



South Staffordshire Sailing Club



Affiliated to the RYA

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location/Directions

The sailing club is located adjacent to Junction 12 on the M6. From this roundabout head towards Cannock on the A5, and take the first road on the left (after 0.6 miles), just before the lay-by. This is Gailey Lea Lane. Follow it for about 0.5 miles to the first set of buildings on the left. The second entrance is to the clubhouse; the car park is about 150m. further down the lane through the next gate on the left. Here there is ample parking and plenty of room to rig boats.

The Club

South Staffs Sailing Club has fifty years of experience in teaching and promoting dinghy sailing at all levels, and is one of the most popular sailing clubs in the area. Sailing is available to members all year round, and the club is renowned for its friendly atmosphere and for attracting family groups.

Club racing takes place on Sundays throughout the year, and on Tuesday evenings from April to August. In addition to these other special one off events are run, often on Bank Holidays.

Social events are arranged throughout the year for members and their friends. These events are varied and there is something to attract everyone.

Clubhouse

The clubhouse is situated overlooking the 65 acre pool. It has recently been extended, and includes a galley, bar and changing rooms. Drinks and light snacks are available from the galley, which is run by members themselves. The bar is open on race days and also Tuesday nights throughout the year. Members also staff this.



The main room can either be opened out so that major social functions can be hosted, or partitioned into two, when courses are being run and classrooms are required.

Members Run Club

South Staffs Sailing Club has no employees. Members commit to completing duties on the water, or to man the galley or serve behind the bar. Each member is expected to do this for the equivalent of 2½ days each year. We have a very busy schedule so there are opportunities to complete these duties on Sundays, some Saturdays or Tuesday evenings in the summer. These might be a Sunday assisting the OOD (Officer of the Day) organise the racing, a Tuesday evening assisting on the rescue boat, and a Sunday serving in the galley. In all instances there will be someone to let you know what to do. At

Gailey Lower Pool, Gailey Lea Lane, Nr. Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5PT





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the beginning of each season a calendar is available for you to pick days convenient to you.

If you have just joined the club doing duties is an ideal way to get to know people and to watch some of the racing from close up. You can learn a tremendous amount that way.

The club also runs courses on race management and safety boat driving which will enable you to take a lead role as you gain experience.

So whether it is serving a cup of tea, teaching beginners to sail, organising the annual dinner dance or extending the clubhouse, everyone can help. Ultimately knowing that you are helping the club go from strength to strength is a very satisfying feeling.

Boat Classes

In order to encourage a strong competition base, South Staffs has limited the classes of boat that can be sailed at the club. The two-handed adult classes sailed are the Lark, the GP 14, and the Firefly. Single-handed classes are the OK and the Solo. All the fleets are well supported and have a complete cross section of ability so there is always someone to race against. Each fleet has a Class Captain who is available to offer help and advice. Class-training days are also run during the season. The club has a number of boats from each class, which are used for training purposes. These are available for new members to try, and to assist them to decide which class is suitable for them.



Many of our sailors take the opportunity to sail at local, area and National level and have a wealth of experience that they are only too happy to pass on. Some of our club members go even further afield and participate in World Championship events.

Racing

Five race series take place throughout the year. These are the Spring, Summer, Frostbite, Icicle and the Summer Tuesday night. They are run to class, RYA Portsmouth Yardstick, or the club personal handicap scheme. On Sundays three races are run, with just one for the Tuesday night series.



One of the obligations that all club members have is to assist with the organisation of the racing on a few occasions in the year. A four-person team will organise the day and cover safety boat duty.

The rota for this is arranged at the beginning of each year, and a blank calendar is posted on the club notice board in December so that members can select dates that are most convenient for them. If subsequently a member is unable to carry out their duty they can usually arrange to swap with someone else.



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As the sailing calendar and duty rota has to be published early in March, the Sailing Committee will allocate duties if a preferred date is not chosen.

Courses on the OOD's duties are run during the winter months and safety boat training is carried out throughout the year.

Training

South Staffs Sailing Club is registered as an RYA Approved Sail Training Centre, and has many years of experience in this area. One of the club's main aims is to share our love of sailing and to ensure that it is safe and fun.

RYA Level 1 and 2 courses are run each year and the instruction is carried out by RYA qualified instructors. Successful participants are awarded certificates that are internationally recognised.

The Level 1 courses are run over a series of five evening sessions, and the Level 2 course follows on two Saturdays.

Further courses for higher-level qualifications are arranged as required.

Similarly powerboat courses are run to develop members' skills and ensure that they have the knowledge and experience necessary to carry out on the water duties at the club.

'Learn to Race' courses are also popular on Wednesday nights, and are aimed at giving less experienced sailors the confidence and skills to enjoy club racing.



Junior Sailing

Promoting sailing to junior members and developing their interest has always been a key aim of the club. This can start at almost any age.



Juniors have formal training sessions on Sunday mornings between 9.30 and 11.00am, which run from just after Easter to October. An RYA Senior Instructor who is specifically responsible for junior training runs these sessions. Other instructors and a trained safety boat crew assist him. Additional help is available on shore to rig boats and offer advice. Junior members sail Mirrors, Toppers and Optimists or any of the adult classes of boat.

Training is carried out to follow the requirements of the RYA Junior Training Log Book, and certificates are awarded when students attain the stage 1,2, and 3 levels.

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Other occasional training days are also run during the year at weekends and during holidays.

A race is run at lunchtime for the less experienced juniors and they can compete in a Spring and Autumn series.



During the course of the year specific one off events are organized for Juniors. The highlight for many is the Junior Fun Weekend, when as well as sailing, a barbeque is arranged on the Saturday night and they camp on the side of the lake.

As they become more proficient sailors some of the juniors will go to do events such as the Himley 24 Hour and Southport 12 Hour races (more experienced sailors), which the club won in 2001.

Race training is also arranged for the junior members. The sessions are run by club RYA Race Coaches and include race craft, starts, tactics, boat handling etc and also include aspects of circuit training and fitness.

Junior members who have started competing in events away from the club on the Midland Circuit in Toppers and Optimists also take part in away

weekend and training events organized by this association.

So whether the juniors travel to compete in events at other locations, or progress to crewing for adult members, both are excellent ways for them to improve their skills, gain more experience, and increase their enjoyment of the sport.

Galley

The galley is run on a voluntary basis with a supervisor and two helpers providing snacks and drinks from 10.00am - 4.00pm on Sundays. Similar to sailing duties this is an area where members (particularly non sailing) are expected to assist in the running of the club. It is also a really good opportunity to get to know other members, and you can be sure that your efforts are always appreciated.



Major Events

As in any club there are always major events that members look forward to. Some are social, others sailing, and the best a mixture of both. An overview of these is:

- New Quay (Cardigan) Weekend - the club is entertained by the New Quay Yacht Club and a race series takes place on the sea. Sailing with dolphins is a regular occurrence.



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- RNLI Night - an opportunity for the club members to contribute to the RNLI. A cheese and wine supper follow a race for the RNLI Pennant.
- Junior Fun Weekend - great fun for juniors and parent helpers alike, but expect to get wet
- Commodore's Day
- Christmas meal - in the club house after Sunday racing
- Annual Dinner and Dance - also includes the annual prize giving

Membership and subscriptions

Details of subscriptions and types of membership are explained on the application form.

A one off entry fee is payable when joining and annual fees are due on the 1st January. Discounts are available to members who join more than half way through the year, and details of these are available from the membership secretary.

A boat fee is charged for members who sail their own boats on the water.

Insurance

All boat owners must ensure that their boats are insured against Third Party liability. They are also encouraged to become members of their class association, and if they race regularly and particularly at Open events away from the club, to have a valid measurement certificate.

Boat Park

Boat owning members who wish to leave their boats at the club may be allocated a berth on the boat park. These all have the facility to allow the boat to be tied down so as to avoid damage in high winds.

Road trailers cannot be left at the club. This is a club bye-law and is mainly to reduce the risks of boats being stolen.

Club web site

The club has an excellent and comprehensive web site, which can be found at:

<http://www.southstaffssailingclub.org.uk>

Details of both sailing and social events can be found here, as well as results and general information about the club. Photographs of some of the club events are also displayed.

Dogs

Dogs must be supervised at the club. It is a club rule that they must be kept on a lead at all times.

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| SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2008 | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------|
| Classes of Membership | Entry Fee | Annual Subscription |
| JOINT (both partners and their children under 12 years) | £60.00 | £128.00 |
| ORDINARY (Individual adults 18 and over not in full time education, and their children under 12 years) | £50.00 | £106.00 |
| YOUNG (Family Junior, 12 to 17 years, with parent(s) paying joint or Ordinary membership) | Nil | £11.00 |
| JUNIOR (under 18, whose parents are Non Sailing members) | £20.00 | £34.00 |
| STUDENTS (18 and over in full time education) | £20.00 | £39.00 |
| NON-SAILING (ex-Full members, members of affiliated Clubs, or relatives of members) | £15.00 | £28.00 |

| Boat Fees (Payable in respect of each boat used at the club) | Annual Subscription |
|--|---------------------|
| FIRST BOAT | £60.00 |
| ADDITIONAL BOATS | £33.00 |
| JUNIOR BOATS (Optimists, Toppers, Mirrors, fee reduced by 50% for additional Junior or additional to adult class First Boats) | £22.00 |

It is a club rule that all boats at South Staffordshire Sailing Club must be insured against all claims in respect of Third Party, Injury and Damage – whether to person or property for a minimum sum of £2,000,000.

In order to qualify for any race or series of races sailed for at the Club it is necessary to abide by the Class Rules of the boat concerned. All boats are parked at the owners risk.

NOTES:

- 1) Club sailing takes place on Sundays and Tuesday evenings from mid-April to mid-August. The adult classes sailed are: GP14, Lark, Firefly, O.K. and Solo. Juniors (under 18) train on Sunday mornings and have their own races.
- 2) Junior boats are: Optimists, Toppers and Mirrors (in addition to the adult classes).
- 3) The club is also open for practice sailing (with help if needed) on Wednesday evenings from April to August inclusive.
- 4) Non-sailing members may sail only four times per season, as a guest of a full member.
- 5) The Club year commences on the 1st January, when renewal subscriptions become due. Similarly the age of Juniors is as on that day.
- 6) Any friend or relative of a member wishing to use the Club facilities, other than as provided for in the Constitution as a guest, should apply for the appropriate membership.
- 7) Additional concessionary rates are available to members as follows:
 - a) **JOINT** and **ORDINARY** members who live more than 50 miles from the Club and have been Full or Student members for at least 3 years
 - b) **JOINT** and **ORDINARY** members who are over 65 (50% annual subscriptions)
 - c) **STUDENT** members who study away from home and who are unable to sail regularly (50% annual subscriptions)

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE SAILING CLUB

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

| NAME | Title | DOB (for all under 18) | Membership Class | Entry Fee | Annual Subscription |
|---------------------------|-------|------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|
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| TOTAL ENTRY FEE | | | | | |
| TOTAL BOAT FEE (s) | | | | | |
| TOTAL REMITTANCE | | | | | |

Address:

.....

..... **Post Code:**

Telephone: **Mobile:**

e-mail address:

Profession/Occupation:

Boat(s) incl. Class and Number:

Previous Sailing Club (if any):

May we include your name and address on a club membership list for circulation to members only? **YES/NO**

NOTES:

- 1) Submission of this application is deemed to constitute an agreement to abide by the Club's Rules and Constitution.
- 2) All members are required to help with duties in the club when asked.
- 3) Parents and guardians are warned that rescue facilities are normally provided during the hours of club racing and training sessions. They have sole responsibility for their children and wards as the Club cannot be expected to exercise supervision or control. The Club cannot accept any responsibility for any member.
- 4) Race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, personal injury or death however caused to the owner/competitor or crew as a result of their taking part in a race or races. Moreover, every owner/competitor warrants the suitability of his/her yacht during such race or races.

SIGNATURE: **DATE:**

INSURANCE: I declare that any boat(s) will be insured in accordance with the club rule (see overleaf) when at the club.

SIGNED: **DATE:**

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| RYA Qualifications (please tick and include date of qualification) | | |
| Sailing Instructor: | Assistant Instructor: | Racing Coach: |
| Power Boat Instructor: | Power Boat level 2: | Safety Boat Driver: |
| RYA Membership No. (if any): | First Aid certificate (Type): | Other: |
| Other relevant information: | | |

Please return to MR. MARTIN WARBURTON, THE HIGHLAND, LEA FIELDS FARM BARNES, SHUTT GREEN LANE, BREWOOD, STAFFORD, ST19 9LX
 Cheques to be made payable to **South Staffordshire Sailing Club**