

It seems to me there's quite a difference between the two Paddle series. In the North there are clubs that can offer fleet racing for Streakers and so many people are likely to be happy to stay at their own clubs and not travel to others. In the south there are fleets growing in several clubs but their racing is done on a handicap basis and therefore the only chance to have Streaker class racing is to go to the open meetings. However, the distances to travel in the south can be huge. Last year Howard Frear came across from near Yeovil to race in Kent twice while some of us from East Anglia went west to Tamworth and Burghfield. Therefore the creation of more local series seems a natural development in the South. The South East Series was won by Doug Horner while I won the East Anglian series which ran for the first time.

The qualifiers in both Paddle Series won nice Streaker towels. If you qualified but missed the final prize-givings and so haven't got your towel yet, you can collect it at the Streaker stand at the Dinghy Show or we'll get it to you somehow.

Hopefully you'll be doing the circuit again this year so we'll find you then!

The class association remains strong with over 200 members and there's a steady stream of new boats appearing with 27 measurement certificates for new boats issued since the start of 2016. Of these, 11 have gone to clubs in the north, including 2 to Scotland, while the rest are in the midlands and south. 7 new boats have gone to clubs in Kent including 2 each to Downs and Wilsonian.

The 2016 AGM saw us adopt mainsheet tracks and travellers as an option. It will be interesting to see how many people take advantage of this. It should be possible to retro-fit tracks and

travellers to most boats but please read the updated class rules first (they're on the website under 'Technical'), especially 10.00 Mainsheet System and check out Alan Gillard's article on this in the Tuning pages of the website at <http://www.streaker-class.org.uk/tuning>

Both our licensed builders, Butler Boats and The Boatyard at Beer, continue to make extremely competitive boats. The National Championships, Southern Area Championships and Northern Paddle were won by Butler boats while the Inlands, Northern Areas and Southern Paddle were won by Beer boats.

Come along to the Dinghy Show to check out what's new from both builders.



*Isaac Marsh at full blast at the Nationals 2016* Photo: Karen Langston



## Who won what in 2016?

<b>Noble Marine National Championship at Rutland S.C. (32 entries)</b>			
1	1951	Tom Gillard	Sheffield Viking S.C.
2	1952	Isaac Marsh	Northampton S.C. / Dovestone S.C.
3	1920	Ian Jones	Dovestone S.C.
4	1826	Mark Lunn	Leigh & Lowton S.C./ West Lancs. Y.C.
5	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
6	1961	Alan Gillard	Sheffield Viking S.C.
7	1837	Graeme Bristow	Leigh & Lowton S.C.
8	1881	Steve Blackburn	West Lancs. Y.C. / Southport S.C.
9	1914	Brenda Hoult	Hayling Island S.C.
10	1829	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
<b>Inland Championship at Welton S.C. (32 entries)</b>			
1	1920	Ian Jones	Dovestone S.C.
2	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
3	'923'	Ben Hollis	Blithfield
4	1881	Steve Blackburn	West Lancs. Y.C.
5	1837	Graeme Bristow	Leigh & Lowton S.C.
<b>Northern Area Championship at West Riding S.C. (11 entries)</b>			
1	1952	Isaac Marsh	Northampton S.C.
2	1826	Ian Jones	Dovestone S.C.
3	1881	Steve Blackburn	West Lancs. Y.C.
<b>Southern Area Championship at Stewartby Water S.C. (10 entries)</b>			
1	1933	Ian Priest	Scaling Dam S.C.
2	1829	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
3	1817	Ian Bradley	Ouse Amateur S.C.
<b>Scottish Championship at East Lothian Y.C. (4 entries)</b>			
1	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
2	1924	Peter Lawson	Killington S.C.
3	1204	Calum Robertson	Port Edgar S.C.

## Sail Register Northern Paddle Series (78 entries; 7 qualifiers)



1	1881	Steve Blackburn	West Lancs. Y.C.
2	1933	Ian Priest	Scaling Dam S.C.
3	1951	Alan Gillard	Sheffield Viking S.C.
4	1822	Neil Dyer	Hykeham S.C.
5	1703	Jon Aldhous	Beaver S.C.

**Raffle winner of Sail Register sail: John Southall**

### Pinnell & Bax Southern Paddle Series (48 entries; 9 qualifiers)



1	1829	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
2	1777	Howard Frear	Sutton Bingham S.C.
3	1817	Ian Bradley	Ouse Amateur S.C.
4	1789 / 1920	Mark Langston	Beccles Amateur S.C.
5	1819 / 1953	Alex Reindorp	Chipstead S.C.

**Raffle winner of Pinnell & Bax sail: Chris Abela**

### South East Area Series (27 entries; 10 qualifiers)

1	1940	Doug Horner	Swanage S.C.
2	1777	Howard Frear	Sutton Bingham S.C.
3	1819	Alex Reindorp	Chipstead S.C.

### East Anglian Series (15 entries; 4 qualifiers)

1	1829	Veronica Falat	Waveney & Oulton Broad Y.C.
2	1817	Ian Bradley	Ouse Amateur S.C.
3	1789 / 1920	Mark Langston	Beccles Amateur S.C.



*Photo: Karen Langston*

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## The Nationals Questionnaire – what it tells us

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In October SCOA members were asked to fill in a questionnaire to give their views on our National Championships. Out of a total membership of approx. 200, 73 people responded, ranging from some who have decided their Championship sailing days are over to those who are Championship title contenders. The age range was huge, from under 20 to over 90!

Of the 35 who said they will 'Very Likely' or 'Possibly' go to this year's Nationals at Torbay, 21 are over 55 years of age, including 5 who are over 70.

Those who said it's 'Unlikely' or they will 'Definitely Not' be at Torbay gave various reasons. 'Too far to travel' was the most common with 20 people ticking that box while only 1 person said it was 'Too expensive'. Other reasons included advanced age and lack of confidence.

When asked if the change from 2-day to 3-day championships had affected the likelihood of going to a Nationals, most people (41) said it has no effect, while another 20 said it has made it more likely they will compete. Only 12 said 'less likely' and, fortunately, 4 of them still say it's possible they will come to Torbay this year. 1 person said they can't go to Torbay because it's in school term-time but otherwise he would support 3-day events.

June is the most popular month in which to hold our Nationals (49 people ticked that), with July second and September third.

When asked which features of a championship venue are important in deciding whether to enter or not, the most important were easy launching, local B&Bs/hotels and easy/cheap car parking. Others that were quite important include short distance to sail to the racing area, comfortable clubhouse and good catering. Much less important to most people are camping close to the club, parking for campervans and places for friends/family to visit while you're afloat.

There was a question about the types of sailing areas that people would prefer for the Nationals. You could choose more than one type and the most popular was large lake/ reservoir with 57

votes, compared to 42 for medium sized lake/ reservoir and 41 for open sea. Estuary and small lake were less popular.

At some venues it might be necessary to have 3 races back-to-back. Would that be an issue for people? 44 said it wouldn't be a problem but 29 said they wouldn't like it, including 10 people who might be at Torbay this year.

When asked which parts of the UK they would be prepared to travel to for a National Championship, 17 people said they'll go anywhere, which is very encouraging! The regions that seem most popular are the Midlands, Eastern England and North-eastern England. This may well reflect the distribution of Streakers in the UK. However, other regions such as the South-west and South-east of England and North Wales also scored well.

Various clubs/venues were cited as being good places to hold Streaker Championships. These included many that we've been to in recent years, e.g. Grafham, Rutland, Northampton and especially Weymouth. Other suggestions that were mentioned by several people include Abersoch, Lake Bala, Brightlingsea, East Lothian, Bassenthwaite, Derwent and Hayling Island.

People were asked what might encourage them to go to the Nationals. The most popular were race coaching on the day before and good social events.

Finally, people could comment on how they would like our Nationals to be. Obviously we can't please everyone all of the time – some want the championships to be at places we don't usually go to, some only want to have to drive a short distance! However, several made the point that the Nationals should be the highlight of our season. This year we'll be at Royal Torbay YC in Torquay, a venue that is popular with lots of classes but one which the Streakers haven't been to before. Meanwhile, we'll already be looking for venues for 2018 and beyond. With the help of the questionnaire responses, we can target some particular clubs. Thank you to everyone who took part in this exercise.



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## The Streaker Class Owners Association

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James Wilson  
Chris Smith

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Southern Paddle co-ordinator – Veronica Falat

Website address: [www.streaker-class.org.uk](http://www.streaker-class.org.uk)

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	Pinnell & Bax	<a href="http://www.pinbax.com">www.pinbax.com</a>
	Rooster Sailing	<a href="http://www.roostersailing.com">www.roostersailing.com</a>

