



# Dark Horse Sailing Club

Providing social sailing, racing and sail training, in a variety of cruising areas

## Committee's Report to the 2019 AGM

To be held at The Master Builders, Buckler's Hard, on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Since the last AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018 the committee have met on several occasions to tackle the issue of the club's annual losses and other items brought up by the attendees. The committee have spoken one on one with most skippers to gain an understanding of their sailing preferences and how they can support the sailing programme further.

### 2018 Sailing Season

The statistics for the 2017 and 2018 seasons – and some for 2019 – are as follows:

	2017	2018	2019 to date
Events offered	24	27	26
Events held	8	10 (*)	4 + 12 (†)
Boats chartered	11	11 (*)	4
Berths available	78	75	
Berths filled	60	65	41 booked berths
No. of members sailed	31	39	19 booked

(\*) Includes two racing events on a member's boat

(†) Confirmed + Provision but with bookings

### Finances

**Season 2018** – The aim is for the club finances to break even each year and not to rely on the funds in our bank account to cover any deficit. The measures put in place by the committee have now borne fruit and the accounts for Season 2018 have been agreed by the committee and will be presented to the AGM for approval. As intended, the club's admin costs were covered by the membership fees in 2018. There is a small profit of £442, mainly because there were no damage payments in 2018, compared to damage of £315 in 2017.

As we are not looking to run the club at a surplus, it was agreed by the committee, that the booking fee for 2019 would be reduced from £10 per person to £5 per person with immediate effect, to be applied retrospectively to all 2019 bookings. The fee to be reviewed again after the production of the season 2019 accounts.

**Moving Forward** – The committee will be holding a mid-year and end of year review of the club's finances. If the anticipated surplus / deficit exceeds 10% of the current year's turnover in 2019, then the committee will discuss and agree an action plan to rectify the situation.

The committee also agreed that £5,000 should be ringfenced to cover accidental damage costs above the crew liability limits. These limits remain unchanged at £10 per person per sailing day for cruising events and £25 per person per sailing day for race events. The fund will be topped up annually, as required.



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## Admin Costs

At the May 2018 AGM, it was agreed that the club should move towards being volunteer run to reduce admin costs.

Subsequently, the committee agree that the bookings admin role should remain a central paid role, provided that the club continues to breakeven and this proposal will be put to the AGM. A full list of the booking admin role's tasks and responsibilities will be available at the AGM, so the members can understand the width and breadth of the role.

## Programme

It is the intention to have the provisional sailing programme with our club members (as requested several times), by Christmas each year. This season, the provisional 2019 sailing programme was circulated to skippers on 15<sup>th</sup> December, to give them the opportunity to have their input and to:

- provisionally put their name down as Skipper (or Mate) for any events
- to suggest a change of dates for a preferred event?
- to give them the opportunity to add events that they want to see on the programme

The provisional programme was then emailed to all club members on 25<sup>th</sup> December. The early publication of the programme is something that the members have been asking for and it was hoped that this would increase berth bookings. Sadly, this has not proved to be the case and take up so far has been very slow and low in numbers.

Henceforth, the Kick Start Rally to be renamed Kick Start Weekend and to be held the weekend before Easter and the End of Season Rally to be held on the last full weekend of October, each year.

It was agreed if members wanted to book "full" boats (skipper, mate and all crew already known) this is acceptable, and the £5 per person booking fee still applies.

## Volunteering

We would welcome volunteers to help with the organising of the club. You do not need to be a member of the committee or give a massive amount of time. Do you have a skill that we can make use of? If so, please contact Angela on [commodore@dhsc.co.uk](mailto:commodore@dhsc.co.uk). Some ideas that the committee have come up with are:

- Training Officer
- Membership Secretary
- Newsletter
- Website up dating
- Marketing the club

Angela Hunter  
*Commodore*