

Dear 420 Sailor

Firstly may I wish you all, very belatedly, a happy new year.

I am sorry that communication has been a little thin recently, but I have only just rebuilt my membership lists after some serious computer problems. Two new computers later ..... I am seriously thinking of investing in some carrier pigeons.

Please would you check with your sailing partner/friends that they have also received this email. I may have missed some or typed them wrongly!! Please email me with any additions/amendments I need to make to the list.

It was brilliant to see such a wonderful turnout for the Tiger Trophy. I am sure this must be the largest 420 fleet ever to attend. I hope that we will see a similar turnout for the new Winter Regatta at Carsington, this weekend.

Training sessions over the winter period have also been going well. There are still a few places left on the weekend of 26/27th February. With Jim Saltonstall as the head coach, and Tom Saunt and James Grant in support, it is bound to be a popular weekend, so get your entries in soon. Have you noticed that we have also arranged a one-day training session before the first selector, just to get you warmed up?

The Easter weekend sees the start of our selection series for the World and Junior European Championships. For those of you who are new to the class, I think it is important to point out that these are also individual Open Meetings and everyone is welcome. You may enter for only one or two events if you wish, however if you would like to be considered for team selection you do need to enter the whole series at the beginning.

The NOR and entry form are now available on the web site. It would make my life a lot easier if you could fill it in on the screen and then print and sign it - some of your handwriting is a little difficult to decipher:-)

Can I please make a few pleas about your kit for the events:

1. You are not allowed to sail with unmeasured equipment. Although there is no formal measurement, there will be spot checks. No sail measurement will be available on the morning of the first selector. It is not reasonable to expect to turn up with new sails and hope that someone will be available to measure them. However, there will be someone available on the Sunday at Carsington, should you wish to have some sails measured. Otherwise you need to make your own arrangements.
2. Please ensure that the front 600mm of your hull is clear ready for your bow numbers. Those of you who have sponsor sticker in that position will have to take them off and it might be easier to do it in advance.
3. Please ensure that your sails carry the same number as your hull and measurement certificate. There is no automatic right to use any other numbers and this has been happening rather too frequently in the last few events. Remember that spinnakers need numbers as well - one side only, any contrasting colour, GBR letters optional. If you are in any doubt about your equipment the International 420 Class Rules can be found through the link on the technical page of the web site.

OK - end of lecture.

The weekend of 5/6th of March is the Sailboat exhibition at Alexandra Palace. We have two stands to man and need your help (and your parents please). Help with setting up on the Friday and clearing up on Sunday evening would also be much appreciated. There are free entry tickets for those of you offering to help. Please get in touch with Tani Bassadone on [ebassadone@aol.com](mailto:ebassadone@aol.com) or ring him on 07710 130212.

I know that some of you, from time to time, need to find a new sailing partner. We aren't a dating agency, but we may be able to help. You could get in touch with Tony Mapplebeck [420membership@mbecks.co.uk](mailto:420membership@mbecks.co.uk) (Tel: 07831 128 747), Tani or myself.

For those of you who weren't at the Nationals, you may not have realised that we now have a new constitution. One of the key thing for you as sailors is that we now have a sailors' subcommittee, whose chairman, Ally Martin, is on the Management Committee. If you have any issues you wish to raise you can contact me or any other members of the committee, or go directly to Ally ([ally\\_s\\_m@hotmail.com](mailto:ally_s_m@hotmail.com) or Tel: 07749 983 865).

I look forward to seeing you all at an event soon.

Best Wishes

Catherine

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