

Boat Lease Hire Statement of Intent 2019

Background

In 2016, Ballyholme Yacht Club (“BYC”) identified the need to implement a structured sailing development programme based on the Long-Term Athlete Development Framework. The plan sets out clear evidenced pathways for sailing and associated disciplines. Key to this plan are the desire to:

- Provide a world class sailing facility and establish BYC as the premier dinghy sailing venue in Ireland
- Improve/expand its training boat offering to increase capacity – in particular to younger sailors aged 8-12 and to adult/ female sailors
- Actively increase the participation of people in sailing activities
- Increase the resources available in BYC.

Key initiatives

The club has identified seven initiatives to attract a wide range of people:

1. Widen access for youth participation, starting at younger age (small sailors) and targeting P6 school children
2. Ensuring continued participation through a club Junior Development Programme
3. Reduce 14-24 participation drop-off and build a credible higher education/ further education program
4. Making sailing more female friendly (increase/retain female members)
5. Targeting adults and getting them back into sport
6. Supporting and encouraging people with disabilities to take up the sport of sailing and other water sports
7. Direct marketing of the facilities

Equality of Access

BYC is committed to the principle of equality of opportunity. The club aims to ensure that all present and potential participants, members, instructors, coaches, competitors, officials, volunteers and employees are treated fairly and on an equal basis, irrespective of sex, age, disability, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, gender reassignment or social status.

Sailing for Women

The club has many keen female sailors, and recently a female Commodore but our records show quite a drop in active female sailors by the time they reach their late teens. Some return later, but mainly as crews aboard keelboats. A survey of a number of female sailors was undertaken and the following were a sample of the comments received:

- “Sport is too macho, with boats generally too high powered for females”
- “Boats, such as a Laser, are too heavy to manage up slips after racing”
- Better to learn when young. Learning later is a problem – cold, wet and fear of capsizing, boat tipping, etc.
- Intimidated by racing rules & shouting helms. Prefer non-competitive sailing.

- Change of female priorities from early teen to late teen to twenties to mums with families.

Pathways

The club has identified strengths in developing sailors in the following pathways:

Single handers, Youth in SailQubes, Toppers, Lasers and adults in Lasers.

The club also has active classes in:

Double hander: Multihull (mostly adults) Large double handers Laser 2000, RS 200 etc. (mostly adults)

The club would like to develop:

Double hander, Youth via RS Feva.

Keelboat: Small open keelboat like Laser SB20, RS Elite or Flying Fifteen.

Purpose of Lease Scheme

As a result of the plan that was set down in 2016 and guided by the pathway plan above the club has made available three RS Feva dinghies and two Topper dinghies for club members to lease on a short-term basis. As of March 2019, in a response to member requests two laser sailing dinghies have been acquired to add to the boats available to members.

The purpose of the scheme is to provide a member the opportunity to sail in a class before committing to buying a boat. Separate try a sail and social sailing events are available for those who want to have an experience in a boat.

The aim of the club in leasing out dinghies is to meet the needs identified in the Club Development Plan (available on the web-site and highlighted above)

Club boats available for Lease

As of March 2019, the following boats are available to those wishing to lease a dinghy:

RS Fevas x3

Laser radial dinghies x2 (one optional as a standard rig)

Topper dinghies x2

Criteria for leasing club boats

Priority should be given in order as follows:

- Applications only from Members (excluding Social Associates)
- Applicant MUST hold RYA NSS Level 2/YSS Stage 3 or demonstrate an appropriate level of competency to an appointment representative from the Club
- Applications for the lease of a boat that is a suitable pathway for the applicant profile (age, ability, size etc. *Toppers 8- 16 age group sailors etc. ** Laser 4.7 33-55kgs, Radial 55-75kgs & Full 75 kg plus)
- Application from a member who does not own a boat
- Application from a member who has not leased a boat from BYC in the past 3 year
- Should the Club receive multiple valid applications which meet the criteria. In the first instance, the Club will approach the applicants in an attempt to see if the lease can

be shared (ie 3 months each: early, late summer points or 1st /2nd parts of winter icebreaker series). Failing agreement, a random draw will be used to allocate.

Purpose of Hire Scheme

The purpose is to provide members who do not own their own boat the opportunity to take part in sailing programmes approved by the BYC Executive (eg Social Sailing) or through other activities arranged by the club or BYC Training Committee.

Club boats available for Hire

SailQubes x6

Laser Picos x10

RS Fevas x3 *if not leased

Criteria for Hiring Club boats

- Opportunity for BYC members, excluding Social Associates
- Hold RYA NSS Level 2 or demonstrate an appropriate level of competency to an appointment representative from the Club.

BYC Executive Committee reserves the right to rescind any dinghy lease/hire agreement.