



TIMARU YACHT AND POWER BOAT CLUB

Rhumbline

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THIS EDITION ...

- [SailGP...](#) Three young Timaru sailors and two of our safety boat operators took part
- [Sailing section ...](#) Fraser cup and Commodores
- ['i' Did you know ...](#) Yachting NZ ... How well do you understand our relationship?
- [From the Secretary:](#)
 - Selling the Whiting
 - P-Class's needing a home
 - Need a crew? We get people looking for skipper to take them out

[Back to top](#)

SAIL GP

Three young Timaru sailors and two of our safety boat operators took part

James O'Connor and Violet Adams were selected to take part in the Inspire Sailing programme and Nicos Shearer joined the Intern programme to spend a week on the SailGP Tech Site.

In addition to the youth team, parents Graham O'Connor and Janene Adams volunteered their services as safety boat crew on board Bernie.

So what was the inspire programme?

As part of SailGP, nine clubs in the local Christchurch/Banks Peninsula area were invited to nominate young sailors to take part in the SailGP Inspire programme, SailGP's outreach/education and community initiative. This was extended to include a small number of places for TYPBC sailors. The four day Inspire Programme included coaching, racing, Tech site visits and the opportunity to watch the main event... the F50 racing.

Day 1: The FEVA boat, top gun coaches and mixing with top competitors

The sailors got to know the two-handed [RS Feva](#) class dinghy pretty fast on a blustery Lyttleton day and in the company of coaches such as Jenny Armstrong (470 gold medallist), Erick Stibbe (International Coach) and Simon Cooke (470 and RS Feva former world champion). These coaches were right on hand providing support and guidance.

The success for James and Violet that day was staying dry and avoiding capsizing which seemed to be a fairly frequent activity when learning to sail the Fevas. The Timaru team in fact didn't swim the whole regatta which was cause for some celebration as this was not the case for all.



The Inspire sailors were joined by other experienced RS Feva sailors from around New Zealand (including the current Junior World Champs), bringing the entire fleet up to 33 boats and close to 70 sailors.

With Team NZ and Team Spain boat testing that day it was a great chance for the Fevas to sail on the same waters as these graceful giants.

The day rounded off with a visit to the Tech Site for the sailors to see the F50 boats up close, peek inside the team tents and find out how the boats are made, maintained and how the whole event travels. They also got to meet NZL team member, Liv Mackay.



Day 2: Blokarting then on the water for some awesome racing and coaching. High spirits!

The forecast for day 2 anticipated 30 knot winds in the harbour to early afternoon so the organisers sent the Inspire sailors to experience blokarting in Christchurch for the morning, giving the sailors a chance to sail on land.

The volunteers took this opportunity to experience the Tech Site for themselves. It was pretty thrilling to be up close and personal with the F50s, to handle a steering wheel and learn about how SailGP works.

The high winds never eventuated so sailing (back on the water) got underway in the early afternoon with a windward leeward course.



Bernie hosted international coach Erick Stibbe for the afternoon, giving James and Violet plenty of support and advice for the two races that took place before rain set in and the bedraggled fleet then made for shore.

The Timaru crew were placed 15th overall (of 33 boats) and 5th of 14 in the mixed (boy/girl) fleet. Spirits were high!

Day 3, Saturday: Hurry up and wait. Then a paparazzi blur

The day shone bright and sunny, if a little on the chilly side. The morning was spent in 'hurry up and wait' mode as everyone prepared boats and then patiently waited for the wind to rise. By 11 am the fleet was on the water and wind came to meet us on course.

Bernie was commandeered by Hayden of NZ Sailcraft (RS Feva distributors in NZ) and his photographers plus a couple of Argentinian coaches from Roy [Akarana Club](#) in Auckland so the boat was packed and there was a lot of chatter. The next few hours were a blur of yellow sails, race starts and racing to get the shot!



During racing, we were treated to the sight of the F50s being craned onto the water and towed round to their moorings directly in front of the Naval Point Club which was hosting the Feva regatta.

Being an 'official' paparazzi boat Bernie sneaked quietly through the big boats on the return to shore and around the crews as they were ferried to the F50s aboard the very impressive protector chase boats. The teams themselves were no less imposing, standing on board clad in all in black with helmets, mics, and visors, looking for all the world like warriors heading into battle.



Boat wash down and a quick lunch on shore and then James and Violet headed off as part of a group assigned to watch day 1 sailing from the SailGP Village, while Bernie and other Inspire Support boats hosted a bunch of young sailors from Auckland on water in the special Official Spectator zone (next to the VIP Adrenalin Lounge) flying a purple flag. This location was very close to gate 2/4/6 and for the final race right in front of the finish line. We were closest to the action and the experience was epic!

Up close to the F50s

It's hard to describe just how fast the F50s move or indeed the feeling of seeing one heading directly towards you, hardly able to be seen front-on due to the aerodynamics and then for it to suddenly appear before you in brilliant colour and vast size as it tacks around one of the marker bots. All while the crowd roars from the shore, helicopters hover low overhead filming the race and the crew work to keep Bernie straight into the wind.

Before we knew it racing had completed for the day and it was time to head for shore – what a buzz!



Our Day 4 (SailGP racing Day 2): David and Goliath (Bernie and Duchessa),

This was almost a repeat of the previous day – sunny and calm with the wind rising mid-morning for another day of stunning RS Feva racing (see [here](#) for live feeds of the races on Facebook.)

Bernie was in the thick of it once again as the 'paparazzi host', but today also saw Bernie double up as the pin end of the start line due to the [robotic buoys](#) having taken off of their own accord to other parts of the harbour.

One moment of hilarity ... Bernie, laden with 6 adults, gave chase to a luxury super yacht which had deigned to cross the RS Feva race course. As we chased, signalled and yelled, the guests on board Duchessa simply gave us a friendly wave and raised their champagne filled glasses in reply and carried on their merry way.



James and Violet had another great day and finished the regatta in 25th place overall and 10th in the mixed fleet. Not bad for the only team there to have never sailed a Feva prior to the event!

The Timaru team then finally got to spend time on the water together and we once again settled Bernie into position among the other Inspire RIBS to watch the show for the afternoon. Again it didn't disappoint. If NZ had won it would have been the icing on the cake but for all on board Bernie it was an experience that will long be remembered, along with a lot of laughs and so much learning.

With a long homeward journey ahead, the Timaru crew were off the water in record time and heading through the Lyttleton Tunnel before the F50's were moored again.

Thank you !

A massive thanks to TYPBC for selecting us all to attend SailGP and offering great support, to Naval Point Club Lyttleton for hosting, the RS Feva Assn for the boats and organising and of course to SailGP Inspire, and to Canterbury Yachting Association and YNZ for their parts in bringing this together.

“ It was definitely one of the coolest experiences I have ever had!!”

- *Janene Adams*

While the crew were up at Sail GP in person the juniors enjoyed the main competition at the club rooms... along with parents and supporters



[Back to top](#)

SAILING SECTION

Fraser Cup and Commodore's trophy provisional placings...

The Fraser cup is a six-race series with the best four results counting. This season there was no sailing on 4th March due to the rough weather that day, so the series placings were based on the best four of five. Provisional results were;

- 1st Bill and team in Freak Brothers
- 2nd Les and team in Guano
- 3rd Gordon Collister in Triskelion

The Commodore's cup is a single race that was the second race on 11th March following Fraser cup race 6. Placings were;

- 1st Bill and team in Freak Brothers
- 2nd Gordon Collister in Triskelion
- 3rd Dave Weith in Decoy

You have to be there !

Have you ever heard that the best thing you can do to improve your racing results under the points system (which we apply) is to turn up? Well, it's true.

The graph below is for the William Begg series earlier in the season... the graph plots series placing versus races attended.

The key message ... you have to be there ! 😊



[Back to top](#)

Yachting New Zealand...

TYPBC is affiliated to Yachting New Zealand. This is an important relationship for our club and yet how many of us know the basis for this?

Affiliation Fees:

TYPBC pay an annual affiliation fee that is calculated based on the number of club members. This fee is almost \$32 per individual member (whether senior, corporate, school, social...) with a reducing scale for increasing numbers of those within a family membership.

Information provided:

Much of the specific information you will have been asked for in your TYPBC membership renewal form is driven by YNZ's requirement for TYPBC to provide this information to them. This includes; your name, membership category, club subscription amount paid, date of birth, email address, gender, ethnicity. YNZ also require the club's annual financial reports. YNZ pledge that your information is not shared or made available by them to any third party.

What does YNZ do for TYPBC in return for the information and affiliation fee?:

Training and guidance: YNZ maintains a library of best practice tools that the TYPBC Committee uses from time to time in the running of the club. An example of this is the Safety Boat Operator Curriculum that underpins the training we have run several times over recent years. Their guides also provide a best practice baseline for things like supervision of junior sailors or club administration.

Maintaining connection with other clubs and international events

YNZ remain connected with international sailing safety regulations and provide discounts relating to cat1 inspections. The international connection has been evident as the local yachting community has been pulled in to join with the recent SailGP spectacle.

Advocacy:

Yachting New Zealand spend time and resource advocating to prevent legislation such as compulsory registration of vessels as well as protecting safe anchorages that we have all enjoyed for decades. YNZ think it's critical to advocate on behalf of the whole boating community to protect access to the water and provide safe passage and anchorage to all forms of watercraft. YNZ have staff on many groups, forums and committees to ensure boaties' interests are represented in areas such as antifoul regulations, life jacket wearing, maritime education, and many more.

[Ed: Having attended a number of Coastguard conferences I am aware of the effort that has gone into advocating for the continuing freedom of the NZ boating community].

Yacht Racing rules (and insurance)

All clubs and sailors who want to race need to be a member of a club affiliated to YNZ.

The Racing Rules of Sailing are made freely available¹ on the basis that sailors and clubs who use them are affiliated. Without that affiliation, clubs could not use these racing rules. In that case the default International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea would apply. YNZ say this can have a significant impact on a club's marine and liability insurance.

Race officials

We have enjoyed many regattas over the years, and all these have been conducted by officials who have been trained by YNZ.

Coordinating regattas

YNZ cascade a yachting calendar that coordinates yachting championships and regattas around the country.

Source: YNZ ... abridged info from their website and annual fee submission

[Back to top](#)

FROM THE COMMITTEE:

Some of the Committee inspecting the jetty work so far.



¹ Rules of racing are freely available online. Paper copies incur a charge, presumably to cover the cost of printing

FROM THE SECRETARY:

Selling the Whiting

The Whiting 16' is now for sale. If interested or know anyone who may be, please ask them to contact Catherine.

P-class yachts needing a home

We have a small number of P-class dinghies that need a new home. Once again, as these are prepared for sale please let Catherine know if anyone you know may be interested

Sailors needing crew?

We have adults turning up (not necessarily with sailing knowledge) who would be keen to go out for a sail. If you would like to connect with these crew-in-waiting then get in touch with give Catherine so she knows where to refer them.