



Vice Commodores Sailing Report 2018

Having suffered at the hands of Storm Ophelia in October 2017 all the stops were pulled out to ensure that the Marina was open for business in the Spring and a huge thank you is owed to Matthias Helstern for all of his efforts in this regard.

Though not a Sovereigns Cup year 2018 was nevertheless an exceptionally busy year, with KYC hosting a number of Local, Regional, National and International Events including :

- Spring Series
- Round Britain And Ireland Race
- Triangular Race
- Squib South Coast
- Optimists National Championships

This year the cruiser class were 'thinking outside the box'. Following the Black Tom race on May 19th the fleet tied up and overnighted in Courtmacsherry for the first time in many years. The great racing conditions, friendly welcome from the local sailing club, the balmy evening and fine food and wine in the local hostelrys will surely ensure that this event gets repeated.

The annual trip to Glandore on the June Bank Holiday weekend did not disappoint with a great turnout and reception from Glandore Yacht Club. That weekend heralded the start of a glorious summer and we all have wonderful memories of sailing and cruising around the Kinsale area, West Cork and further afield.

Mid-week and weekend racing is what people join this club for and the fantastic weather this summer attracted large turnouts on Wednesdays, Thursday, Friday evenings and the occasional Saturday. Not to mention the hugely successful white sail October and November leagues.

John Stallard aided by the Junior Sailing Committee organised a hugely successful Davy Irish Optimists Nationals on 16th -19th August. The Senior event was won by Belgian, Kwinten Borghijs with Kinsale's James Dwyer Mathews coming in 4th place. HYC's Rocco Wright swept the boards in the Junior Fleet and the Regatta event was won by our own Tadhg Cronin

This year was a transition period for the results software and our Honorary Sailing Secretary, Dave Cullinane has overseen the introduction of Sailwave, the new results calculating system. After some teething problems this system is now up and running and Dave reports that it is much easier and faster than the old sail100 software. Dave has done tremendous work in the background this year and his efforts should not go unmentioned.

A huge thank you also to all of the OD's, mark layers, committee boat owners/ drivers, results calculators and all of the countless volunteers.

It's great to see a number of new racing and cruising boats on the marina and in particular Conor Doyle's beautiful new Freya who left the fleet for dust in his first outing at this year's Daunt Rock race.

At this year's laying up supper our Commodore was delighted to present the award of Club Person of the Year to John Stallard for his trojan efforts in a whole host of areas within the club. I'm sure you will join me in congratulating John on his award.

Commodore O'Sullivan also awarded the following sailing excellence awards at the recent laying up supper:

- Ben Fusco : for his success at the RORC Caribbean 600 Mastman and trimmer on Privateer
- Colm Dunne and Fiona Ward for their participation in the UK Squib Nationals
- John and Kevin Stallard on Siboney for their success in the two handed Triangle Race
- Gary Horgan and Layton Hill on Two Ton Dubois Lobster in the two handed Triangle Race.
- Cian McCarthy and David Gibbons on EOS in the Round Ireland Race

Congratulations to one and all

And finally I would like to wish the best of luck to Bobby Nash and his committee who are working hard to organise next year's O Leary Life Sovereigns Cup, to Tony Kingston and his committee who are well advanced in organising the 2020 Gold Cup and Ruth Ennis and her committee who are equally advanced in the organisation of the 2020 UK Squib Nationals . I have no doubt that all of these events will be a huge success and continue the great tradition the club have established in top class regatta event management.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the water in 2018

Mike Walsh
Vice Commodore
December 2018