

West Wind

The Newsletter of the NZ Zephyr Owners Association (Inc)

Volume 4 Issue 3

July 1997

Editorial

This issue brings members up to date on a number of issues before the Association. As I have mentioned before, the transfer of the National Association from Auckland to Christchurch caused a bit of a hiatus in the administration of the class, so we have a bit of catching up to do. Things are slowly coming right. Alex Aitken, with his background in financial advising, now has an accurate view of the finances of the NZZOA, and has budgeted a path forward. As always, activities of a class association cost money, and the national association often has to compete with the local class association in its claims upon members' wallets. The present number of members is largely due to the persistence and salesmanship of Alex Aitken, but it cannot be left to him only, so all local associations need to be conscious of the need to bring Zephyr sailors into the national fold. Subscriptions are usually set at the AGM, but no change to the \$15 currently charged is anticipated.

Other items of interest in this edition include the venue for the National Championship - to be held at Waiuku Yacht Club on the Manukau in Easter 1998. Waiuku have experienced increased interest in the Zephyr class over the last season or two, resulting in their offer to host the Nationals.

An update on the builder of Zephyr hulls. Thanks to Dennis Craig and Rhys Burton, Garry Mathews has agreed to build any new Zephyr hulls. See inside for details.

I have been hard at work on revising the rules, and have advocated a number of minor changes to the rules. These will need the support of the membership, and approval of two thirds of the voting membership at some point in the future.

The Annual General Meeting has been tentatively set down for Wednesday, 20th August at 1930hrs at the French Bay Boating Club. The Constitution of the NZZOA (Inc) requires a quorum of ten members, so Zephyr sailors in Hamilton, Waiuku and Auckland need to note that in their diaries.

This edition also contains a list of Zephyrs for sale. I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the list, as some of the listings are quite old. I have also not sought the approval of those on the list to publish it in this newsletter, so if you are using it to buy a Zephyr, please be circumspect.

The next issue of the newsletter will probably be a pre-season one, so if you are winter racing or painting and refurbishing, best wishes!

From the pen of Alex Aitken

National President

Winter is the traditional time for hibernation, but a few hardy souls have been out on the Estuary for some winter sailing. My seven-year-old grandson (first time in a boat) had a ball despite the cold and lack of wind and is keen to have another sail. I have seen a dad and two young ones in a Zephyr, so it is possible to promote the Zephyr class to youngsters even before they venture out by themselves in an Opti!

The Executive is going through the exercise of bringing the Class Rules, Constitution & Building Guides up to date so that we can go into and beyond the year 2000 with confidence. The update is mainly cosmetic, metrification, names, and gender etc, with no change to the philosophy that the Zephyr is a one-design class, with all yachts having the same potential speed. This feature has consistently appealed to owners, so we are intent upon conserving it.

After discussion about variation in sail construction, I have given instructions to Chris McMasters of Boyd and McMasters to put the sail plan on computer so that new sails will be cut and constructed with accuracy. This will cost the association around \$150 and is considered money well spent.

Dennis Craig says that he reeled in horror when he talked to yacht spar suppliers (Dennis is helping Fred Elley finish off his new Zephyr) and found that Class Rules' restrictions on masts result in a high cost product. If a cheaper section with similar bend characteristics can be found, an amendment to the Class Rules on this issue may be forthcoming. Dennis has indicated an interest in preparing a technical report and recommendation on this issue. As always, it will be important to maintain the spirit of a one-design class.

The question of building new hulls is purely a matter of "confirmed orders". The national association is not keen to involve funds in stock of cedar hulls. The last exercise effectively cost your association around \$3000 mainly through insurance and special deals to quit stock. The cedar glass mould is stored with an Auckland boat builder who is waiting instruction to build.

The Executive of ZOA need constant back up and input of ideas so all of you please keep talking and expressing your views.

My thanks to Ron Mackie for taking the initiative in respect to the Masters Games and to Rob Ebert for his enthusiasm in editing and publishing the West Wind. As a matter of interest, do you show copies of West Wind to your family and friends?

OFFICIAL ZEPHYR BUILDER

Auckland Zephyr Owners have investigated and recommended the boat building firm of Gary Matthews. Gary has a history of dinghy building and renovation work for Zephyr owners in Auckland and he is currently in possession of the mould. Alex Aitken has received a request from Auckland Owners via Dennis Craig for a new hull to be built. After discussion with Canterbury Owners, and the NZZOA Executive, there was unanimous agreement to proceed with the building of one new hull only. Auckland Owners have agreed to supervise the building in accordance with the Class Rules. Alex has drawn up a set of guidelines to assist Auckland and to ensure overall quality control. Canterbury Association has recorded this decision in their minutes dated 30/6/97 and this needs to be ratified at our NZZOA Annual General Meeting. It is to be clearly understood that hulls are built to order only and must be sold and paid for before commissioning new hulls. Matthews Boat Builders is located at Glendene and delivery time is approximately six weeks from date of order. Price (including a \$200.00 royalty) is to be confirmed after the first hull is completed. Our order book is now open.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 1998

***Waiuku Yacht Club
Easter, April 10-13th 1998***

Waiuku Yacht Club have offered to host the 1998 Championships at Easter next year. Waiuku is a tidal basin near the mouth of Manukau Harbour, west of Pukehoe. A very successful National contest was held there in the 1980s, 1984, if I remember correctly. There is a camping ground close to the water, and some limited motel accommodation, but early bookings are probably wise for any Easter venue. We will keep you posted for details. If I get early notice of sailors who want to borrow boats, rather than bring their own up, I may be able to organise something.

Initial reaction from Canterbury indicates a willingness to travel north with a number of skippers in good form and keen to compete. Ron Cameron (Why #4) is in the transport industry so Cantabrians are looking at putting 10 Zephyrs in a container for the North Island assault. Cantabrians claim that there are a number of young skippers in the fleet, with the potential to blitz their North Islander counterparts, with some senior skippers also in good form. Be aware though, that Cantabrians at a Zephyr contest like lots of social activities!

Wellington, Palmerston North, Hamilton and Auckland skippers, are you up to the emerging Canterbury Challenge? Do you have the stamina to see off the Canterbury challenge on and off the Manukau??

MASTERS GAMES

The Organising Committee for the Masters Games have confirmed that the Zephyr class will be entered in the 1998 games, to be held in Dunedin over Waitangi weekend in 1998. A minimum of six boats will be required to make up a class.

The NZ Masters Games started in 1990 and are open to male competitors 40 and over, and women 35 and over. Some 50 different sports, including yachting, are offered attracting around 5000 competitors. Several members from Canterbury have contested the yachting events past games, choosing from sunbursts, paper tigers or lasers. By all accounts, the games are a lot of fun, and with good organisation, it is possible to compete in more than one sport. Don Le Page once participated in both yachting and badminton!

The Games will be in Wanganui in 1999, a town that used to have a fleet of Zephyrs. If enough Zephyr skippers can be persuaded to support both the 1998 and 1999 events, it would be an excellent promotion for the class. We have Ron Mackie to thank for enthusiastically promoting the Zephyr to the games organisers. What we need now are some keen skippers!!

THE AUCKLAND BOAT SHOW

The Auckland Boat Show always makes space available for classes to display their boats. For the past few years, the Zephyr has been on display alongside the many other classes competing for members. This year, Dennis Craig, Fred Elley and Rhys Burton organised the display. Dennis polished and rigged his boat for display, with Rhys providing the supporting pamphlets. Our thanks to you all.

Renovation Tip - Cockpit Grab Rails.

If you are replacing the beading around the cockpit, consider a quarter round section from the aft deck to about 20cms forward of the traveller. Make it of sufficient size to get your fingers underneath it. Very handy for those rolls to windward and that undignified scramble to get back aboard!

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ZEPHYR CLASS RULES

Rob Ebert

Over the past few months I have been working on updating the Class Rules. Under the existing rules, any changes must be proposed by at least six members, and approved by two thirds of the registered owners who have voted. Details of the change, together with any relevant details, must be circulated to all registered owners at least six weeks before any vote is taken.

General Amendments

- That the Class Rules be renumbered, and that resultant changes in the text be permitted (i.e. Part A is now Part 1, Part B is now Part 2, Part C is now Part 3, and Part D is now Part 4.) This facilitates paragraph numbering in modern word processors.
- Yachting New Zealand (**YNZ**) replaces New Zealand Yachting Federation (NZYF), in response to the recent name change.
- **International Sailing Federation (ISAF)** replaces International Yacht Racing Union (IYRU) in response to the recent name change.
- Imperial Measurements: Reference to imperial dimensions to be deleted, (**1.6.3**) and bracketed imperial dimensions to be removed from the rules. Not all metric measurements in the rules have imperial equivalents.

Specific Rules

The proposed new numbers are used to describe these amendments.

- **1.2 Control:** That (ZOA) be inserted behind Zephyr Owners' Association
- **1.5 Definitions:** The requirement for current financial members to be listed on the register is to be deleted.
- **1.10 Registration and Measurement:** Paragraphs 7 & 10 have been amended to eliminate the gender bias (he becomes they). Pedantic, but politically correct!
- **1.11 Identification Marks:** The precise location of the number on the keel to be loosened so that it need not be immediately forward of the centrecase. Some boats have strong backs immediately forward of the centrecase. This is in line with the recommendation in the 1990 Guide to the Rules.
- **2.1.1 Hulls:** An amendment making deckposts optional was accepted by the Committee in 1993, but I am not sure if it ever went to a general meeting. It is therefore included.
- **2.4.2 Coamings:** Include "**Shall be at a minimum height of 65mm from the deck in the mid line, and a minimum of 25mm high if projected to the gunwale.**" These measurements appear in the Measuring Form, but not in the Rules.
- **2.7 Chainplates:** This section is moved from Equipment (Masts). The point of measurement is changed from the aft face of the transom in keeping with all other measurements. The measurement (2371mm) is derived from the finishing plans, but someone should check that for me.
- **4.1 Builder's Specifications:** delete 1989.

The Measurement Form

This has been altered to follow a more logical measuring sequence and to make it easier to enter into a computer database. Additional measurements in the rules - Mast Step height and Rudder Gudgeon pivot have been included. The position of the mast step on the keel has been eliminated, as it is not specified in the Rules.

Guide to the Rules

This is based on the guide Brett White produced in 1990. It is not part of the Rules, but is included for interest and comment. I suggest that the Guide, plus the Constitution, be included as an appendix to the Rules document, when it is finally re-issued.

A draught version of the new rules, incorporating the amendments, is available, and has been circulated to the various local associations. Any member wanting their own copy, please contact me.

A special general, or annual general meeting would be the venue for approving the rule changes, but the process of approval means that this would probably not be until sometime in 1998. In the meantime, I am seeking comments, and/or approval.

Are you a member.....??

If you have received a copy of this newsletter, and you're not a member of NZZOA, it is because we are hoping you will join us. Subscriptions are \$15 per year. Consider it an investment in your recreational future, and the resale value of your boat. A popular class creates a demand for Zephyrs, as well as giving you someone to sail with and against. Put it in your budget for next season.

ZEPHYRS FOR SALE

These boats are currently listed as for sale. Some of the listings are old, and I have not sought the permission of the owners to print this list. However, the details have been in the public domain for some time. The list is published as a service to buyers and sellers of boats.

Name		Phone	Price?	Address		
Dove	Bill	09 236 0667	\$700	Mile Road	Bombay	South Auckland
French	Barry	09 8271607	\$1,000	9 Sunnyside Rd	Henderson	Auckland
Muir	John	09 239366	\$700	Shakespeare Road	Waiuku	
Le Page	Don	03 3844393	\$2,500	243 Cannon Hill	Christchurch 8	
Scott	Mike	07 8494798		Delamere Road	Hamilton	
Pittams	Des	09 8462485	\$1,000	36 Montrose St	Pt Chevalier	Auckland
Mayos	Dennis	2353672	\$1,200	Glenbrook Beach	RD1 Waiuku	
Colby	Denys	09 528 8696	\$1,100	2 Wells Rd	Bucklands Beach	Auckland
Watson	Charles	07 825 7290	\$200	6 Long Street	Raglan	
Langton	Dennis	03 3779893		5/27 Cornwall St	Christchurch 1	
Williamson	Bob	06 3429713	\$500	19 Rimu Street	Mowhanau RD4	Wanganui 5001
Mossman	Ron	078564804		26b Brookfield St	Hamilton	
Christenson	Carl			58 Hudson St	Christchurch 5	
Whitehead	Karen	04 479 8059	\$2,000	12 Kamla Way	Kendallah	
Schellekens	John	096205585		42 Hendley Road	Mt Eden	Auckland
Collins	John	07 847 6646		6 Riccarton Place	Hamilton	
Hughes	Mike	09 8436746	\$900	325 Titirangi Rd	Titirangi	Auckland 7

Notice of Meeting

New Zealand Zephyr Owners' Association (Inc)
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 20th August
1930hrs
French Bay Boating Club

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National Register Rob Ebert,