



National Secretary's report

The start of the season is almost upon us and yet the winter fluffy socks are still on my feet! Basil has been brought out of storage and came home to a few inches of snow! I'm hoping that by the time our first open meeting comes along (Shoreham on 26th/27th May) Spring and possibly even a feeling of Summer will be with us and it will have been well worth the wait.

There was a glimmer of hope that the weather is changing as last weekend when The Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club in Dover hosted their Snipe 80th Anniversary, the sun shone down upon us in the afternoon. Please read Sarah Mees report on the event. My thanks go out to Sarah who put in a massive amount of work in a very short time. I would also like to thank Graham Campbell, John and Margo Love for making the long journey down from Manchester and everyone who attended. It was lovely to be able to be there and gave us the chance to catch up with some old Snipe friends.

Unfortunately our website recently was hacked into and so it is down at the moment. If anyone needs any information please do not hesitate to contact me on the telephone number or email address below. There is also a Facebook page for the Nationals in Orkney

<https://www.facebook.com/2013UkNationalsInOrkney>

so if you need any information please leave us a question. We have our suspicions of "Who Dunit!"

For those of you taking the Big Adventure Challenge and coming to the Nationals in Orkney plus those lucky enough to already live there, a coaching session will be taking place on racing tactics and techniques given by Iain Marshall at the Golf Club (next to the sailing club) in Stromness on the Thursday evening (1st August). All SCIRA members are welcome to come along. Also with regard to Orkney, Northlink ferries are considering our proposal for a discount and we should hear from them in the next couple of weeks. I will email you (via your fleet captains) with any positive outcome. Should you have already booked your ferry with Northlink you will be able to claim back a discount once we know the amount.

The Junior Nationals is also going to be held in Stromness and will be the first race of each day (get those youngsters out of bed!!). The course sailed will be smaller and within sight of the club – since some of them will be crewing or helming in the main event, we don't want to completely wear them out! We want to encourage as many juniors to participate as possible (Juniors must not be 22 years old in that membership year). An adult can sail with a junior and they can win the overall event but to qualify for the Worlds/Europeans both helm and crew must be within the junior age bracket.

Apart from our Nationals (qualifier), we have open meetings this year at Shoreham (qualifier), Stone (qualifier), Blackwater, Blue Circle and Budworth. In case you are wondering where the Europeans will be in 2014 it is Damien Potosí, Poland from 16-24th August; it would be fantastic if we could get a UK team entering.

Let's make this year a great one for Snipe sailing!

I look forward to seeing you all both on and off the water very soon,

Sue Roberts (Basil 29611)
Snipe National Secretary
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07905 290671

2013 Snipe Events

MAY	26 th – 27 th	Shoreham Open (Qualifier)	Shoreham-By-Sea, West Sussex Contact: Ian Knight
JUNE	8 th – 9 th	Stone Open (Yves Le Bour)	Stone, Essex Contact: Sue Roberts
JULY	6 th – 7 th	Blackwater Open	Heybridge Basin, Maldon, Essex Contact: Iain / Richard Marshall
AUGUST	2 nd – 4 th	National Championship	Stromness, Orkney Contact: Sue Roberts
AUGUST	2 nd – 4 th	Junior Nationals – 1 st race each day of nationals	Stromness, Orkney Contact: Sue Roberts
SEPTEMBER	7 th – 8 th	North West Championship, Budworth SC	Budworth, Cheshire Contact: James Prestwich
SEPTEMBER	14 th	Ladies Nationals, Budworth SC	Budworth, Cheshire Contact: James Prestwich
SEPTEMBER	21 st – 22 nd	Blue Circle	Cliffe, Kent Contact: Ian Rumble

Budworth Sailing Club

Although there were no bergs on the mere for The Icebreaker handicap series at Budworth, one wouldn't have been surprised. The Hackneys led the snipes with Roger Barnes sailing single handed. Marco Ballatore, an Italian who's just moved to the area was delighted to find that Budworth sails snipes. He crewed for my first sail of the season, after a flying start we were finally reined in by an RS200 on the last leg. Hopefully the temperature will improve enough to entice him down again soon.

The last 2 Sundays have seen 6 snipes out mostly crewed by husband and wives. Our commodore, Mark Philpot stepped in to man the OD box yesterday to watch some great battles between the Antonelli and Hackney teams on a windy day.

Eric is doing a fantastic job getting new snipe crews and boats. Budworth has an open day next month which is always fun, and we look forward to a great year of Sniping.

James Prestwich, Bécassine 30227

REMINDER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Please can those of you who have not yet paid your membership do so as soon as possible. Renewal should have happened by **31st March!!** There are a number of people who have not rejoined yet. Anyone who joins after 31st May, will not be eligible for the ferry subsidy for the Nationals in Orkney, and this will be strictly enforced.

I will be at Shoreham at the end of the month, so can collect membership there, but it would help if you had already paid before then.

If you have lost your renewal email please let me know and I can resend to you.

Many thanks to those who have paid on time.

See you soon.

Liz

Membership Secretary

lizpike19@gmail.com



PENTLAND FERRIES DISCOUNT TO ORKNEY

Pentland Ferries have been kind enough to offer us a fantastic discount for getting our Snipes to and from Orkney for the Nationals. The discount is for the boat trailers with a reduction from £48 to £15 each way saving those towing a trailer £66 in total!! . For people to claim this discount they should e-mail Jenni Banks on jenni@pentlandferries.co.uk. If you have already booked your ferry with Pentland, please contact Jenni as they may still be able to help you out. The ferry runs very regularly from Gills Bay (near John O'Groats) to St Margaret's Bay (a 1 hour drive to Stromness).

SHOREHAM SC SNIPE OPEN 2013

Sunday 26th & Monday 27th May

Location

Shoreham Sailing Club is situated at the eastern end of a spit of land at the mouth of Shoreham Harbour, this provides sheltered launching off a ramp, with the sea only 500 meters away.

More details about the Club and directions can be found on www.shorehamsailing.org

Sailing – 5 Races

This a combined Snipe and Fireball Open combined with club racing, each with their own separate committee boat start. Racing will start at 11:00 on both days, so launching will need to be by 10:30. Five races are planned, three races on the Sunday and two on the Monday, races held back to back.

Entry £30 per boat

Saturday Afternoon/Evening

Arriving during Saturday (or earlier) is recommended; camping space is available in the club. The fireballs are having a training day, so the galley will be open all afternoon and lasagne, cottage/shepherds and lentil pie available in the evening for £5

Sunday

In the morning breakfast will be available in the club

Snacks, food & drinks will be available before & after racing.

Sunday evening, the usual Chinese meal takeaway is planned, £10 per adult, £6 for under 16's. There will be available a selection of other takeaway menus that include delivery, so feel free to choose something different but you will have to order it yourself (Club address, 223 Harbour Way).

Summary

- Arrive Saturday

- 1st race Sunday 11:00, 2nd & 3rd races back to back

- 4th race Monday 11:00, 5th race back to back

- Saturday evening, lasagne, cottage/shepherds and lentil pie

- Sunday evening, Chinese meal

Entry £30 per boat

£5 per person

£10 per adult
£6 for under 16's

All entries and money can be sorted on arrival

Please let me know if you are thinking of coming to guide catering plans

Contact: Ian Knight 01273 464882 brandi@knight5001.freereserve.co.uk

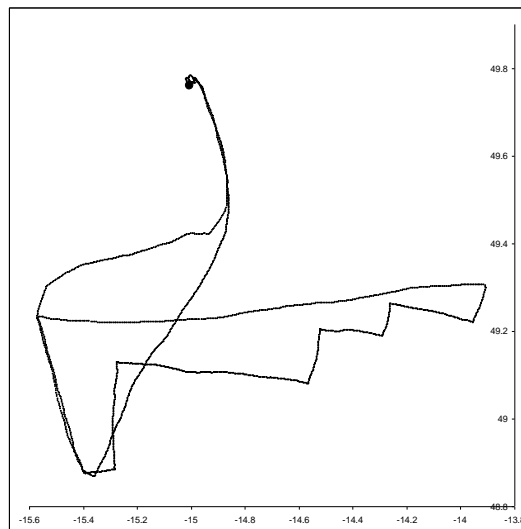
GPS Data Logger

Further to the article at the end of last year regarding GPS data loggers, as promised I have used it again to see if the periods of up to 40 seconds where a position was not recorded could be rectified.

Where as before the logger was placed in a hard plastic waterproof case and dropped into the halyard bag. This time it was placed in a soft plastic waterproof mobile phone bag and fixed to the deck, there were no gaps in the data.

The same GlobalSat DG200 data logger was used which are £40 in the UK, I'll be getting one myself and hopefully I'll be able borrow again the one that I have used to date for the Shoreham Open, in which case somebody else can use it.

Ian Knight





80th Anniversary of Snipe Fleet No 8 Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club, Dover, Kent.

In March 2013 Graham Campbell suggested that the 80th Anniversary of the granting of fleet status to the first fleet outside America, which became Fleet No.8 Dover Kent should not go unmarked. So George, Sarah and Sara Mees went with Graham to Royal Cinque Ports YC to meet Commodore Bernard Sealey and Hon. Secretary Garry Doherty. We drank a toast to the fleet and discussed the possibility of further celebration. 13/14th April was chosen as a suitable weekend because the reports of the local paper in 1933 showed that a sail past took place on the 15th April 1933. The sail past consisted of the 10 "little Snipe Sharpies" that had been ordered new by RCPYC members at a cost of £28 including sails and delivery. 80 years later an enjoyable time was had with history boards on display at RCPYC, a good meal on Saturday evening, Snipe racing on the harbour on Sunday and very good food at RCPYC for the afternoon. Brilliant sunshine on Sunday helped those attending, some had not seen each other for 37 years, to enjoy each other's company on the RCPYC veranda.



I very much enjoyed researching the history of the fleet through the local "Dover Express and East Kent News", the Rudder magazine (including 5 original copies purchased for the Snipe history they contain) and items that Jerelyn Biehl sent from US. I also managed to engage the enthusiasm and time of complete strangers (!) to assist in the history gathering. Some were aware of the Snipe history and others were completely unaware but nevertheless so generous with their time.



The event in April 1933 included visitors from the Little Ship Club, although they were unable to attend this time, their archivist Ian Stewart found an extract from their journal of April 1933 encouraging members to get down to Dover for the sail past. Evening wear was not to be worn for the dinner dance in the evening, to avoid embarrassment, but anything was allowed, including sea boots - but no spurs!

Until 1939 Fleet no 8 were racing every week, and their names and boat names/numbers appeared regularly in the Rudder magazine for the High Point score racing. G I Pout was the winner of what is known as the Reichner Perpetual trophy in 1933. His fellow fleet members also did well.

Amongst the clubs the fleet raced against was Eastbourne Yacht Club, Fleet no 13 (?15). Interclub racing took place between those two clubs at the end of the season and there is a great photo in the local paper of a dozen Snipe sailors at one of these occasions – 3 boats per club. The fleet captain of Eastbourne was Leslie Bruford who ran a family silversmiths and jewellers in the town. There is still a shop in Eastbourne, but not now run by the family. The club soon became Eastbourne SC and then a breakaway group formed the Artisan club later called Sovereign and more recently the 2 clubs became Eastbourne Sovereign SC. On his journey into Snipe history at the club, Peter Gray (the unsuspecting volunteer allocated the job of answering Sarah's emails!) discovered a photo of Artisans sailing off the beach in 1930's. Later fellow club member David Lardner, who was a member of the Artisan club, pointed out a photo of Snipes displayed at the club. This gem showed 8

snipes on the beach at Eastbourne, dated 1933! Later on after some more foraging, a beautiful silver Snipe Cup was found, dating from 1933 with all the names of the Eastbourne Snipe Sailors of that era. David and Liz Lardner attended for the celebration weekend on behalf of the Eastbourne Snipe connection and it was a pleasure to meet them.

Medway YC also had connections with Dover in the 1930's and beyond. Individual Snipe sailors were competing against Dover early on, and the Nationals were held at Medway in 1939. John Basley of this club spared no time in compiling a list of Snipe numbers, names and owners through the whole history of the fleet. He also attended the celebrations and brought with him a Medway YC first 100 years book that contained several pages of Snipe history and some very clear photos of boats of that era, they also ran the Nationals in 1949, 51 and 53. Very recently Sarah has been sent a photo of a pretty bowl given out at the Nationals in 1952, run under the burgee of Northwich SC. This has been supplied by Wendy Howland of Medway YC whose father Percy sailed Snipe before the war. The bowl has all the names of the boats around the edge so is really historically helpful.

Doug Spooner of Broadstairs SC and Snipe sailor of that fleet provided a great deal of history from the 1970's and onwards with the inevitable reference to Ted Heath and his Snipe sailing. There were connections with Dover at that time and later and of course Broadstairs ran one of the very early European Cup championships in 1982.

Frequent visitors to RCPYC were Snipe sailors from Fleet No 13/5 Strangford Lough in Belfast. Northern Ireland Fleet was another early fleet and ran the Snipe Nationals in 1937 with 37 entries, 26 from that club. Read the history of the Snipe fleet on <http://slyc.co.uk/?q=node/190> Mr & Mrs Green are recorded as racing at Dover and Felix Gotto.

Another early visitor to Fleet 8 was Dr Frank Penman, who later became National Secretary and European Champion in 1956. His first club was Solway YC and later of course Northwich. There was several other Penman's racing at that time.

To complete our 80th anniversary history trail John Howard owner of 1937 Snipe 2447 "Wonda" attended the weekend with crew Lynda Bennett. You will have read the previous articles about "Wonda" but meeting John and Lynda was even better! They brought along a readymade history board with amongst other things a 1937 Snipe handbook. Wonda was a bit heavy to bring this time but we may have persuaded her owner to buy a Snipe to sail in the winter months. Lynda met John Love with whom she has had lots of correspondence about Wonda. John and Margo travelled from Warrington to make the weekend complete!

Back to Fleet No 8 – GI Pout registered Snipe No

90 in January 1932 and we wonder if he bought the plans and built it himself. In any event after the 10 new snipes were purchased, at least 15 RCPYC Snipes were racing in Dover Harbour as Fleet no 8. Amongst those sailing was a large number of doctors, members of the Dover Rowing Club, an aviator, and army officers. Women were certainly sailing too and a large proportion of the Snipe owners also raced their bigger yachts.

After the war Snipe sailing continued, but not in the same format, however into the mid 1950's boys from Dover College continued to race Snipes, several of which boats came from Fleet no 8. Their headmaster was a Commodore of RCPYC hence the connection and another RCPYC Snipe fleet member Sir Gerald Woolaston, (Garter King at Arms) designed a burgee for Dover College SC.



This year we managed a sail past but not with 10 new boats! With many thanks to Jenna and Andy Gibson, Richard Lambert and John Williams, 2 Snipes took to the very calm windless Dover Harbour on Sunday morning. Garry and Ann Doherty kindly offered their yacht as committee boat and Graham Campbell joined them with his highly successful racing flag display system. The first race counted as the sail past and the RCPYC was dipped as they passed the club, as happened 80 years ago. Not much wind meant that there was ample time to get to know the harbour. By the start of the 2nd race the wind had started to fill and there was opportunity to hike out nicely – as seen on Snipe Today photo of the week! Jenna and Andy won both races and it was decided not to run another race, although I am sure the sailors would have enjoyed that. However, a feast awaited at RCPYC – their "buffet" turned out to be a hot Sunday dinner, much appreciated and excellent value.



The sun had shone all day, but for it still to be shining whilst Snipers chatted on the veranda overlooking the harbour made it feel a little like Miami (?) – well of course Fleet no 8 was the second most active fleet next to Miami in the early 1930's!

Thank you to everyone who attended the event, and thanks to all those who gave their time to supply me with Snipe history. It was grand to meet you all. I have only touched the surface with the Snipe history and obviously there are many clubs that I did not have time to contact. Perhaps next year we will be able to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the first British National Championships run at Dover in 1934. By then I will have been able to collect some more history and perhaps we could get Wonda there.

As a footnote, we attended the RCPYC St George's Day dinner on 27th April. We were presented with a framed certificate to mark the 80th Anniversary celebrations and Sarah presented to the club a framed photograph of the Players Cigarette card that some of you will know. There were suitable words included and of course the painting is of 5

Snipes sailing with Dover Castle and the White Cliffs as backdrop. Right out in front with red sails and green hull – Snipe no 90 Gipsy, sailed by G I Pout, founder of Snipes in GB.



Sarah Mees

PS – if anyone can find out who registered Snipe No 91, that person might well count as co-founder!

2013 European/World Events			
MAY	18 th – 20 th	Espergaerde / Denmark - Harboe Cup	Denmark
MAY	18 th – 20 th	Le Havre - Yves Le Bour	France
MAY	24 th – 26 th	Lake Caldonazzo - German Open	Italy
JUNE	2 nd	VVW Galgenweel Antwerp – Chocolate Race	Belgium
JUNE	28 th – 30 th	Cervia - Piado Trophy	Italy
JULY	5 th – 7 th	Motala - Nordic & Swedish Championship	Sweden
JULY	14 th – 15 th	Lorient – French National Championships	France
AUGUST	17 th – 18 th	RYCB Scharendijke - Benelux	Netherlands
AUGUST	24 th – 25 th	RYCB Scharendijke – Belgium Nationals	Netherlands
AUGUST	25 th – 29 th	Lake Bracciano - European Masters	Italy
AUGUST	27 – 31 st	Rosigamo Solvay - Italian Nationals Open	Italy
SEPTEMBER	14 th – 20 th	Rio de Janeiro - Junior Worlds	Brazil
SEPTEMBER	21 st – 29 th	Rio de Janeiro - Senior Worlds	Brazil
SEPTEMBER	25 th – 29 th	Malaga - European Cup	Spain
NOVEMBER	16 th	VVW Galgenweel / Antwerp - Dutse Wursten Race (sausage!)	Belgium
NOVEMBER	17 th	RYCB Galgenweel / Antwerp - Speculoos Race (biscuit!)	Belgium

Jib Cloth Update

After the decision by the Board of Governors in 2011 to increase the cloth weight for the jibs and in the relationship to the market development of mylar laminates, the following are the laminates currently approved by the class to produce snipe sails.

-Bainbridge SL1000P for both jibs and mains
-Diax 60P for both jibs and mains
-Dimension PM 05 for mains only

No longer in production:
Contender AP8, Challenge P05, Dimension Polyant
PL2X and PM2X

As per our rules, the approval of new laminates shall be requested on a case by case basis.

CIRCULAR LETTER - February 22, 2013

The circular letter of October 2012 from the Chairman of the Rules Committee specified that the new heavier jibs were mandatory in the International events organised in 2013. The Rules Committee was then asked to better specify the meaning of the word "International" and, if possible, to list the events in which the heavier jib shall be used. As a result, the Rules Committee decided as follows:

The new jibs in production from Jan 2013 shall be mandatory in the following International regattas:

-Senior World Championship -North American Championship (selecting for WH&O 2014)
-Junior World Championship -South American Championship (selecting for Pan Am 2015 & ODESUR 2014)

Decision of the Rules Committee of February 22, 2013
Antonio Bari, Chairman, International Rules Committee

Rule Change Proposal

During the past years, many snipe class measurers referred about several attempts to move the jib attachment higher than the normal position, using various solutions, with the result to move the attachment forward than the maximum allowed by the rules on a horizontal plane (279mm from point 0). To prevent those attempts and to clarify the rule and make it easier to check, the Rules Committee has submitted to the Board a proposal to change Rule 31 of the General restrictions. This proposal shall be added to the Board agenda and, following the new "making decisions process", discussed with the final decision to be taken in September.

New rule proposal - Add to rule 31 the following paragraph:

31. All boats must have a jib stay and two side shrouds. No backstay may be used. The jib stay must be all metal 2.5mm (3/32") minimum diameter, either wire or rod and must be fastened to a tang or other deck fitting. The length of the jib stay shall be such that it does not allow the mast to touch the back of the partner when the mast is restrained only by the jib stay with shrouds and the mast push/puller off. The length of jib stay and shrouds must be incapable of being changed during a race. **The forward hole of the jib fitting shall be 6mm diameter max and its centre shall be placed between 279 to 311mm from the point 0, measured straight parallel to the base line, and no more than 45mm above the sheer line. The fitting shall be capable to be connected to the spring attachment assembly currently approved.**

SNIPE CLASS INTERNATIONAL RACING ASSOCIATION

Antonio Bari, Chairman, International Rules Committee
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SNIPE WORLD'S NEW ALLOCATION METHOD

The Board of Governors has approved a new allocation method for the Snipe World Championship - Hub Isaacs Trophy, to encourage the maximum 80 boat fleet. This will help local regatta organizers host a larger event as well as increase entries from the hosting region. In addition, the entry allocation on registered boats per nation has changed - see listing below (For a full reading of the approved Deed of Gift, see the SCIRA website www.snipe.org).

This new allocation method will be in place for the 2013 Worlds to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil this September.

<i>Average # of Registered Boats for the past 2 years</i>	<i>Entries</i>
1 to 5	1
6 to 15	2
16 to 30	3
31 to 50	4
51 to 100	5
101 to 200	6
201 to 300	7
300+	8

NOTICE OF RACE

Snipe & GP14 Open

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th June 2013

At

Stone Sailing Club, River Blackwater, Essex.

Schedule of Races

Briefing - 1100 Hrs on 8th June

Race 1 - 1230 Hrs on 8th June

Race 2 - A.S.A.P. after Race 1

Race 3 - A.S.A.P. after Race 2

Race 4 - 1045 Hrs on 9th June

Race 5 - A.S.A.P. after Race 4

Race 6 - A.S.A.P. after Race 5

Entry Fee

£30 per boat

2 course meal available for £11.00 per head – please book at registration

Number of Races to count

If six or five races sailed there will be one discard

If four or less races sailed all to count

General Information

Tides – High at 1320 hrs on Saturday, High at 1400 hrs on Sunday

Food and Refreshments available throughout the weekend

Camping available free in the club grounds.

Governing Rules:

- 1 The ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 2 The conditions stated in this NOR
- 3 Stone Sailing Club Sailing Instructions (given out on day).