



# Streaker Class Owners Association

**March 2019**

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



A reminder of summer – Streaker Nationals 2018 *Photo by Karen Langston*

## Chairman's Message

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**By Ian Priest**

With the weather starting to improve, and the first of the open meetings rapidly approaching, it's that time of year to look forward to another busy season of Streaker sailing. Hopefully most of you will have been more organised than I have been and actually done those minor repair jobs needed to the boat during the winter rather than putting them off on the excuse of it being a bit cold.

Thanks to everybody who helped out on the Dinghy Show stand. I wasn't able to make it down there this year but I hear that we were busy as usual, with a good amount of new interest in people looking to join the class. Hopefully we'll see some of those people out on

the water at our open meetings or racing in a club fleet soon. If you do see anyone new, please do help us to make them feel welcomed into what is a great class.

We've made a few alterations to the structure of the calendar this year, which I'll leave to Veronica to describe in detail elsewhere in the newsletter. The aim of these is to try to encourage more people to travel just a short distance to their nearest couple of open meetings, with some more local series results to aim for in doing this, rather than not quite qualifying for the longer "Paddle" series. Looking further ahead, preparations are well under way for the National Championships at Weymouth.

Sailing will be within Portland Harbour, so we get all the benefits of sailing on the sea with open water and clear wind, without waves or tide for us inland sailors to worry about. Let's see if we can make that an even bigger event than when we were there for the 40th anniversary. Later in the year still, we have the Inland Championships at Beaver Sailing Club to look forward to. They have a large local fleet, who will no doubt be out in force for the event, and hosted an excellent Northern Championships last year.

As you'll see elsewhere in the newsletter, there are a couple of possible rule change proposals related to the rig the committee are currently considering. Please do let us know your feelings either positive or negative on these. Please also remember that any proposed change will be put to a vote to the membership of the association, and only will take place if agreed by a majority of association members voting. Every association member has a vote, even if they are not able to attend the AGM it is possible to vote in advance by proxy. The association is for everyone who sails the boat, whether that's at the front of the fleet at the National Championships, or who only sails on a warm evening in Summer. We are lucky as a class association that we have complete control over any future development of

the boat, and I encourage everyone who is an association member to be involved in those decisions.

I hope to see as many of you as possible out on the water soon.



All the best, Ian

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## SCOA subs now due

If you haven't already done so, please renew your subscription to the Streaker Class Owners Association as soon as possible. Subs became due on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

It's still only £15 for ordinary membership. For instructions on how to renew, check out the SCOA page on the Streaker website <https://www.streaker-class.org.uk/scoa>

If you encounter a problem, contact Doug Horner, our Membership Secretary, by emailing [membership@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:membership@streaker-class.org.uk)

Membership means you become eligible for prizes at events and, as you'll see in this newsletter, we're keen to offer more prizes this year. It also means you stay on our database for receiving newsletters. (This one is being sent to 2018 and 2019 members. The next one will only go out to those who have paid for 2019.)

If you have bought a Streaker (new or secondhand), it should have a Measurement Certificate issued to show that you are the owner. This is a free service for SCOA members (£7.50 for non-members) so please contact Veronica Falat [secretary@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:secretary@streaker-class.org.uk) if you need a Measurement Certificate.

## Dinghy Show Review

Thank you Ian Bradley and James Dawes for allowing your brand new boats to be displayed on the Streaker stand and to Alan and Tom Gillard for their new boat to be on the Allen stand at the 2019 RYA Dinghy Show. Having 3 boats on display was really good, especially as they are quite different from each other.

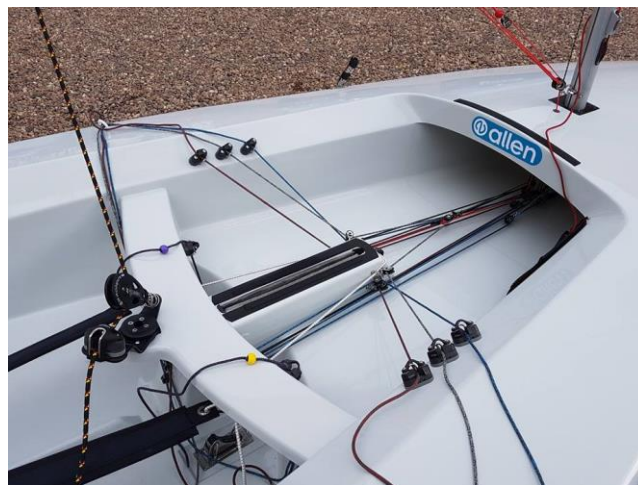
Perhaps the stand-out boat was Ian Bradley's all-wood 2121 built by Butler Boats. It certainly attracted lots of attention. Dave Butler was on hand to explain the ideas that have gone into it. Building in wood allows for some tweaks to be made so it will be interesting to hear from Ian how it performs.



2121

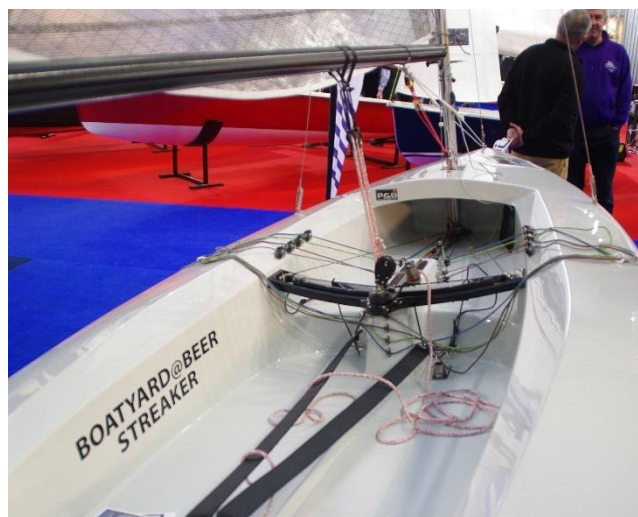
Alan's 2111 and James's 2112 are both FRP boats from the Boatyard at Beer. 2111 was fitted out by Alan while 2112 is a P&B fit-out (not surprising as James works there!). 2112 has a centremain track and traveller while Alan has fitted the aft mainsheet system to 2111, plus an

Allen self-aligning mainsheet jammer.



2111

All three boats have control lines (kicker, cunningham and outhaul) led to the side-decks. James's 2112 has a 4<sup>th</sup> pair of cleats for the traveller control. On Ian's boat, the cleats are positioned slightly lower on the side-tank walls with the idea this will be a bit more comfortable for the helmsman when sitting forward in light airs.



2112

2121 has a single central toe strap whereas the Beer boats have a pair of straps.

Both 2112 and 2121 have Super Spars masts but Alan prefers a Selden for 2111. 2112 was showing off a carbon boom made by Ian Jones. This isn't class legal but various people have been trying carbon booms over the last 12 months and it's likely that a proposal to allow them will be voted on at this year's AGM in June.

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## 2019 Events

### There are some changes to our series this year . . .

#### 1. Sponsorship

**North Sails** is now the sponsor of the Northern Paddle series and has agreed to supply a sail as a prize at the end of the season to be drawn for by competitors in the series.

**Sail Register** has done a great job supporting the series for several years and they are continuing to support us by sponsoring the Inland Championships – more info on that in due course.

We are very pleased to report there's continued sponsorship from **Pinnell & Bax Sails** for the Southern Paddle, **Rooster Sailing** for the Super Series and **Noble Marine Insurance** for our National Championships.

#### 2. Mini-series

Already we've got a couple of mini-series attached to the Southern Paddle series – the **South East** and the **East Anglian**. This year there are also 3 attached to the Northern Paddle – the **Border Reiver**, the **Yorkshire** and the **North West**. This means the open meetings within the overall Northern Paddle will also count towards one or more of these mini-series.

Then, linking the Northern and Southern Paddles is a **Midlands** mini-series and hopefully this will develop in the next few years as fleets grow in the central part of England.

See below for details of all these mini-series – and please note that Burghfield has been added to the South East series so that Burghfielders don't feel they're missing out!

The idea is to encourage people to travel to local events and so develop links between fleets and individual sailors within regions. The number of Streakers at Northern events has suffered a decline in the last couple of years and some fleets which had seemed strong are now much smaller. People who sail at clubs that only have a few Streakers racing can miss out on keeping up to date with what's happening in the class. We pride ourselves on being a friendly bunch so, if you haven't been travelling much to open meetings, do give it a go this year and you might surprise yourself as to how much fun in can be.

#### 3. More series means more prizes!

Each mini-series will have its own results posted on the Streaker website and at the final events there will be prizes for every qualifier in each series. (See below for info on how to qualify.)

Also, prizes at open meetings will be available for different categories of boats and sailors, e.g. older boats, younger and older sailors, etc.

Last year we came up with a plan for identifying who our 'Gold Fleet' sailors are (see page 7 in this newsletter) and by definition other people are in the 'Silver Fleet'. We hope that Silver Fleet sailors will be given prizes at open meetings as well as at the major events. Perhaps there's even a case to be made for having a Bronze Fleet? Your ideas for this would be most welcome.





## Rooster Super Series

April 6	Southern Area Championships	Bough Beech SC
June 1-2	Scottish Championships	East Lothian YC
June 7-9	<b>NOBLE MARINE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	
	Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy	
July 20	Northern Area Championships	Delph SC
Sept. 14-15	<b>Sail Register Inland Championships</b>	Beaver SC
Oct 19	End of Season Championships	Elton SC

**To qualify:** Count your best 3 event results (not individual race results)



## North Sails Northern Paddle Series

March 23	Tamworth SC	July 6	South Windermere SC
March 30	Ripon SC	July 20 <sup>th</sup>	Delph SC
April 27	Shotwick Lake SC	Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Pennine SC
May 4	Annandale SC	Aug. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Scaling Dam SC
May 11	Hornsea SC	Sept. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Leigh & Lowton SC
May 18	Hykeham SC	Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Welton SC
June 1-2	East Lothian SC	Oct. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Yeadon SC
June 16	Burwain SC	Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Elton SC
June 22	Bassenthwaite SC		

**To qualify:** Count your best 12 race results. If 4 races are sailed at an event, only the first 3 count towards the series.



## Pinnell & Bax Southern Paddle Series

March 23	Tamworth SC	July 14	Beccles Amateur SC
April 6	Bough Beech SC	July 27	Redditch SC
April 27	Burghfield SC	Sept. 21	Haversham SC
May 12	Downs SC	Sept. 22	Ouse Amateur SC
June 29	Newhaven & S. SC	Sept. 28	Island Barn Reservoir SC
July 13	Waveney & OB. YC		

**To qualify:** Count your best 9 race results. If 4 races are sailed at an event, only the first 3 count towards the series.

### Border Reiver Series

May 4            Annandale SC  
 June 1-2        East Lothian SC  
 June 22         Bassenthwaite SC  
 July 6            South Windermere SC

**To qualify:** Count your best 6 race results.

All Northern and Southern Paddle events are also in one or more mini-series. Some are in several!

### North West Series

Apr 27            Shotwick Lake SC  
 June 16          Burwain SC  
 July 20          Delph SC  
 Aug 17          Pennine SC  
 Sept 8            Leigh & Lowton SC  
 Oct 19            Elton SC

**To qualify:** Count your best 9 race results.

Pennine is in both the North West and Yorkshire Series

### Yorkshire Series

Mar 30            Ripon SC  
 May 11            Hornsea SC  
 Aug 11            Pennine SC  
 Aug 31            Scaling Dam SC  
 Oct 5             Welton SC  
 Oct 12            Yeadon SC

**To qualify:** Count your best 9 race results.

### Midland Series

Mar 23            Tamworth SC  
 May 18            Hykeham SC  
 July 27            Redditch SC  
 Sept 21            Haversham SC  
 Sept 22            Ouse Amateur SC

**To qualify:** Count your best 9 race results.

The only opens which aren't NP or SP events are 3 of the East Anglian ones - Rollesby, Hickling and Ardeigh

### South East Series

Apr 6             Bough Beech SC  
 Apr 27            Burghfield SC  
 May 12            Downs SC  
 June 29            Newhaven & Seaford SC  
 Sept 28            Island Barn SC

**To qualify:** Count your best 9 race results.

Burghfield now counts towards the South East series

### East Anglian Series

Apr 21            Rollesby Broad SC  
 May 5             Hickling Broad SC  
 June 22            Ardeigh SC  
 July 13            Waveney & Oulton Broad YC  
 July 14            Beccles Amateur SC  
 Sept 22            Ouse Amateur SC

**To qualify:** Count your best 9 race results.

## Northern and Southern Paddle Rules 2019

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The full rules of both paddle series can be found under the heading 'Events' on the Streaker class website. Check out <https://www.streaker-class.org.uk/paddle-rules>

Remember, if you go to an event and enter but for some reason don't sail all the races, you still get points for them. This can make the difference between qualifying for the prizes at the end of the season or not!

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## Tuning notes

Over the years there have been many articles written about setting up rigs and tuning Streakers for optimum performance. Alan Gillard's "Tweaking your Rooster" is on the Tuning pages (in the Technical section) on our website and many of us have found that extremely useful. Some articles were lost to general view when we changed from our old website to the current one but fortunately Alan Simmons has recently collected together as many tuning articles as he could find. These are now available on a CD. It's not an edited CD, just a collection, so there may be some repetition but you might find it a useful resource.

If you would like a CD, please email [secretary@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:secretary@streaker-class.org.uk) and Veronica will put you in contact with Alan Simmons. Alan says he isn't making a charge for it but suggests that people who receive the CD make a contribution to RNLI to the value of what the postage had been.

## Who's in the Gold Fleet?

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The following sailors are currently 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 Hout	Duncan McDonald	
Veronica Falat	Ian Jones	Martin Penty	

Of course, this does mean there are some very experienced sailors in the Silver Fleet and on their day they can give the best a run for their money. For example, the likes of Debbie Degge, Ian Bradley and Dave Butler are currently 'Silver Fleet' sailors. So maybe we should consider introducing a 'Bronze Fleet' category for people who are less experienced?

If anyone wants to help suggest how we should differentiate between Silver and Bronze fleet sailors, contact Veronica Falat [secretary@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:secretary@streaker-class.org.uk) .

The Gold Fleet list will be updated after this year's Nationals and then again after the Inlands.

## Hot issues for 2019

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### Carbon Booms

The idea of using carbon booms on Streakers has been around for a couple of seasons now and, thanks to Ian Jones, in 2018 more of us have had a chance to see (and even have gone with) them.



Ian Jones and his carbon boom *Photo by Alasdair McQuire*

Chris Smith has experimented by using a carbon boom from his RS Aero and has also made up a carbon boom specifically for his Streaker from component parts that are easily available.

Most responses have been very positive but a carbon boom is more expensive than an alloy one from Selden or Super Spars and, as our alloy booms very rarely fail in any way, it's perhaps unlikely that many Streaker owners will want to buy a carbon boom for an existing boat.

Having said that, having a boom that is lighter and doesn't slam across in a gybe like an alloy one does, makes for a more pleasant sailing experience! Also, people changing from a stern mainsheet system to a centre-mainsheet might want a boom that offers more stiffness than their current boom does.

Chris Smith's carbon boom cost him £268.40 including all the fittings. He used a 2.5 metre roll-wrapped carbon tube (50.8 mm ID) that cost £191.54 (delivered) from Easy Composites.

At present it's not possible to say exactly what a professionally made carbon Streaker boom will cost. More info should be available very soon.

For carbon booms to become class legal a rule change will have to be proposed, voted on and passed at our AGM on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June during the Nationals at Weymouth.

### Masts

No, we're not talking here about carbon masts but about the availability of our alloy ones.

At present our rules offer us 2 options (both untapered) for masts bought new from manufacturers – the Rigel section from Super Spars and the Lambda from Selden. This has been the case for several years now.

Alan Gillard, our Technical Officer, explains our current concerns and what the Technical Committee has agreed to do:

*Recent discussions with Selden have revealed that the Lambda section is available for the Streaker class, but an untapered mast is a non-stock item. This means that 3 to 4 months is the general lead time for the Streaker Lambda mast. I ordered in August and received in November. This may be acceptable if you are not in any rush like me but the builders Butler and Beer cannot wait for spars and find it unacceptable to fit their production around availability of spars. You may say, let's just get from Super Spars, the Rigel section is available. This is true but Super Spars have in the past had problems with the manufacture of the Rigel section, being such a thick wall section. The dye breaks. When this happened last time Butler Boats had boats completed ready to be despatched to customers but without spars. So, our conclusion then was we need two spar suppliers.*

*Adam Parry at Selden confirmed the Lambda section was a stock mast for the Mirror, Vaurien and Devon Yawl classes but all these*



masts are tapered. Tapering would not add a great deal to the price of the Streaker mast, if anything at all.

In discussions with Simon Bevan at Super Spars he does not have any problems supplying the class with the Rigel section. If the class was to change to tapered masts then Super Spars would not want to taper the Rigel section but would offer the class the M9 section, which also is their section for the Mirror. I am not aware that any classes have a tapered version of the Rigel. The Superspar M9 section is 53mm sideways, which would not easily fit inside the deck gate of existing boats it being 2mm wider than a Lambda. Obviously not an issue for new builds though. Most spars are bought new with new boats, unless you are unlucky enough to break one.

Both spar suppliers are going to supply the class with trial masts which are tapered. The intention is to make use of these masts so we can identify whether there is any potential performance advantage? I think there is likely to be an advantage in certain conditions, but overall I would suggest we will see little or no difference. There has been some discussion that the sail shape would need some modification to allow for the tapered section. I

have asked Mike McNamara for his views on this. The Selden mast is being passed on to myself for trial (delivery 6 weeks and this is their busy time), mainly because Tom works next door to Selden. Dave Butler is taking delivery from Super Spars the tapered M9 section.

We are being given the chance to try before we are being forced into the situation. Jack Holt Ltd back in 1993 just said, 'We are not making the Cheetah section anymore here is the alternative. (You have no choice)'. That is not the case now but we do need to protect the continued availability of spars for the Streaker.

So, in outline we'll be trialling a tapered Lambda mast from Selden and a tapered M9 from Super Spars.

**Stop press** – Mike McNamara suggests that the tapering might have limited effect on bend characteristics because of the welded taper itself.

Anyway, we'll do bend tests to compare our existing masts with those we'll be trialling and information will be reported on the class website as we receive it.

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## New kid on the block!



It's always great to see new people having fun in the Streaker class and even more so when they are youngsters keen to show us how it's done.

16-year-old Giles Therkelson-Smith from Welton SC already knows Streakers well as his dad Dave Smith not only sails them but has built them too. Now Giles is demonstrating his own sailing skills in club racing and on the circuit.

*Photo by Alasdair McQuire*

## 2019 Noble Marine Streaker Nationals

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Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy

June 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

If you missed our Nationals at WPNSA in 2015 you missed a super event- but you've got a second chance!

WPNSA is famous as the sailing base for the 2012 Olympics and has all the facilities you would expect of a venue that caters for top-level dinghy racing. Easy launching, plenty of dinghy parking space and excellent racing infrastructure make it very user-friendly. Although we have the option to race in the open water outside Portland Harbour, we found the Harbour plenty big enough for us in 2015. In fact it's huge – approx 520 hectares (1300 acres)!

The Notice of Race is being worked on right now and will be available on the Streaker website as soon as possible. We'll be sticking largely to the schedule from last time – 2 races on Friday, 3 on Saturday and 2 again on Sunday. Competitors' briefing at 11.00 on Friday and then 1<sup>st</sup> race start at 13.00.

Our AGM will be on the Friday evening.

The WPNSA website offers info about a variety of accommodation options.

Check out <https://www.wpnsa.org.uk/accommodation-useful-links-for-visitors>

Do come if you can! There are plenty of prizes to be won, including for older boats and for various age categories of sailors from juniors to over-75s! The Fifteen Transom trophy is for the first boat older than 15 years so that means boats with sail-numbers up to 1576. There's also a prize for the club that gets the best results for 3 of its sailors – and it's always fun to come with your club mates. It really is a super place to sail and any friends and family you bring will find plenty to do exploring the area.

The cost is likely to be in the region of £85 per boat.

If you need more info before the NOR is published, email [secretary@streaker-class.org.uk](mailto:secretary@streaker-class.org.uk)

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## The Streaker Class Owners Association

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Other committee members: Chris Smith  
James Dawes  
Ian Bradley

Northern Paddle co-ordinator – Ian Priest

Southern Paddle co-ordinator – Veronica Falat

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