



MYA

Radio and Free Sailing in the UK

Racing News



Fully Charged Racing

During my first year as MYA Racing Officer I have been amazed at the dedication and enthusiasm of club and district members who step up and offer their services to allow skippers to race every week. Whether it be at national, district or club level we all owe a big thank you to these volunteers.

Race Management can be both rewarding, and challenging- just ask the team at this year's IOM ranking at Coalhouse Fort- but it is a terrific way to engage with fellow skippers and like-minded MYA members, something that I would recommend everyone tries. Your own ability or results on the water are no indication of how good a race team member you will make, with some of our best events being run by clubs and members who are not the most competitive. Some can find this daunting, and others find it easy to jump in, but whatever you feel is your level please do offer your services to club or district; many districts hold training days for event management or are happy to give "on the job" training to a willing volunteer at larger events and the enjoyment from being part of a successful event is fantastic.

If as a club you would like training on race management, whether it be basic club racing or larger events please contact your district councillor who will be able to assist.

The need for race management teams is highlighted by the MYA calendar, which for 2018 will be busier than ever, current confirmed Nationals and Ranking include 70 days of racing, with the calendar now released to the districts for the addition of their events.

***Note to club secretaries** – please contact your district councillor if you wish to add an event to this as the calendar will be locked for publication in the yearbook at the 23rd September council meeting.*

The 2018 MYA calendar has largely been compiled by the class captains and my thanks go to them for issuing dates in a timely manner, and moving forward the involvement of the classes and their captains in the racing structure will be important. My personal view is that we sail the classes that we enjoy and with people whose company we enjoy, so it is logical that the classes should be allowed to tailor their events to appeal to those who sail the class, and in many cases, this may give an opportunity for the class to attract new skippers who want to sail in a different manner to other classes. The MYA provides a structure for racing and should set a minimum standard to achieve a level of consistency and fairness for competitors across the UK but the class skippers should be encouraged to discuss with their fellow skippers and class captains any improvements they feel would be good for their fleet.

For those who may not be aware who is their current class captain I have listed the class captains below, please contact them via the MYA website or class website if you have any questions about your class.

IOM: Gavin Watson – West Cornwall RSC
Marblehead: Phil Holliday- Datchet Water RSC
10R: Hugh McAdoo – Datchet Water RSC
Radio A Class: Bob Conner – Woodspring MSC
Six Metre: Mike Ewart – Abington Park MYC
36”: Pete Moore – Bournville MY&BC
RG65: Mark Dicks – Clapham MYC
Footy: Peter Shepherd – Abington Park MYC
DF Racing: Keith Coxon – Two Islands RYC
Free Sailing: Anthony Warren – Gosport MBC

Contact any of the class captains via MYA Website [HERE](#)

August is traditionally a little quieter as the national racing programme takes a short break from the congested April to July period prior to the equally busy September to November period and those who keep an eye on the websites will probably already know that the year has produced some close racing and great national championships, rankings and district competition, but for those who may have missed the results a brief list below shows the range of names who have been successful.

Current completed Nationals for 2017 and winners:

36"- Chris Harris – Bournville RS&MBC
Six Metre- Shaun Holbeche – Fleetwood MY&PBC
RG65 – Graham Elliott – Birkenhead RSC
DF95 – John Tushingham – Keighley & District MES
Marblehead – Brad Gibson – Birkenhead RSC
10R – Graham Bantock – Chelmsford MYC
Radio A Class – Chris Harris – Bournville RS&MBC
IOM Veteran Champion – Tony Edwards – Yeovil MBC

Vane A National Champion – David Bell – Fleetwood MY&PBC

The next large event is the IOM Nationals at Datchet over the bank holiday weekend of the 26-28th August, which has again attracted a top draw entry of over 70 skippers from the UK and abroad, and should you be in the area will be well worth popping in to take a look at, but there will also be plenty of district and club sailing going on locally or a check of the MYA website will show events further afield with nationals and rankings left for 2017.

Speaking of rankings, the current events are counting towards an IOM Europeans, and Worlds for both Marblehead and 10 Rater classes in 2018 with all skippers still having enough events left to give plenty of chance for qualification. Unfortunately, the final ranking venue for the IOM has had to change, with the fleet now being welcomed by the Woodspring MSC at their Portishead lake, thanks to the club for stepping forward. Get your entries in!

Finally, for this mid-season round up I think it worth reminding skippers that it is their responsibility to keep boats within class rules and although we are all keen to see as many boats on the water as possible there may be measurement checks at events and should your boat be out of class measurement you may forfeit your results – be warned...

Thank you to all those who assist in my role and I wish all those racing good luck in their chosen events and classes; hopefully we will meet up on the water soon.

Darin

D Ballington
MYA Racing Officer

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