



707 Class Association Newsletter January 2020

Welcome to the New 707 Sailing Season. And what a brilliant one it should be!

The Fleet continues to grow with amazing enthusiasm.

We have new boats on the Forth, Clyde and other parts of Scotland all keen to bolster the Fleet because of the 'amazing racing' which has attracted them to buy boats. It gives us a great feeling to be attracting people from other classes due to the ethos of affordable sportboat racing and fun social events at which people definitely talk to you..

We have a new Clyde Fleet forming, and a resurgence in Scarborough with re-kindled enthusiasm from the local boats and with Leeds University joining the Winter Series there.

We have two new teams assisted by the Class Association through the Deserving Boat Scheme, and the two original teams of Autism on the Water and Partial Pleasure are now working their way steadily into top places in the events.

Events – we already have teams saying they'll be racing giving us unprecedented numbers at events. Over 22 boats have already said they will be at three of them– Edinburgh Cup, Scottish Series, and the Scottish Nationals. We are expecting over 35 for the Nationals, and we know more will come along to increase the number further.

We have a great race calendar and we look forward to seeing you there.

It's going to be a fun season!

The Hyde Sails 707 Nationals

Port Edgar Yacht Club, Edinburgh

13th-16th August 2020



The Nationals in August in Edinburgh will be a blast - and if you have a day off you can always go to the Edinburgh Festival and the Fringe.

We're planning 4 days of excellent racing, 4 fun social events and more competition than you can imagine...the Fleet will be buzzing with enthusiasm and also be well-practiced by then.

As it is Festival time you need to get your accommodation booked early. However Port Edgar Marina has also offered camping and motorhome/van space on the marina site.

Dara, Eddie and the rest of the Nationals Committee are working hard on everything – those of you who haven't organized such an event perhaps don't appreciate what it takes. They've been on this since November..

Sponsors – we have so far attracted  as our main sponsor - and they have been very generous.

Hawk wind indicators (a great British product) have offered us some excellent products for the daily prizewinners.

English Braids (another great British product) have offered ropes and halyard sets - so no excuse for that tatty string you have been meaning to replace.
Additional sponsors are sought and we're working hard on it.

Port Edgar Yacht Club may have moved into their new premises and will be keen to show us the best of what the Forth has to offer with their well-drilled Race Team.

Up to four races a day may be sailed over windward/leeward courses, ideally with spreader mark and two gate marks. Of course this may be altered depending on conditions.

Socials will depend on how many boats we get as every boat is another 5 people, so planning for 30 to 40 boats can mean venues may have to change.....what a great problem for the Fleet to have to consider!

However, expect barbeques, pizza, real ale, dancing and culture.....



And free hats – probably..



EVENT CALENDAR 2020



Edinburgh Cup April 18/19th - an event for the bold. No discards across a full weekend of racing. The winner takes it all.

Kip regatta May 9/10th– joining the IRC and RC35 event at Inverkip for a well-run event hosted by the Royal Western Yacht Club.

Scottish Series May 22nd-25th – four days of full-on racing and great socials at East Loch Tarbert on Loch Fyne. Get your accommodation booked and your crew prepared for an epic event.

Mudhook regatta June 6/7th – a great big-boat sailing event based at Rhu marina on the Clyde no doubt with excellent socials at Royal Northern and Helensburgh Sailing Club.

Northern Championships 11/12th July – at Sunderland Yacht Club. A new venue for the Fleet, but with two home based boats, the Sharky boys from Hartlepool, and northern hospitality we are looking forward to it. They have their own crane too.

National Championships August 13-16th – a fantastic four day event at Port Edgar Yacht Club on the Forth near the beautiful 3 Bridges. Superb racing and brilliant social calendar planned to leave you exhausted and smiling.

Royal Forth One-design regatta August 29/30th - a well-run affair hosted by RFYC Club in Granton, Edinburgh.

Port Edgar Watersports Sprints Slam September 26/27th- another must for the calendar. Multiple races (up to 12 in a weekend) over short courses with no time to get your breath back..

Scottish Championships October 24/25th- this year it will be hosted by the historic and famous Royal Northern and Clyde Yacht Club on the Clyde. A great location, excellent race management and superb hosts. This will be the culmination of a full-on season.

Easterns Championships - TBA

Two Deserving Teams offered use of a 707 for a season

The Class Association is expanding its 'Deserving Boat Scheme' with help from RYA Scotland.

We are always looking for applications from suitable groups, crews or Universities so don't hesitate to contact us and discuss it.

In 2020 we have teams from Edinburgh university, and an independent team of sailors who have given up travelling every weekend to the south coast for their keelboat racing, which is headed up by Glasgow sailor Peter Cameron. They're keen, and competent.

If you would like to find out more and think you can get an enthusiastic team together for another season please come and talk to any Committee Member at the events or just get in touch with the Chairman.

dsmith@c-technics.com or 07779 251 989.



Murray Macdonald with an autistic group on AoTW, and the ex-Glasgow University team on Partial Pleasure – these boats are the original 'Deserving Teams'.

A Recap on the 2019 Season

What a great season it was!

7 Fantastic events

New teams

Great racing

A few pictures of winners and some of the fun people to be with whilst sailing 707s



Seaword – brilliant again and winners of so much...but now being challenged by many. The race is on.



Partial Pleasure - winners of the June Forth event. Surely this is Fleet full of youngsters?



Mojito won one of the days at a very windy Nationals proving we offer very inclusive sailing – even a combined age of something like 1754, proving age is no impediment in the 707 Fleet



More-T-Vicar winners of the RFYC One-design

Valhalla – 2nd in two events. If only they could retain that consistency....actually if only we all could!



Dan Challis and Mad Dog – winner of the PEW Sprints – a great result in their first season, and one to watch.

Scarborough YC and local 707 Representative Rudi Barman and friends. Rudi is doing a great job developing the Fleet at SYC. Let's hope we can attract the Scarborough boats to more events this season – you know you want to..





New boat Swordfish 2nd at the Sprints and right up there in their first season -so look out for them in 2020

Edinburgh Cup

1 st	Seaword
2 nd	Sharky
3 rd	Valhalla

June Forth Regatta

1 st	Partial Pleasure
2 nd	Jetsteam
3 rd	More-T-Vicar

PEW Sprints

1 st	Mad dog
2 nd	Swordfish
3 rd	Seaword

RFYC One-Design

1 st	More-T-Vicar
2 nd	Partial Pleasure
3 rd	Valhalla

Scottish Series

1 st	Seaword
2 nd	Miss Money Penny
3 rd	Blue Funk

Nationals

1 st	Seaword
2 nd	Partial Pleasure
3 rd	Blue Funk

Northerns

1 st	Turbulence
2 nd	Partial Pleasure
3 rd	Sharky

Scottish Championships

1 st	Seaword
2 nd	Mad dog
3 rd	Swordfish

UK Fleet News

T' Scarborough Fleet Revival

The enthusiasm is back in the 707 Fleet in Scarborough. Leeds University have borrowed Class-owned boat Miss Money Penny for the Winter Series at SYC, and we are looking forward to hearing how they, and the Club members get on. 707 Representative Rudi Barman has also tempted the Uni with an offer of bargain accommodation at a local hostel, and great apres-sail.



A beautiful January day with Leeds University sailing Class-owned boat Miss Money Penny at Scarborough Yacht Club's Winter Series

Following attendance at the Northerns in 2019 the local Fleet know they need to get back to pace and are keen to do it in time for the Nationals, and perhaps the Scottish Series in 2020.

We are delighted that the Class Deserving Boat Scheme is transferrable and hopefully will get used by people across the country to provide a boat where there is chance to encourage 707 sailing. It can be any group of sailors not just Unis, so think about who might be suitable.

Scarborough Yacht Club and the 707 Association have given students from Leeds University Sailing Club a fantastic opportunity to sail in the SYC winter series in the Class-owned boat, Miss Money Penny. The university team will race against local SYC 707 sailing crews in 5 races over the next 3 months

The first weekend was a real success with the new team really enjoying the one-design racing, although they agree that they have a lot to learn in this new boat.

Local accommodation the Boatshed Hostel on Quay Street just off the harbour have sponsored the boat and have been fantastically supportive providing free accommodation for 5 uni sailors each weekend of the race.

SYC is one of the few clubs in the U.K. to race throughout winter. Cold temperatures, strong winds and rough seas prove for challenging conditions. Nevertheless this series is the most popular with local crew as the excitement is high as the sailing is fun.

The Scarborough Fleet are a great bunch to be with and let's hope the Fleet continues to develop and attract even more boats. Every boat counts and one at a time makes a real difference – after all there are five enthusiasts on every boat.

Rudi Barman has taken on the role of coordinator to encourage the re-growth of the local fleet so please contact him if you need information about the fleet.

Rudi@terrortower.co.uk

News from Wales

We now have a Fleet representative in Wales hoping to coordinate sailing in the area as there are a surprising number of boats tucked away, and yet some very capable crews – get it together! Can we have a 707 event some time? Two boats in Wales (Lola and Three Little Pigs) are trying to encourage some of the other boats out of hiding to get some good racing, and after their respective excellent results at the Scottish Series and the Nationals, the competition could be exceptional.

So, I've managed to get a little insight into the unknown team from Cardiff who did rather well, coming second, with 'no real experience' (ho ho) in the Class Association-owned boat, Miss Money Penny at the Scottish Series.....At least they've sworn they'll be back, but this time with their own boat.

Inexperience obviously pays: - Hamish, Robin and Julian all grew up the RYA youth squad in 420s and at Uni, Robin and Julian went on to team race at their respective Unis, London and Manchester. As students, they all sailed Cork Week, Scottish Series, West Highland Week, Bangor Week and various other regattas in an Impala and any other boats we could get a ride on. Robin went on to campaign a J70 in the Netherlands and Robin and Hamish then bought a Sigma 38 together which we mainly cruised for 8 years whilst Julian raced a Wayfarer.

Robin has always raced irregularly on SB3s in Dublin and in the odd J24 (amongst other boats) race on the south coast. Recently, Robin has kept his OOD34 in France where he has been doing family cruising

and Hamish bought the 707 called 3 Little Pigs to have fun day sailing with the family and has never raced it.

Julian however, has got into RS400 sailing where he met Dave Exley at his local club who came 2nd in the Nat Champs last year.

The last member is Dan Moody who is Hamish's brother in law and cruises the Welsh coastline on a Drascombe Cruiser and was introduced to a spinnaker at the Scottish Series.

So, all but one of us was beaten by a team with 'limited' sailing experience (well, that's what I was told when they asked to borrow the boat). It could be said that they are a bunch of bandits.....

However, of most concern is poor Dan who has a Drascombe without a spinnaker apparently.

We look forward to seeing them at other 707 Events, and hopefully encouraging a Welsh-based 707 Fleet to become active.

Hamish and Jan (from Lola) would be keen to hear from you I am sure -
jangwilliam@btinternet.com

Clyde News

There are promising signs of a new Clyde fleet emerging with five 707's now based on the upper Clyde. This is an exceptional accomplishment which has occurred largely through word of mouth with like-minded sailors wanting to have some fun and affordable racing. It proves that the 707 can offer the right package and, with the further appeal of some competitive One Design racing, has struck a chord with the Clyde based sailors.

The 707s pride themselves on being a welcoming bunch and we thought that this would be a good opportunity to introduce the new fleet to you. In no particular order we have:

James Urquhart – Chru

Helensburgh based team and for a number of years the sole active Clyde based 707. After a couple of seasons attending the occasional One Design event and running the chandlery at Rhu Marina, James is now looking to get back out racing more regularly again.

Dan Challis - Mad Dog



Dan and crew are regular Clyde racers who purchased a 707 at the start of last year. Dan has been actively participating in the class One Design events on the Forth and Clyde regattas with some notable success. This well prepared team is looking forward to taking on the fleet again when it makes its way across to the West Coast.

Doug Paton - Vanilla

After owning a succession of Flying Fifteens, sb20s and a Platu 25, serial boat owner Doug has been persuaded to join the One Design fun and bought the former Chaos - a Clyde based boat with had been unused for a number of years. His first event was the Scottish Championships at the end of last season which saw a steep learning curve after a spectacular first race. As a popular racer, He is currently juggling a number of commitments but will attend as many class events as possible.

Cameron Shaw - Baldricks Cunning Plan



In a classic case of 'who you know' Cameron has successfully managed to wrangle Baldrick from the back of Port Bannatyne Boat Yard where she had been laid up for a number of years. He has done a fantastic job of rejuvenating the somewhat 'green' boat and she is now in excellent condition. This young team are full of enthusiasm and with their distinctive hull graphics will be one to watch next year.

Old School Syndicate - Old School

The latest addition to the Clyde fleet is Team Old School, co-owned by Ross Chassels, Graeme Galbraith and Ross MacNish. This is a well know Sonata team has been about for many years and will be a competitive addition to the fleet. Their new boat is currently making its way from Northern Ireland and great things are promised for the season ahead.

With a mix of young talent and some experienced teams now on the Clyde, we look forward to welcoming the rest of the 707 sailors and hope for some good racing and even better socials in the season ahead.

If you want anymore information or know of anyone keen to get involved with racing on the west coast, please contact Dan Challis via email - danchallis@hotmail.com

The North

Sunderland YC now has two club boats which could easily be joined by others to get a North East scene going, and Sharky boat might be keen for some local racing – if you have the beer resources to cope.

The Development Plan

Here's a summary of how we're getting on:

- Develop Fleets in key locations – *Scarborough is making a comeback with new boats sailing and old boats encouraged back.*

It looks like we getting a Fleet going on the Clyde too.

Port Edgar has over 23 boats based there or nearby.

Can we get a Fleet in Wales again?

Can we get fleet out of Sunderland or Hartlepool?

- Develop Deserving Boat Scheme – *we have had our two Class-owned boats, Poimandres and Miss Money Penny, being sailed by Universities and other Deserving Teams..*
- Develop Available Crew register - *this is working well and is to be found on 707sailors Facebook.*
- Crew Membership - *we now have over 24 Crew members supporting our Association.*
- Rules – *we've amended the Constitution, and have the Rules still to ratify in readiness for the new season.*

Crew Membership

We now have lots of Crew Members keen to support the Class Association. I hope you feel that your £10 is value for money and great way to support our growing Fleet.

Boats for sale

Come and join the amazing 707 Fleet by buying one of these amazing-value boats!

For less than the price of a dinghy you can be part of it.

Negative Equity: IRL 7071

Laid up since 2015 in West Cork. Check Apollo Duck for details.

Buy a 707 with a friend! – get double the fun for half the cost...

We actually need to find out where the unused boats are and bring them back into the Fleet. Anyone any ideas where they are lying?

Forestays. What's the problem and the solution?

In recent years some forestays have been supplied by different riggers from the one approved by the Class Association (Z-Spars) which is strictly against the Class Rules, BUT at the AGM we thought this should be permissible if they are of the right length. A Rule modification is coming.

However, to get maximum mast rake we have concerns that people have been sailing with as long a forestay as possible by extending onto the last few threads of the bottlescrew, and sometimes without securing pins, which is not sensible or safe. So we've asked for input from professional riggers.

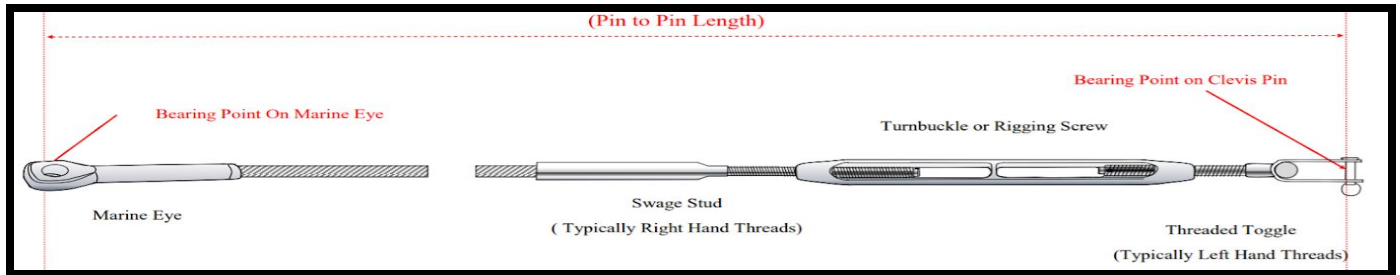
This looks like the proposal regarding the dimensions and fittings:

The forestay shall be 1 x 19, Dyform or similar square section stainless steel wire. The forestay length shall be not more than 8685mm measured from the Bearing Surface of the top swage eye which connects to the mast fitting, and the Bearing Surface of

- a. the swage toggle fork at the bottom of a rigging screw which connects to the bow fitting (where a rigging screw is fitted) with all safety pins in position.

or

- b. the swage fork or toggle fork which connects to the bow fitting (where no rigging screw is fitted)



The drawing shows where to measure from:

- a. Top of forestay – the bearing surface is the outermost point on the eye/pin
- b. Base of forestay – the bearing surface is the inner part of the pin.

Members will be contacted for input but the above is likely to be implemented.

Start line Rules – get to know them, and apply them, or you’re likely to be out! – so say the Race Officers..

We received an email regarding some of the incidents witnessed at recent events from a senior Race Officer who had witnessed boats not adhering to rules and the infringed boats not protesting.

I think it is worth everyone considering what is being said as we are becoming more competitive at all levels. I think we need to find a way of upping our game especially in observance of start line rules.

Ideally we don’t want any bad feeling creeping into the Fleet, at any level. However, we do need to recognise that with more boats, greater competitiveness, and increased awareness of the high level of sailing, we have to start to sailing within the Rules across the Fleet - or suffer the consequences. The Race Committees are essentially warning us that they will be more diligent in 2020, and may start to disqualify abusers.

We have not traditionally been a fleet with many protests, and sailing within the Rules can keep it that way.

However, here is a copy of an email received at the end of last season:

"Following some alleged incidents at 707 events, I was asked my opinion as an RYA-NJ about failing to respond to a right of way boat on the start line to avoid being OCS under 'U' or 'Black' flag rules.

I referred the question to the RYA Racing Rules Advisory Service and have just received the attached response. Their opinion is that, if deliberate, then it is a violation of rule 2. Alternatively, under rule 44.1b they have gained a significant advantage (avoiding disqualification for being OCS), so have to retire.

I suggest that you circulate this RYA-RRAT opinion amongst the 707 fleet via your website so all are aware that they can be protested for such action and, even if they acknowledge breaking a Part 2 rule, exoneration by subsequent penalty turns is not an option.

This is the response from the Chairman of the RYA's Racing Rules Advisory Team (RRAT):

Question In recent Hunter 707 'one-design' keelboat events at Port Edgar YC, in the final minute before starting under RRS 30.3 'U' flag or 30.4 'Black Flag' rules, some boats have allegedly not responded to a right of way boat in order to avoid being disqualified for being OCS. They have acknowledged infringing a Part 2 rule and, after the start signal, they have exonerated themselves by taking a two-turn penalty in accordance with 44.1 and 44.2. No formal protests have been lodged concerning these incidents but I have been asked if such action is really legal. It has been suggested that deliberately failing to observe the rules infringes RRS 2 Fair Sailing, but I am unaware of any cases that cover this particular situation.

If such action does break the rules, what advice would you give protest juries trying to differentiate between a deliberate refusal to respond to a right of way boat and an accidental or incompetent failure to respond?

Answer Our opinion is that if this manoeuvre was clearly deliberate to gain an advantage (to avoid becoming OCS), then it is a violation of rule 2. Depending on the timing of the turns, she may have been slow in taking her turns. Pretty tough on a volunteer protest committee to find in a hearing that one of their club mates has deliberately broken a rule i.e. deliberately cheated.

From a competitors' point of view, it's a pretty natural action if you find yourself out of position to attempt to reach down the line a bit, and in taking a penalty at least they have acknowledged an infringement: mostly people don't!

Perhaps using 44.1b may be a less contentious solution; **they have gained a significant advantage compared with OCS so have to retire.** No subjectivity needed by the protest committee and hopefully no hard feelings; no implication of cheating but same outcome.

Either way someone needs to protest.



Area 707 Representatives

The following enthusiasts are keen to answer any queries on how to sail 707s, and information about your local Fleet.

To avoid email scams and spam please address all correspondence in the first instance through Mark via email on [mark.robertson AT hotmail.com](mailto:mark.robertson@hotmai.com)

Chairman: David Smith
Secretary: Mark Robertson
Treasurer: Julia Batchelor
East: Debbie De Boltz
North: Micky Early
Scarborough: Rudi Barman
Wales: Jan Gwilliam
Scotland: Eddie Batchelor
Publicity: Gregor Southall

Finally - Membership is due please

It is only £30. See the new website www.sail707.com for the form and payment details.

And only £10 to be a crew member.