

West Wind

The Newsletter of the NZ Zephyr Owners Association

Volume 5 Issue 3

October 1998

EDITORIAL

Rob Ebert

This edition of West Wind marks the beginning of another season. Zephyr sailing is underway, with reports in from Canterbury and Hamilton. Fleets are light so far, with NPC Rugby games claiming the attention of some Hamilton skippers.

The minutes of the ZOA Annual General Meeting are included in this edition for your perusal. The most pressing issue for discussion was the handling of insurance cover for new hulls at various stages of construction. The premiums are a significant proportion of our budget, for what is perceived as a relatively small risk. A variety of strategies were discussed, as you will see from the minutes, but someone else in the Association may have a better solution.

Another initiative has been the creation of a larger Executive, again in line with our Constitution, but with the aim of involving a few more people in the day to day running of the Association. With any luck, this will make us less vulnerable to the waxing and waning of enthusiasm that characterises small Associations. Contact details can be found inside. These folk have the latest Class Register, and relevant order forms for gear.

The updated Class Handbook has been completed and printed. It contains the updated and revised Class Rules, a guide to interpreting the rules, the ZOA Constitution, and some renovation tips. It will be distributed to financial members throughout the season. The next project is a publicity brochure with the aim of attracting new sailors to the class.

Unfortunately, the impact of New Zealand's weak currency is beginning to be felt in the prices for masts and hulls, reflecting price increases in the imported components. There is not much we can do about that, except to sail more often, and decrease the cost per outing! Arguably, Zephyr sailing is still pretty cheap!

ZOA members will have received the YNZ publication *Wavelength*. For some reason, my house received four copies, but we will be using that forum to try and contact past Association members who may have Zephrys that are unused and in search of a new home.

Inserted in this issue is the Notice of Race for the National Championships at the Timaru Yacht and Power Boat Club. Timaru has hosted National Championships for other classes before and past contestants speak highly of the venue and facilities. Rumour has it that there is a direct Auckland-Timaru shipping link, so that putting together a container of boats from the Auckland region could be a possibility. I will be contacting some likely candidates directly, but if anyone is interested in a sailing holiday in the South Island, please let me know.

The other insert is an invoice for subscriptions to the ZOA and your local association. It would be a real boost to have these paid promptly, so we can get on with promoting the class rather than chasing arrears.

North Islanders take note of the "Freshwater Worlds" - the Hamilton Zephyr weekend on November 21&22

**Happy Sailing
and please pay your subs!**

FROM THE PEN OF

ALEXAITKEN

National President

Activity within the Zephyr Owners Association is starting to hot up as the 98/99 season gets under way. In Canterbury most of the yacht clubs have had their opening day with good fleets. The weather has been settled with light winds.

It is pleasing to see the number of Zephys that are changing hands, so some new younger sailors will be competing in Championship events. Interesting to see that some of the seasoned sailors are interested in the Zephyr as an alternative to the hard grunt of the Laser and Finn.

We had a well attended AGM of the Zephyr Owners' Association at Christchurch Yacht Club. The debate on a number of issues was encouraging and the enthusiasm of Zephyr Owners is infectious.

Ron Cameron displayed his Zephyr No 4 *Why* at the recent "BoatEx 98" show at Pioneer Stadium in Christchurch. This was a promotion in conjunction with all the clubs in Canterbury and was an exercise to attract the general public awareness for yachting as a sport. Thank you Ron.

In a bid to upgrade the profile of the Zephyr Class a promotional folder has been produced and mailed to all the Executive. A list of *Who's Who* is printed in this copy of West Wind. The aim is to be better informed and the folder includes a job description which means we are all working to achieve a common goal.

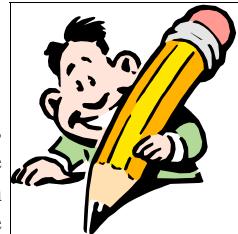
The trading section is away ahead of last year with three sails, one mast and boom sold to date. A new Cedar Hull # 258 has just come off the assembly line and is for sale at \$2600.00. Unfortunately we are starting to see the effects of the lower exchange rate now. The next hull will be \$2800.00 which reflects a 100% increase in the cost of cedar. The Spar manufacturer has also announced a small price increase, reflecting the increased cost of aluminium. We have three masts and one boom in stock.

In Auckland Dennis Craig reports they are preparing for their AGM and the season will get under way in late October. Bob Allen has joined the ZOA Executive to assist with Auckland membership. We wish Auckland well in their yachting competitions.

Rob Ebert will no doubt tell you what is going on in Hamilton. Their big event is the Freshwater Championship during the weekend of November 21/22. If all goes to plan I will be at that contest and meet with the ZOA Executive.

Boat Wanted

Any Hamiltonian willing to lend Alex their boat for the Freshwater Zephyr weekend on November 21&22 please contact Rob Ebert (07 838 9375)



Zephyr Owners' Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
1930hrs Wednesday 12th August 1998
Christchurch Yacht Club

1 Present

Alex Aitken (Chair), R Ebert, R Ineson, A Ebert, W Beere, G Hutt, R Wenham, P Stokell, D Langton, G Mantell, P Gurnsey, G McKenzie, M Agnew, D Jamieson, R Mackie, J Wearn.

2 Apologies

J Doidge, H Thomas, D Craig, (AK) R Allen (AK), J Smith, J Park, A Holland, J & L Heathfield.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the previous AGM held at the French Bay Boating Club, Auckland on 20th August 1997 and circulated in the July edition of West Wind were taken as read and accepted.
Aitken/Ebert

4 Matters arising

The issue of the ZOA Auditor being a member of the ZOA had been clarified. As the member concerned was not a signatory to the Association's accounts, this was felt to be in order.

5 President's Report

The President's Report prepared by Alex Aitken had been circulated in the July Edition of West Wind. The Executive was complimented for its work in producing West Wind, and the gratifying increase in the number of financial members.

6 Treasurer's Report

The statement of financial position to 1 June 1998, prepared by Alex Aitken, had been circulated in West Wind. R Ineson, (Auditor) commented on the statement of accounts and balance sheet. Alex Aitken sought advice on the \$200 royalty charged on each new Zephyr hull, recommending that it be accumulated in a designated fund. This was accepted by the meeting without discussion. Alex Aitken then presented the financial position as at 11 August 1998. The meeting accepted the Treasurer's Report. *Ebert/Mackie*.

7 Budget

Alex Aitken outlined the proposed budget for 1998-99. He sought advice on the \$226 insurance premium on the new Zephrys under construction. The current policy expires in September, and the issue was whether it should be renewed. The issue was debated with the following points established:

- The mould is laid up with cedar and glassed on the outside, in advance of an order, to stiffen and protect the mould. The ZOA carries the cost of this. On receipt of an order the hull is taken off the mould and glassed inside, with bulkheads and buoyancy tanks added. In the event of a total loss, the ZOA's liability would depend on the stage of construction.
 - Value of mould only: \$1300 approx
 - Value of hull at initial stage of construction: \$750 approx
 - Value of completed hull: \$2300 approx

A "worse case" scenario of total loss of both the mould and a completed hull would be about \$4500-5000

- The premium is a substantial portion of the budget and is unlikely to be reduced by shopping around other insurance agencies.
- Accumulated royalties of \$200 per hull (as already discussed) are for eventual replacement of the mould.

The meeting resolved that the ZOA allow the current insurance policy to lapse, and establish sufficient reserve funds to cover potential losses by carrying the following resolutions:

- That the current insurance policy on the mould and work in progress be allowed to lapse. *Stokell/Jamieson*
- Potential liability from lack of insurance on the hull and work in progress be covered by creation of a separate fund to receive royalties, plus an additional fee to be established from time to time by the Executive. *Langton/Beere*

8 Subscriptions

The Treasurer recommended that subscriptions be held at their current level of \$15.00. *Aitken/Ineson*.

9 Election of Officers

The following officers were elected:

Patron: Noel May (*Ebert/Ineson*)

President: Alex Aitken (*Mackie/Stokell*)

Secretary: Rob Ebert (*Mackie/Stokell*)

Executive: Bob Allen (AK), Dennis Craig (AK), Craig Peebles (Ham), (*Mackie/Stokell*)

The Canterbury member of the ZOA Executive was elected from the floor: B Beere (*Wearn/Ineson*)

Auditor: R Ineson *Aitken/A Ebert*

10 General Business

10.1 NEW CLASS RULES HANDBOOK

R Ebert advised the meeting that the new class rules handbook was awaiting YNZ approval before being published. He sought and received confirmation from the meeting that the elimination of imperial measurements in the last round of amendments was still in order.

10.2 DECK POSTS

R Ebert observed that many owners had eliminated deck posts from their boats, and asked for an indication as to whether a rules amendment making deck posts optional would be supported. The meeting was of the view that deck posts should be discretionary, and that a rules amendment should be prepared.

10.3 NATIONAL CONTEST

Geoff Hutt outlined the arrangements for the Nationals to be held in Timaru from 7-10 January 1999.

- The intention was to hold nine races, similar to past contests at Pigeon Bay. The club has good facilities, and there is a range of local accommodation available. A Notice of Race for the contest has been produced, and will be circulated soon.
- J Wearn attested to the suitability of the venue, and commented that establishing Masters and Senior Masters divisions in the Finn class had encouraged participation from a wide range of contestants.
- The likely participation of Auckland and Hamilton contestants was discussed. Resolved to approach individuals to gauge interest, with a view to arranging a container of boats.

10.4 MEASURING CERTIFICATES

R Ebert spoke of the need to boost efforts to measure and certify boats in anticipation of the Timaru contest.

10.5 NATIONAL CONTEST 2000

R Ebert indicated Hamilton's willingness to host the 2000

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(Continued from page 2)

contest, but lacked suitable water. Hamilton sailors were interested in opinions as to the suitability of the most likely venues, Hamilton Lake, and Lake Ngaroto.

10.6 CYA COACHING

CYA had offered the YNZ coaches to the ZOA. It was resolved that the local association would look into this.

10.7 BOOMS

D Jamieson had investigated the possibility of alternative mast and boom sections for the Zephyr. The most likely alternative was a Foster's Pheonix section at a cost of \$140. A Aitken expressed cautious interest, remarking that any new arrangement had to respect the low trading margins on rigs and the effort that had already gone into establishing reliable trading relationships with Barry Saunders.

Meeting ended 2125hrs

Rob Ebert

Secretary

Zephyr Owners' Association Proposed Amendment to Zephyr Class Rules Deck posts

Feeling at the Annual General Meeting was that the requirement for deckposts could be omitted from the Class Rules. The following amendment is therefore proposed to Rule 2.1.1.

Hulls shall be supplied with deck beams, gunwales, carlins, deckposts, centrethwart, centrecase and mast step permanently fitted. Deckposts are optional. (delete where there is an immediately adjacent bulkhead). No alteration to the hull as supplied shall be permitted except as provided for herein.

Under Rule 1.9, the support of six registered owners is required, with registered owners given six weeks notice before any vote is taken. Indications from the AGM was that would be sufficient support to proceed with this amendment. The intention would be to proceed with this rule change, perhaps with voting at the usual Special General Meeting held at the National Championships.

Support and comments are welcome.

Rob Ebert
Secretary

Zephyr Beach Trolleys

Reid Trailers in Albany (0800 807 155) produce a range of beach trolleys. Their No 4 Dinghy Trolley is suitable for Zephys, with a little modification (a shorter handle). Contact Rob Ebert for the plan.

From the Canterbury Zephys

The weekend of 19/20 September saw the opening of Christchurch and Waimakariri Yacht Clubs with a good turn out of Zephys. Christchurch turned on a real carnival atmosphere with the Tranz Rail brass band and a number of vessels decked out in colourful bunting. A fleet of around thirty yachts including ten Zephys competed in very light winds and a 2.1m tide. Glen McKenzie, 309 Pilatus, lead the fleet from the gun and went through to win. Daniel Jamieson, 325 has renamed his boat BAD NEWS and features a professional new paint job. Daniel is the convenor for the committee that's putting together the national contest at Timaru. Christchurch Yacht Club will be the venue for a Zephyr training weekend on November 20/21 and Andrew Brown, the 1997 national champion, will be the coach.

Waimakariri Club had a turn out of thirty four senior and five junior sailors at their opening day. The conditions were ideal, sunny with a light easterly. Ron Mackie, 39 Windbag II, had his first sail after a knee operation and says that it's a tricky manoeuvre trying to tack with a stiff leg. Alex Aitken, 147 Zero, had a good weekend and was up there with the leaders.

It looks like Canterbury is going to have a good sailing season if the weather behaves itself.

Alex Aitken

Zephyr Wanted for Nationals

Alister McFarlane, a Committee member of the Timaru Yacht and Power Boat Club would like to join in the National Championship. He is seeking an owner willing to charter or lend their boat for the series.

Alister McFarlane
16 Newman Street
Timaru
03 688 1956

The Zephyr Owners' Association

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1998-1999

Subscriptions for 1999 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
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THE HAMILTON YACHT CLUB ZEPHYR WEEKEND NOTICE OF RACE

The 1998 Zephyr Weekend will be hosted by the Hamilton Yacht Club, on Hamilton Lake, on November 21st & 22nd

- Rules:** The weekend series will be governed by the International Sailing Association (ISAF) rules, the prescription of Yachting New Zealand, the Zephyr Class Rules, and the Sailing Instructions.
- Eligibility:** All competitors must be financial members of a yacht club affiliated with YNZ and the Zephyr Owners Association. This latter requirement may be met at the venue. All competing yachts must comply with the Zephyr class rules.
- Entries:** Entries and the \$15.00 entry fee will be accepted on the Saturday morning. Sailing Instructions will be issued as an acknowledgment of entry.

PROGRAMME

Saturday, 21 November 1998 1000 hrs Briefing
1030 Race 1
1200 Race 2
1430 Race 3

Sunday, 22 November 1998 1030 Race 4
1200 Race 5

Times for races 2,3 & 5 are approximate, depending on prevailing weather conditions. It may only be possible to complete two races on Saturday, in which case it will be a four race series.

- Courses:** Courses will be set within the confines of Hamilton Lake, as closely as possible to Olympic courses.
- Prizes:** Prizes will be awarded for at least the first four places on line and handicap, depending on entries.
- Social Functions:** The Hamilton Area Zephyr Owners and Hamilton Yacht Club will host a post race barbecue on Saturday evening. A small charge to cover costs is likely and local contestants should anticipate contributing a salad etc.
- Attitude:** This is a good chance to experience challenging lake sailing conditions in a convivial atmosphere.
- Accommodation:** If you let us know your needs, we will arrange something for you.

CONTACTS

Rob Ebert, 25 Hibiscus Ave, Hamilton, ph 07 838 9375
Craig Peebles, 9 Morrison Crescent, Hamilton, ph 07 843 7746

ROB EBERT
Secretary
Hamilton Area Zephyr Owners

Hamilton Happenings

The Hamilton season is off to a quiet start. Hamilton Zephyr skippers are a loyal and parochial lot, so support for the Waikato Rugby team in the NPC and Ranfurly Shield defence has kept some skippers from appearing as yet. So far though, there is evidence of a fair bit of winter time activity. Several boats have been redecked, with a few more sporting new paint jobs. Keith Paine has resurrected No 18, *Shiralee*, so we are awaiting their imminent appearance.

Opening Day racing was a bit subdued, with Zephyrs being the strongest class. Neil Wood in *Thistledown* (235) showed a bit of last season's form to take out the inaugural race. The following weekend saw the Spring regatta, again well supported by the Zephyr fleet. Arthur Ferguson, sailing borrowed *Zonda* (152) made the best of the variable and shifty conditions to take out the three race series.

Strategic Snippets

(*Stuart H Walker*)

- Winning isn't everything, it only means you made fewer mistakes than the competition.
- The desire to sail well often results in winning; the desire to win rarely results in sailing well.
- Most races are not won, they are lost by all those that do not finish first. Avoiding major mistakes is the first requirement for winning.
- No race is sailed perfectly. Good helmspersons avoid major mistakes, but minor mistakes occur regularly. Being distracted by and dwelling on past mistakes makes further mistakes more likely.
- Most serious mistakes occur early in the race, when boats are still close together, so a small distance lost leads to a high loss of places. The boats ahead disturb the wind and water, forcing a longer, slower course, and the chance of further strategic errors.

You have as much right to win as anyone else!

ZOA Directory 1998-99

Alex Aitken	N Z President Christchurch	03 358 4600
Bill Beere	Christchurch	03 384 1285
Rob Ebert	Hamilton NZ Secretary	07 838 9375 07 838 9376 (fax)
Geoff Hutt	Christchurch	03 384 1713 03 384 1718 (fax)
Richard Ineson	Christchurch	03 326 6752 richardi@markhams.co.nz
Craig Peebles	Hamilton	07 843 7746 craig.peebles@clear.net.nz
Dennis Craig	Auckland	09 817 3150 09 358 2254 (fax) 025 963994
Bob Allen	Auckland	09 535 3011 cleftstk@icarus.ihug.co.nz
Rhys Burton	Auckland	09 817 7548

1999 NATIONAL ZEPHYR CHAMPIONSHIPS

TIMARU, JANUARY 7-10TH 1999

NOTICE OF RACE

HOSTS: The Organising Authority is the Timaru Yacht & Power Boat Club.

DATES: Thursday - Sunday 7-10 January 1999

ELIGIBILITY: All competitors must be fully paid up members of a club affiliated to YNZ and the ZOA.

REGISTRATION: Thursday, 7th January 9.00 am

Briefing Thursday, 7th January 10.00 am

Invitation Race Thursday, 7th January 11.00 am

RULES: The Regatta will be governed by the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing 1997 - 2001, the prescriptions of YNZ, the Safety Regulations, the Class Rules, except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions.

CLASSIFICATION: The Championship is classified as a Category B event.

COURSES: Courses may be either Triangular Olympic or Windward/Leeward to suit conditions. Courses may be shortened.

SCORING SYSTEM: The Low Point scoring system, Rule A2, will apply, modified so that each boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, with her worst score discarded if **seven** races have been completed. **Nine** races are scheduled of which **six** races shall be completed to constitute a series.

DIVISIONS: Open Division for the National Zephyr Championship, Handicap, Ladies Division, and other groupings as the Racing Committee may decide.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Sailing Instructions will be available at the time of Registration 7th January 1999.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Timaru Yacht & Power Boat Club is situated on the North Mole, Timaru. Excellent facilities include a large tar sealed yard for rigging, two good concrete launching ramps, modern clubrooms, including showers, changing rooms, etc, and a lock-up yard available for boat storage.

ENTERTAINMENT AND MEALS:

Lunches will be available for purchase at the yacht club.

Barbecues each day after racing.

Timaru has a number of local restaurants and cafes.

INQUIRIES TO:

Jon Olds

Commodore

Timaru Yacht and Power Boat Club

Telephone: 03 6864837(home)

ENTRIES

Entry forms are attached and should be forwarded to:

The Secretary,

TYPBC,

PO Box 93,

Timaru

by 10th December 1998

ENTRY FEE: \$45.00.

1999 NATIONAL ZEPHYR CHAMPIONSHIPS ENTRY FORM

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

TELEPHONE:

YACHT NAME: SAIL NUMBER:

FINANCIAL MEMBER OF:

Entry Fee of \$45.00 enclosed made payable to the TYPBC.

I agree to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and by all other rules that govern this event.

SIGNED:

Send to:

The Secretary

TYPBC

PO Box 93

TIMARU

