

COMMODORES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2021

Overview:

2021 was the club's second year of operating with COVID restrictions.

However, the year began on a very positive note:

On THUR, February the 11th, one of our founding members, Nancy, won the inaugural Irish Sailing Leadership Award. This was a brand new award to recognise leadership and vision. Nancy won the award for her long-term commitment to bringing sailing to the CITY and making sailing accessible to all.

The club's first sailing session of the year didn't take place until 24 APR in what was then known as 'LEVEL 5 restrictions with modifications'. This was a Saturday.

The following WED was already time to start up our Mid-week evening sessions.

Junior Sailing:

TUE 27 April, slots for our spring SUN Jr. coaching went live on our web-site and sold out with minutes. This proved to be a taste of things to come. Our Jr sailing program was hugely popular this year. Our Jr committee and Jr sailing coordinator, Martin, did an outstanding job managing all of this.

The following is a summary of The Jr sailing year:

- In the spring/early summer coaching courses we had 36 participants.
- During the summer courses we had approximately 215 students. Due to the popularity of these courses, some of these were repeat participants. So, after adjusting for the repeaters, the number of individuals that participated in the summer courses was about 152.
- In the late summer/early autumn courses we had 36 participants.
- On 03 September, we held the club's second ever Junior Regatta which saw 34 boats competing with about 46 participants.

Adult Sailing:

On our adult side of the club, headed up by Andreas, the following took place in 2021:

The Adult Programme offers two different training options:

1. The Coaching Programme
2. Adult Sailing for Beginners

The Coaching Program was for members only and ran from June - Mid August with 29 sessions which we conducted DURING our regular Saturday Club Sailing sessions. The total number of participants was between 35 - 40. As with the Jrs, some of these were repeaters.

For the Adult Beginners' Courses we had three courses one each in June, July and August with a total number of 28 Adult students. Each course ran over a four week period on Saturday mornings.

About 10 - 20% of these participants joined the club and became members.

Like the Jr courses, the adult courses were run at a financial surplus.

Gong to Galway, 26 JUN:

The annual Gong to Galway race is always a prominent event in the club's calendar. With the 3-in-a-row champion Yannick out of the picture due to a de-masting event and subsequent delays due to COVID restrictions, a NEW champion was guaranteed. Unlike the previous year when boats were buffeted by wind and rain, this year's 37 entrants had a chance to relax and admire the scenery. The overall winners were our club's very own Rob Talbot and Rian in a 420. Also of interest to our club is that Damian took third place in his Laser.

Power Boat Instructors:

The club also congratulates Paddy, Martin Roe and Dan for qualifying as Power Boat Instructors during the year.

Club Picnic/BBQ:

On the 10th of July, we took some time to reflect on the club's 10th anniversary when our PRO, Sharon, organised what turned out to be a VERY successful club picnic & BBQ. To help us celebrate this milestone, we invited the mayor, who duly obliged and gave a speech acknowledging the achievements of the club during it's first 10 years of existence. Under glorious sunshine we awarded the racing prizes from the previous year, since we were unable to hold our Christmas party, This was in addition to the winners of the regatta held on the day of the picnic itself. We also acknowledged Nancy's and Johnny's TEN YEARS of committed service to the club as a quasi joint 'Club Volunteers of The Decade'.

Grants:

This year turned out to be another successful year regarding grants, thanks mainly to Johnny. Again, Nancy's presentation will follow mine.

Committee:

I'd like to also thank the committee for all the work they put in over the year:

Nancy for looking after our funds as treasurer, and membership secretary.

Paul as Club secretary and Meeting secretary

Sharon as PRO and Safeguarding Liason Officer

John Hendley for looking after the club's IT needs

John McCole for taking over as Safety Officer

Fergal as Sailing Officer

Andreas as Safeguarding Children's Officer and Adult Training
Rian as Dinghy Maintenance Officer and Senior Instructor
Dan as windsurfing officer and for keeping the RIBs and Tractor
in excellent shape.

Damian as Race Officer,

Martin Roe as Jr sailing coordinator,

Paddy as I.S. centre principle

as well as

Johnny, Aideen, Nigel, Martin Oliver, Peter and Aiofa

The club also thanks GOSC, the Harbour Master and the Harbour
Board for continued use of their facilities and their support in
general.

Last year's prizes were sponsored by Elaine's Optique, Paddy and
John Hendley.

We were prevented AGAIN from having a Christmas party this year.
So last years racing prizes, which Johnny is keeping a guarded
secret, are still to be awarded at our next opportunity.

However, I have an award that I don't think can wait till then.
So, I'd like to conclude my report by announcing Galway City
Sailing Club's INAUGURAL 'Volunteer of the Year' for 2021.

Congratulations: MARTIN ROE!!!

Sincerely,
Kevin