

West Wind

The Newsletter of the NZ Zephyr Owners Association

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March 1998

WAIUKU IS READY!

Rob Ebert

I have been away from the club Zephyr scene for several weeks, visiting relatives in Malaysia. Once back home, the Waikato Yacht Squadron Boating-New Zealand 100 Mile Trailer Yacht Classic off Kawakawa Bay claimed my yachting attentions. However, Mike O'Connell of Waiuku Yacht Club reports that all is ready for the 1998 National Contest. The club has put considerable thought and effort into staging the event, with most organisational aspects having a dry run with events like the Auckland Championships. With six races in three days a prayer or two to the Wind Gods to be kind to us are in order - especially with a number of South Island skippers making their customary trip north to support this important class event.

As you will see from the contents of this issue, your Association will be taking the opportunity to hold a Special General Meeting and Contest Forum to update class rules and seek the opinions of members on a variety of issues. Proposed rule changes, and an Agenda for the SGM appear within.

This West Wind also details other class activities. Alex Aitken reports on the Zephyr's first known appearance on Otago Harbour as part of the Otago Masters Games. A good time was apparently had by all in breezy conditions, with Don Le Page and Andy Holland taking the opportunity to share some heavy weather tips with their fellow skippers. We will need to follow up on interest in the Zephyr being included in the Master Games in Wanganui next year.

Ron Mackie reports on the Canterbury Inter-Club Match Racing Contest, held on the

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MASTERS GAMES REPORT

A fleet of 10 Zephyr sailors from Canterbury competed in the 1998 Masters Games at Dunedin over Waitangi weekend. It was the first time the Zephyr class has competed at the games. The six race event, organised by the Otago Boating Club, was a real taste of the south, with contestants braving winds of up to 20-25 knots gusting up the Otago inner harbour. Bren Nelson of Otago was the only local skipper, competing in Zippy #302, generously leant by Sandra Hammond. Richard Ineson, a keen Zephyr competitor took the opportunity to sail with the Laser fleet, also represented at the games.

Race 1 was sailed on Friday morning in very light conditions. Local yachtie, Bren Nelson used his harbour knowledge to good advantage and worried the guns from Canterbury with his 3rd place. Race 2 saw the breeze pipe down the harbour and the Zephyrs were in their element. The breeze died away in the later stages and the six sailors contesting the minor places had an impressive tacking duel.

Race 3, scheduled for Saturday morning was abandoned amidst pouring rain and little wind. It was still raining for Race 4 with a gusty breeze making for difficult sailing conditions and a number of capsizes. For Race 5 a strong NE breeze providing exhilarating sailing conditions. However, Bren Nelson from Dunedin didn't reach the starting line, and five skippers retired from the race. The down wind leg saw a number of very fast capsizes, some had difficulty rounding the top mark and the ride to the wing mark was unbelievable. Hero of this race was Ron Cameron who finished the race in sixth place, a full lap behind the winners, and he didn't fall over.

Race 6 was abandoned due to 30 knot winds. Instead, Andy Holland and Don Le Page shared some helpful hints on heavy weather sailing, touching on effective use of the kicker, outhaul, cunningham, forestay, traveller and main sheet. Their advice? As wind conditions increase, ease off the forestay and let down the traveller. It helps to ease off the kicker when tacking. Downwind, when the Zephyr reaches its maximum design speed, pull the main in slightly and head off a few degrees. As the pressure comes off sit further forward to avoid the death roll. The centreplate should be about halfway up. Andy says that nothing will replace constant practice. Get out in the elements, ideally in non racing time, and try to learn what went wrong with every capsizes!

Ron Mackie, now 65, also received a bronze medal as the 3rd oldest yachtie sailing at the Games. Ron did have his travel booked to Waiuku, but has some elective surgery pending over Easter, a reprieve for you North Island golden oldies!

A total of eighty three entries contested the Master Games, a substantial increase over the last games. Classes

competing included Hartley 16s, Paper Tigers, Zephyrs, Sunbursts and Lasers. The Club facilities and catering were great and friendships from past games were renewed. The first appearance for Zephyrs in Dunedin prompted a number of inquires and we could well see the Zephyr class spread further South. Bren Nelson's participation meant that a contact has been established. The 1999

The Medallists

Don Le Page	0	(Gold)
Bill Beere	12	(Silver)
Andy Holland	31.1	(Bronze)
Ron Mackie	44	
Howard Thomas	50.7	
Mike Agnew	53.7	
Ron Cameron	56	
Peter Stokell	56.7	
John Doidge	59.7	
Alex Aitken	67	
Bren Nelson	56.7	

Exciting Inter-Club Match Racing in Canterbury

Ron Mackie

Reprinted from the YNZ Newsletter

On Sunday, 25 January, representatives from each of the twelve Canterbury Yacht Clubs gathered for this annual event organised by the Waimakiriri Sailing & Power Boat Club (WSPBC). Although one of the smaller Clubs, the WSPBC has organised this entertaining event since 1990 and, in doing so, has made a major contribution to the Canterbury yachting calendar.

Not only does this short course event provide close racing and excellent spectator viewing, but it also provides a wonderful opportunity for judges to hone their skills. Each judge adjudicates on at least five races during this six-hour event.

The 12 Clubs are divided into two sections to sail a five race round-robin – the skippers changing yachts for each race. The two leaders from each section go on to a round-robin semi-final from which two finalists emerge to sail off in a best of three final.

The WSPBC obviously requires considerable manpower and hardware to stage the event. All Club members are committed to the day, and as each pair of competitors in the six races of each round are followed by a judges' boat with a driver and two judges, other Clubs offer their assistance. Zephyr class yachts are loaned by the Canterbury Zephyr Owners Association and have proved an ideal yacht for the contest.

This mini "America's Cup" contest has proved an excellent training ground for young skippers – many have gone forward to higher honours. In this year's event, the semi-finalists emerging from the 30 round-robin races were:

- Andrew Brown (Canterbury Yacht & Motor Boat Club)
- Stephen Keen (Mt Pleasant Yacht Club)
- Don Le Page (Christchurch Yacht Club)
- Dan Leech (Charteris Bay Yacht Club)

Le Page, the defending champion, was eliminated in the semis as was Leech after a sail-off. Brown and Keen – both 20 year olds – met two years ago in the same event when Keen was the winner. In the first final this year, the lead changed five times. Brown won narrowly and the second final was equally close with Brown again winning and clinching the title.

Andrew Brown could well be a name to remember. He has recently been campaigning in Melbourne in the 470 Class with for'ard hand, Steven Fortune, and has the 2004 Olympics as a goal but believes the 2000 Olympics could also be a possibility.

At the prize giving, international judge and umpire, Jim Park, commented on the smooth running of the event and praised the Club for the high standard of organisation. It compared more than favourably with a recent international event he attended. Well done WSPBC.



FROM THE PEN OF
ALEX AITKEN
National President

Greetings fellow Zephyr owners. Only a few weeks until Easter and the national contest at Waiuku. I am aware of a fleet of boats from Canterbury that will be loaded into a 40' container, and I trust that a good fleet from Hamilton, Waiuku, and Auckland will provide for a memorable event. There is also the possibility of one or two entries from Wellington.

If you in the area please call in and say hello, join in with social activities. **Could I ask all contestants, in particular the local Auckland, and Waiuku owners, to please stay on after the racing and join in with the visitors for fellowship.**

We are also planning the traditional contest "Forum" to discuss topics of interest to you as owners. Thanks to all owners that have responded to the call to support the national association with their contribution of \$15.00. According to the records 67 subs have been paid to date. If you have received a reminder note with this publication, thanks, in anticipation.

The trading section has seen steady growth. We may have to address the question of margins to maintain the small profit to the ZOA. Freight costs seem to be higher than anticipated so we may revert to quoting plus freight on all products. A topic for the "Forum".

With a bit of luck, Fred Elley will have completed his new Zephyr (255) ready for the national contest. We are also hopeful that the new Matthew's hull will be on display at the Waiuku Yacht Club. Would you North Island owners give consideration to a likely purchaser for this hull - the price is \$2600.00 - otherwise you may find that it disappears into the container at the end of the contest!

I've heard some positive comments from Zephyr owners around the country. There has been some exciting competition and I will be looking forward to

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Waimakiriri River. Zephyrs lent by local skippers have been the mainstay of an event which has become a show case for Canterbury yachting and the Zephyr class.

Safe journeying for those travelling and trailing yachts to Waiuku. Check those tie downs and trailer connections, and drive carefully. We look forward to

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ZEPHYR CLASS RULES

The following changes to the Zephyr Class Rules are proposed. As required under existing rules, these changes must have the support of six owners, and be circulated to all registered owners at least six weeks before any votes is taken. The proposed changes were circulated in the July 1997 issue of West Wind, so the intention is to seek the approval of owners at a Special General Meeting at the National Contest in Waiuku. Registered owners unable to attend may register their vote by proxy.

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



ZEPHYR OWNERS ASSOCIATION NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING Waiuku Yacht Club Sunday 12th April At the conclusion of Racing

AGENDA

1. Amendments to the Rules
2. Interim Financial Report
3. AGM Venue and Time
4. General Business

The Owners' Forum, traditionally a wide ranging discussion about Zephyr sailing, will follow at the end of formal business.

Rob Ebert
Secretary

RENOVATION TIP - COAMINGS

The 1990 rules allow coamings to be sited in front of the mast hole. For those boats with the mast stepped inside the front bulk head, this provides better protection of the front buoyancy compartment. Turning blocks for the sail controls can also be deck mounted close to the mast, making for neater and more efficient layout of sail control lines.

The Zephyr Owners' Association

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1997-1998

Subscriptions for 1998 are \$15.00 for the NZZOA, and \$10.00 for local associations in Auckland, Hamilton and Christchurch. If you are an "orphan" outside these areas, the \$15.00 NZZOA sub can be forwarded to Alex Aitken, President, or Rob Ebert, Secretary. Please include your boat name and number, so we can update the Zephyr Register.

We need your support for all sorts of reasons!

National President
Alex Aitken
2 Shaftesbury Street
Christchurch 4
phone: 03 358 4600
email: a-a.aitken@clear.net.nz

National Secretary
Rob Ebert
25 Hibiscus Ave
Hamilton
phone: 07 838 9375
fax: 07 838 9376
email: ebertr@wave.co.nz

PRICE LIST FOR ZEPHYR COMPONENTS

REVISED MARCH 1998

	North Island	South Island
Mast anodised with riveted track, and halyard cap	\$ 547.00	\$562.00
Halyard lock RF 191	4.00	4.00
Gooseneck RF 562 (non sliding)	69.00	69.00
4" T Cleat	5.50	5.50
Kicker hanger RF 30	25.00	25.00
Halyard strop and tail	43.00	43.00
2 ½" 2 pin plug	36.00	36.00
Mast assembly and fastenings at cost	118.50	118.50
Total cost of mast and fittings	<u>\$848.00</u>	<u>\$863.00</u>
Boom = 2.69m x mast section anodised	\$262.00	\$267.00
Boom plug	24.00	24.00
Block hangers (main & vang) R9 x 2	17.50	17.50
Adjustable outhaul system complete	225.00	225.00
Boom assembly and fastening at cost	79.00	86.00
Total cost of boom and fittings	<u>\$607.50</u>	<u>\$611.50</u>
Rigging		
10m x 2.5mm 1x19 stainless wire	24.00	24.00
2.5mm hook swages x 3	44.50	44.50
2.5mm rigging screws x 2	70.00	70.00
2.5mm hard eyes	15.00	15.00
3 x backing plates S19	11.00	11.00
Total cost of rigging	<u>\$164.50</u>	<u>\$164.50</u>
Sails. Complete with window, number, insignia, tell tales. (Battens extra POA)	<u>\$525.00</u>	<u>\$525.00</u>

CONTACT
Dennis Craig
 Ph 09 817 3150
 Fax 09 358 2254
Alex Atiken
 Ph 03 358 4600

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.

Lastname	Firstname	Phone	Price	Address1	Address2	Address3
Dove	Bill	09 236 0667	\$700	Mile Road	Bombay	South Auckland
French	Barry	09 827 1607	\$1,000	9 Sunnyside Rd	Henderson	Auckland
Muir	John	(09) 23-9366	\$700	Shakespeare Road	Waiuku	
Brown	Tim	(09) 438-1424	\$2,500	2/1a Ewing Rd	Whangarei	
Page	Laurie	03 3237602	\$2,000	26 Donegal Street	Belfast	
Pittams	Des	(09) 846-2485	\$1,000	36 Montrose St	Pt Chevalier	Auckland
Waterer	Richard	09 8186268	\$1,800	40a Pleasant Rd	Glen Eden	Auckland
Mayos	Dennis	235 3672	\$1,200	Glenbrook Beach Road	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	
Mossman	Ron	() 856-4804	\$800	26b Brookfield St	Hamilton	
Brent	Mayall	07 866 4931	\$1,000	21 South Highway	Whitianga	
Whitehead	Karen	04 479 8059	\$2,000	12 Kamla Way	Kendallah	
Hughes	Mike	09 8436746	\$900	325 Titirangi Rd	Titirangi	Auckland 7