



Dear Members,

I did not foresee that I would still be addressing you as Commodore in May! As you are aware, we could not proceed with our **Annual General Meeting** at the end of March due to the **Coronavirus**. We are currently investigating the potential of electing this year's Committee and if we can find an appropriate method, we shall.

This pandemic has been painful on the country and no doubt you too are all feeling it's bite, some more than others. Many people have died as a result of the virus so not being able to go sailing is a tiny price to pay until we as a country can get back on our feet.

We are however a **Yacht Club** and a return to sailing is clearly on a lot of people's minds. Many will be already aware of **Irish Sailing's Return to Sailing Scheme** which is updated as things develop, there is also the useful **FAQ** section which answers some of the questions that the various documents/guidance ultimately pose when read. It is complicated indeed and difficult to decipher. However the pace at which decisions are being made is increasing a bit and possibly by the time you read this, there will be even more clarity.

One thing is for certain however, our return to sailing and to our Club must be undertaken in a manner that protects **Members & Visitors** but also and very importantly, our reputation as a Club. We as a Club must abide by the relevant guidance as issued by the Government & their advisors and I would ask all Members to consider this carefully.

There are many questions that Members have already posed to me that we cannot definitively answer; will there be a **Junior Sailing Course** or an **Annual Regatta**. All we can say for now is that there will if at all possible. The Committee will be deciding on these key issues shortly and will communicate with you as soon as we can.

This pandemic has also seriously impacted on our very important **250th celebrations**, we will never be able to do this justice this year, although we were lucky enough to have at least held
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Sailing at the Club

Dear Members, sailing from the Club is currently not permitted. Your Committee is working hard on a plan for a return to sailing and have drafted a detailed plan on how sailing will restart but in a safe manner. It is important that Members be patient and that we do things correctly so as to protect lives and also our reputation. **We will update you next week on the details.**

Mooring at the Club

When it is clear that boats can safely return to berthing at the Club facilities, we must ensure that this is undertaken in a safe manner that allows our **Bosun** to ensure that boats are moored in a manner that will allow us to incorporate **physical distancing** on the jetties. It will be essential that users of our facilities abide by the relevant guideline/rules as issued by the various competent authorities, and appropriate signage has now been erected at the Club.

Please note that the Clubhouse will remain closed until further notice. When it is appropriate for you to bring your boat to the Club, please **apply in advance** by emailing our Treasurer. Please note that **numbers may be limited** so as to ensure safety for all on the Jetties.

Shannon One Designs

Plenty of boats have been getting some much deserved tlc over the past few months, a great mix of regulars and some boats not seen for a while have been planed, sanded, varnished and painted. We hear through the grape vine that the sail measure's have also been busy since the end of last season. We look forward to seeing them and others on a start line in the not too distant future.



[A History of Lough Ree Yacht Club](#) before the virus took hold.

The much awaited **Clinkerfest** has been **postponed** until 2021 and other events will just be cancelled if holding them cannot comply with the issued guidance. Perhaps we can make up for this next year.

We want to be able to **communicate** with the Membership as best we can over the next while and will be primarily using email, if you are not on the email circulation list, please [email me](#) requesting to be added. We also have a busy **WhatsApp group** which you are welcome to join if you want. Please click on this [link](#) from your mobile device if you wish to join, be sure to mute!

So please remain safe and hopefully we can all go sailing again when the time is right.

Garrett Leech
086 6738102

Finance

While we appreciate the current **Covid-19** lockdown has different effects on our members finances, it would be helpful if those who are in a position to pay their sub, would do so. To date 121 members have paid out of a membership of 233 (52%).

In order to reduce our immediate cashflow, the Bank has agreed a 6 Month deferral on our loan repayments. This reduces the outflow by €4028 per month. The down side of this is that the loans will be take 6 months longer to end - hopefully December 2021. In the interim we will have to pay our Insurance and Club License in August/September. Circa €8k plus.

All spending has stopped on capital works with the only spending on necessary items to keep the Club in good condition. Robert, our man from Tuas has not been allowed to work since the lockdown started.

The Bank details for reference are;
BIC - BOFIE2D.

IBAN - IE39 BOFI 9016 3411 3692 25. Please be sure to reference any payment with your account Number or your name. Three of our members have paid their sub **BUT** included no reference/name, so I do not know who you are.
All help welcome.

E-Sailing and YouTube Escapism

In these difficult and uncertain times we are all missing our sailing fix. But fear not, we have two very good options for sailors as long as you are not too technology shy.

First up is E-Sailing. This is mainly held over two Apps on phones or iPad/Tablet. There is Virtual Regatta Offshore and Virtual Regatta Inshore. The Offshore variant has regular races arranged across oceans. For example the Transat AG2R La Mondiale is currently been run in Beneteau Figaro 3's from Concarneau in France, around the Canary Islands and across the Atlantic to St Barths. There are over 65,000 virtual sailors taking part. You will need to enter the race, spec your boat and plot your course across the Atlantic. You can programme waypoints and routes and review weather routing. You can also attempt records like Los Angeles to Honolulu in a Maxi.

Virtual Regatta Inshore is a much more fast paced affair with lots of short Windward-Leeward races in everything from 49er Skiffs to Foiling Nacra Catamarans to J70's. There are National and World championships and the Irish Sailing Association are also running a leaderboard.

YouTube is also an amazing resource for all things sailing and boating. It can be viewed on a phone or Tablet but if you have a Smart TV you can download an App if it's not already installed. It's worth signing up and then you can get notifications of new videos posted. If you find a channel you are interested in you can go to "Uploads" and go right back to the start to see all videos in the series. You can get some great advise on practical stuff, learn how to splice, follow amazing restoration projects or follow sailors adventures around the world.

Here's my Top 5 YouTube Channels to check out:

Samson Boat Co. - Leo from Falmouth in the UK is restoring a 49ft Gaff Cutter from 1910 over in the Northwest of America. Serious craftsmanship.

Sailing Yacht Ruby Rose - Nick and Terysa from the UK are sailing their Southerly 38 around the world and sharing their adventure. They start in the BVI's.

PlanetSail - Mathew Sheahan from Yachting World has a new series called "On Course" covering high performance sailing like the Americas Cup and Volvo Ocean Race.

Harry Dwyer - Eccentric Londoner who does some cool projects including restoring an old rib and doing a trip around the UK in it.

Sailing La Vagabonde - Aussie couple sail around the world having lots of cool adventures.

LRYC Virtual Regatta

Notice of Race (NoR): LRYC Virtual Regatta, Saturday 23rd May, 2020 at 11:00am.

LRYC V-Sailing Regatta will be held in the star class and is open to all club members and of all ages! It is to be held on the [Virtual Regatta platform](#). There is a 20 person limit per regatta therefore in the event that we have more than 20 entrants there will be a flight system introduced to accommodate any additional entrants which will culminate in a final showdown regatta.

If interested in playing, please join this [Whatsapp group](#), where further details will be posted however please be mindful that there are Children in this group also. Ahead of further Sailing Instructions (SI), we suggest you download the app to your device at this [link](#). Please ensure you download the Virtual Regatta, **Inshore**. We suggest that you join any of the open Regattas so as to get a bit of practice in ahead of the LRYC event, this is free.

For a quick tutorial on how to play, please see this [Youtube clip](#) for further detail and to get a bit of sneaky practice in now! The entry code for the Regatta will be **Iryc250** with no capitals but don't worry, further SI will be issued on the Whatsapp group closer to the time. This code will **NOT** be active until 10 minutes before the first gun.

Committee Boat Update

Before lockdown took full effect Denis, Alan and team were hard at work restoring the club's new committee boat kindly donated to the club by the family of the late Tom Dennehy. Many thanks to Denis and Co for all the hard work, it will look spectacular when she officiates her first race.



LRYC Art Competition

Well done to all the wonderful artists who entered the LRYC Art Competition.

Thank you to Zara Quinlan for judging. Zara was really impressed with the overall standard; she has given feedback on each entry. Congratulations to all the entrants and the winners. All the art can be viewed [HERE](#).

Entrants for the 7 and under category:

Emer Turner, Bibi Laird, Andrea Fallon, Grace Byrne, Nell Breen, Claire Nooney, Eli Dullea, Michelle Turner, Eva Malone, Lucy Leahy.

Winners are:



1. Nell Breen: "I love the warm sunset colours, showing a gorgeous evening in LRYC, you have captured it very well!"



2. Bibi Laird: "Beautiful use of colour"



3. Eva Malone: "A very busy scene with lots of activity, a lovely composition"

Judge's Comments for entrants in this category:

Emer Turner: "Interesting viewpoint taken from the water, very unusual!"

Andrea Fallon: "Full of energy and a very cheerful piece of art"

Grace Byrne: "Very nice use of interesting colours, great imagination!"

Lucy Leahy: "Lovely picture of a day on the water"

Claire Nooney: "Nice use of paint in this colourful image"

Michelle Turner: "A Very cheerful image capturing two friends, a very important aspect of life in LRYC."

Eli Dullea: "Lovely cheerful image of a day on the lake."

Entrants for the 8-10 year old category:

Amelie Dullea, Mae Byrne (x2), Kate Byrne, Judith Boyd, Orla Turner, Michael Hayes, Myles Fallon

Winners are:



1. Judith Boyd: "Beautiful drawing, lovely variety in the tones of blue used, and in the rippling reflection of the sail in the water"



2. Orla Turner: "Your use of colour is very creative! Just like a choppy day out on the water"



3. Mae Byrne: "Lovely use of pastels to create evening light in LRYC"

Judge's Comments for entrants in this category:

Amelie Dullea: "Very nice painting, full of colour"

Kate Byrne: "A very busy image, full of drama! Very interesting"

Michael Hayes: "Very nice blocks of colour create great drama"

Mae Byrne: "Great Inclusion of the hill in the background, lovely representation of a strong wind carrying a boat up the lake."

Myles Fallon: "Lovely use of vibrant colour to fill this composition"

Entrants for the 11-13 year old category:

Matthew Turner, Isabel Leech (x2), James Boyd, Eva Magner, Donnacha Dullea, Ellie Byrne

Winners are:

(There's no fix here!! The paintings were judged anonymously with artist's names airbrushed out; Isabel only gets one prize!)



1. Isabel Leech: "Very dramatic image in its composition and colour, the effect of movement in the water is excellent"



2. Isabel Leech: "Unique depiction of a sailor, love the creativity in using the sail to display the 250th anniversary of LRYC"



3. Eva Magner: "Great depiction of a Summers day on the water"



4. Ellie Byrne: "Lovely textured colour showing the rough water"

Judge's Comments for entrants in this category:

Matthew Turner: "Very nice representation of a relaxing day on the water"

James Boyd: "Gorgeous sunset colours at LRYC, lovely reflections of the sunset in the water."

Donnacha Dullea: "Great drama in this artwork, excellent drawing of the optimist."

Entrants for the 18+ category:

Daphne Levinge (x2), Josephine Hanley, John Banmin, Doreen Breen

Winners are:



1. Daphne Levinge: "Painting, reminiscent of the artwork of William Leech in the foliage in the foreground. The roof of the cottage looks to be shining. A very calm and peaceful scene."
Note: This is a depiction of Jimmy Fury's cottage.



2. Josephine Hanley: "Absolutely beautiful painting. The shimmering depiction of light on the water makes me think of a hot summer's day in a haze of heat. The reflection of the sail in the water is mesmerising"



3. Doreen Breen: "beautiful calm scene amongst the reeds, the colours of the hills in the distance remind me of a Paul Henry painting."



3. John Banim: "Wonderful composition that includes so much space and suggesting a lovely subject matter of a regatta taking place. The textured colours in the water give a great sense of movement."



Thanks also to John Malone who shared a beautiful painting by his late mum, Anne Malone, "Cruiser racing off Portmarnock Beach"



The Judge also loved Daphne Levinge's second entry and made the following comment: "Very interesting viewpoint, the suggestion of the hive of activity beyond is very interesting, with only one figure visible, we can imagine that there are many others in the suggested busy scene just out of sight. The textured paint application reminds me of the Irish Impressionist Roderic O Connor."

Prizes for the Junior Winners will be sent shortly by post and these were kindly sponsored by our Honorary Secretary, Fidelma Reid. Adult prizes will be presented at the next available opportunity.