

# YACHTING CLUB CERN

## Annual Report 2008



*You too, could find yourself an honoured guest on board Neptune next season. Photo: Sebastian Łopieński*

## Report of the Chairman on YCC activities in 2008

2008 Committee	
<i>Tomasz Ładziński</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Gijs de Rijk</i>	<i>Vice-President, Versoix matters</i>
<i>Johannes Gutleber</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Elena Gianolio</i>	<i>Secretary &amp; administration</i>
<i>Danielle Moraes</i>	<i>Social Activities and Shop</i>
<i>Haude Morel</i>	<i>Insurance</i>
<i>Michał Kwiatek</i>	<i>Match-Racing</i>
<i>Christian Mester</i>	<i>External Regattas</i>
<i>Sebastian Łopieński</i>	<i>Internal Regattas</i>
<i>Marco Silari</i>	<i>Courses, Practical and Teachers</i>
<i>Rob Veenhof</i>	<i>Courses, Enrolments, Lectures, Winter</i>
<i>Reiner Geyer</i>	<i>Dinghy and ED courses</i>
<i>John Fullerton</i>	<i>BA5, Dinghy Training</i>
<i>Stefano Fratianni</i>	<i>Windsurfing</i>
<i>Luca Canali</i>	<i>Cruise, IT support</i>
<i>Sascha Schmeling</i>	<i>Safety &amp; Q-Boat</i>
<i>Tim Hancox</i>	<i>Publications, Q-boat back-up, new members</i>
<i>Gennaro Ruggiero</i>	<i>Catamarans</i>
<i>Allain Gonidec</i>	<i>Maintenance Surprises</i>
<i>Chick Nichols</i>	<i>Honorary President</i>

A Fortieth Anniversary in any club is an important event, and we hope every Member of YCC not merely noticed ours - but took full advantage of the several special events we put together to mark it. The highlight, I think, was the very successful party in late summer at the UN Beach. We gambled on the weather, took it outdoors and were triumphantly proved right! Even Mont Blanc had a magical clearness and pinkness in the early part of the evening. An evening to remember, some 100 members, where everything came together. A fuller report is to be found a few pages on, but all our thanks to Danielle for having thought it up, masterminded it - and then dragged everyone on to the dance-floor!

The other big Fortieth event was the *Pogoria* cruise, which I will not comment on lengthily (since I was instrumental in bringing it about). It has also been written up extensively elsewhere: visit the Web! It was a happy juxtaposition of timing, ports of call and the Armada gathering in Rouen as a culminating highlight. We have been asked about a repeat cruise: yes, possibly, but not for a few seasons.

So, the Club is forty years young, to borrow a cliché, only this cliché draws attention to a very happy phenomenon that we discern: the average age of members does seem to be dropping, which we hope predicts a long-lasting and experienced membership. The nay-sayers will point out that all those young people will leave "when they have finished their degree", but they are among the most active at the moment, so let us all work together.

Reports on individual boats in the fleet and activities follow but I will mention our successful - and ongoing - rejuvenation of the fleet: a dinghy of course and a new catamaran, but experience is now showing that the relatively expensive purchase of the *GibSea*, was justified. She is taken out a lot, with many people on board, many skippers have passed their test, and she is a useful "holdall" on Thursdays: people are rarely left without a chance to sail!

If my report is shorter than in the previous years, it reflects my absence from Versoix for most of the season. Yes, professional workload this year has not permitted me and some other Committee members to be as active as we would have liked to be. Many thanks therefore to those that could devote more of their time to compensate for the absentees, often bringing new ideas! I especially liked the new Regatta Training introduced by Michał for the Surprises and Jan Fiete for the Dinghies. The best proof that if you feel the Club lacks a certain activity, you should try launching it!

Tomasz

## 2008 YCC Internal Regatta Championship

Best Dinghy Skipper

John Fullerton

....

Best Dinghy Crew

Sarah Fullerton

....

Best Keel-boat Skipper

Michał Kwiatek

....



*Some inconsistency in direction, which buoy shall we round next? .... Photo: John Fullerton*

## Members Statistics

(Elena Gianolio)

Members	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Active</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>261</b>
<i>Active (new)</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>54</i>
<b>Junior</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>
<i>Junior (new)</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>4</i>
<b>Temporary</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Honorary</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Friends</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>297</b>

Occupational Group	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
CERN	139	138	140	147	134	129	141	148
Extra-CERN	92	109	127	122	120	129	119	120
CERN-related	32	30	37	31	30	30	29	29
Preferred Language								
English	142	164	180	179	176	179	183	204
French	121	113	124	121	108	109	106	93

Country of Origin	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Armenia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Australia	1	1	1	2	1	4	1	2
Austria	10	10	10	13	15	12	15	16
Belgium	6	3	2	3	4	2	5	2
Brazil	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Canada	3	4	3	2	3	5	4	2
Chile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Croatia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Czech Rep.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Denmark	2	3	1	3	2	3	4	4
Ecuador	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Egypt	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-
Finland	-	-	1	2	3	3	3	4
France	33	31	35	37	30	36	38	35
Germany	47	48	49	45	38	41	33	37
Greece	1	3	3	5	3	4	7	3
Hungary	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	2
Iran	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
Ireland	1	1	2	1	1	-	2	3
Italy	45	56	65	57	59	52	46	51
Japan	1	1	1	2	1	1	-	-
Korea	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Lithuania	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malta	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Mexico	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	2
Netherlands	13	8	11	11	9	9	13	15
Norway	3	3	4	5	4	3	4	-
Poland	4	10	11	12	14	14	14	19
Portugal	10	3	5	6	7	9	11	9
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Russia	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	4
Slovenia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Solomon Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
South Africa	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	16	17	14	13	13	12	11	18
Sweden	2	3	7	8	4	3	6	4
Switzerland	39	37	40	38	34	35	27	24
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
United Kingdom	18	23	24	22	23	23	29	28
USA	5	9	8	8	6	7	5	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>297</b>

## Our Boats

### The YCC dinghies in 2008

(John Fullerton)

The start of the sailing season got off to a very good one and continued to do so until the middle. All the dinghy courses were finished by mid-July when the Tuesday training sessions commenced. A majority of these took place except for some sessions due to lack of wind or too much! Unfortunately, the season for dinghies seems to finish earlier than normal this year, due to the weather turning against us.

Despite the latter, the last regatta was the exception to the end of season weather with a high turnout of dinghies, as many as 7 boats registered including 2 private boats. The day started with a thick layer of mist over the lake and no signs of the forecasted SW wind, however this changed during the afternoon when the sun burst through. This season saw generally a higher participation rate of the dinghies in the monthly regattas which was very pleasing and can be partly attributed to the extra Regatta training given by Jan Grosse-Oetringhaus.

A new web site was introduced which was used to diffuse the YCC dinghy events, having a more modern approach in style. With it came new email lists, which worked very well allowing updated information to be sent out on a variety of matters linked to dinghy sailing.

In May the new RS500 arrived, this was to replace the remaining 470; it is about the same size and weight of the laser 2, but with 14% more upwind and 48% downwind sail area. It looks very impressive on the water with its black gennacker. It has become a very popular intermediary boat.

For next year we are not planning to upgrade a dinghy, but to overhaul the condition of our current ones. So there will be some new sails for the ISO, RS400 and new trolleys for the Lasers.



*Among our older boats, a well sailed Laser (apart from the helmsman's lack of concentration).*

*Photo: John Fullerton*

## The new arrival (SL16 catamaran)

(Marleen van Nes)

Last year it was decided that the least sea-worthy *Mystère* was to be replaced by something easier to handle, lighter, more advanced and in general more cool to sail. After long deliberations and many heated discussions in person and by email it was finally decided that the SL 16 would be bought and made ready for the season 2007-2008. She has been named *Catapult*, although the name-stickers still need to be stuck on.

**It is clear from the 'boat use' record and from the sailors' comments that the boat is a success!** The boat is light and dynamic and fully equipped with an easily flown spinnaker, as the club has wisely opted for the snuffer system (this is the spinnaker bag attached to the pole) making your spinnaker hoist easy regardless of which tack you are on and where you last lowered the spinnaker. Also the snuffer avoids having a big bag on the trampoline which otherwise makes tacking for the crew-member a hurdle rather than a joy.

Don't be afraid of the name *Catapult*, it has become apparent that capsizing her by accident is not so easy, due to the shape of her hull, with quite a lot of volume in the middle and front. But do also remember capsizing is part of the game and after all only shows that you are trying to find your limits, it is really easy to right our *Catapult*, as she is light in design; it can even be done by one (relatively heavy) member of the crew.

As the boat is only 16 feet we have to admit that the best crew weight is between 120-140 kg, in order to obtain max speed and max fun. It is clear that the boat is easily sailed even in higher wind conditions, double trapezing. As there are no dagger boards she needs the so-called fins under her hull to keep her on the straight and narrow. For our club use, in and out of the channel, this is particularly easy.

We hope that the light weight of the boat and the easy rigging and sailing will help some of the new(er) sailors in the club to overcome their fears (especially as these fears are based on myths and not on facts) and come out for some fun on *Catapult* next season!

Some specifications for those interested:

Builder : SIRENA

Overall length : 4.80 m Beam : 2.32 m

Windward sail area : 17.50 m<sup>2</sup>

Downwind sail area : 34.50 m<sup>2</sup>

Mainsail area : 13.75 m<sup>2</sup>

Jib area : 3.75 m<sup>2</sup>

Spinnaker area : 17 m<sup>2</sup>

Mast height : 8.06 m

Weight : 145 kg

For the careful reader indeed 17.5 m<sup>2</sup> seems to big to be sailed without a *Permis du lac*, but please note that according to Swiss regulations, the sail area is actually calculated by the following formula: boom length \* mast length / 2, which makes the sail area fall well within the limits for the *Permis du lac*, thankfully.

In view of the success of the SL 16 as replacement for the *Mystère* the Club's catamaran team hopes that there will be enough funds to allow for replacement of the other *Mystère* perhaps by a (slightly) bigger high performance boat soon.

For any questions please don't hesitate to contact us, your faithful catamaran team

## GibSea 264

(Tim Hancox)

Our GibSea, Gipsy, has become a deservedly popular member of the fleet: she has capacity for crew, which is appreciable, is very safe in most conditions we encounter, and has that sometimes inestimable advantage - a motor... Nothing specific to report this season really: she did have a bad start to the season (and her classes) since the rising keel declined to rise. Repairs were actually fairly complicated and necessitated manufacturing a piece from scratch - many thanks Ludwig, in charge of her maintenance, and helpers.

Gipsy is currently scheduled for some TLC this winter: finally sorting out the night-time lighting circuits, some internal stuff, and a couple of new sail covers, probably - tribute, we claim, to a lot of enjoyable use rather than abuse!



*ResQ in action; last year's drooping fender needs attention again. Photo: John Fullerton*

## Rearranged moorings

We reported last year on this, and nothing has changed since - including our urgent need for a better place for ResQ: see elsewhere for annual consumption of propellers, which are expensive items. The Committee has more or less mandated a couple of key people to keep an eye on Port Choiseul, seeking either a mooring place-with-a-wreck or a potentially usable Club boat: yes, if the right second-hand boat offered herself, your Committee is willing to consider enlarging the fleet - but at least finding a better all-season place for ResQ.

## Surprises

(Allain Gonidec)

During the winter 2007-2008 maintenance was carried out on Mic Mac with the following activities:

- replacement of the rubbing strip all round the boat,
- installation of a circuit breaker, insulated contact on the battery and protection on top of the battery,
- checking the electrical circuit,
- installing the missing wooden panel inside,
- securing the motor support mechanism,
- overhauling the porthole watertightness with "Sikaflex",
- the sealing of the front deck portlight was redone,
- repairing the rear pulpit,
- antifouling,
- replacement of some of the halyards.

During the season I had to repair the front pulpit three times on the two Surprises! And we had to replace the mast light connector on the deck. Apart from these more time-consuming jobs, only minor repairs (mainly sail repairs) were required. I had foreseen the replacement of the seals on the deck hatch; the seal is there, but it is not done yet.

During the winter 2008-2009 it is Miss Match's turn to go to BA5.



*Our Q-Boat busily heads into the sunset. Photo John Fullerton*

## Surveillance

Nothing particular needs to be reported for our Q-boat, ResQ, this season. She continues valiantly to fulfil her role, very reliably considering how much she is called out. Our biggest concern was both a shortage of drivers and a shortage - perhaps - of those willing to undertake skippering a regatta. We have taken steps to correct the first problem and already the results are starting to show, but we would feel better covered with "a few" more drivers. It was comparatively easy to find skippers for the evening outings, although there were many of them. See elsewhere for the biggest problem: better, less damage-prone moorings!

## Pogoria Cruise

We threatened you exactly a year ago that the rumoured cruise on the Polish three-masted Tall Ship STS (Sail Training Ship) Pogoria would not happen unless we had some rapid expressions of interest. We did, and a lot of hard work by our Polish members resulted in this once-in-a-lifetime experience really happening. It feels a long time ago, but the memories, the learning, the jokes, the happy atmosphere will long remain in the memories of the 29 enthusiastic Club members, ending with the final highlight: a presence at the Rouen Armada of some forty Tall Ships - <http://www.armada.org/> for more detail. Pogoria was a proud participant (our crew t-shirt even got some a free cruise up the river!), crewed half by physicists from Warsaw University, and two-quarters by different YCC members, some one week, some both: 29 crew (49 altogether, including five permanent crew and Captain Adam Jasser who is something of a legend in his own right).

The cruise was two weeks, but it was possible to go for either one, only. Both were memorable but Lisbon to Brest was unlucky with heavy Atlantic swells and headwinds which meant sailing was reduced, with a long distance to cover in just one week. Then at Brest, some of that crew left, more joined, and we sailed and motored from Brest to St Malo to Cherbourg, anchored off Le Havre with several other beautiful ships, and then steamed in a triumphant convoy up-River Seine to Rouen.

Several YCC members had sailed Pogoria before and Sebastian was an officer. They all told us exactly what to expect and were right (like, no privacy for honeymooners, food substantial but limited by catering for fifty in a very limited space, a certain discipline - which we confirmed necessary, and gently handled anyway). On-board rules were entirely sensible and ranged from wearing harness above deck and at night, all the time (except when actually helming, where you are encased into a rope support) to Do Not sit at the officers' table!



*Not all of us made it to this vantage- point, while at sea... Photo Sebastian Łopieński*

We have already told you all about the Man overboards, two of them, the quality of St Malo restaurants, climbing that mast, and how surprisingly cold it can be at two bells of the forenoon watch: revisit our website if you wish to recall the detail.



*Not all of us made it to this photo-shoot either! Photo Peter Kelemen*

## **Croatia Cruise**

(Luca Canali)

2008 saw the second edition of the YCC “do it yourself cruise”. Similarly to the 2007 cruise, participants were involved in all stages of the organisation, from choosing the destination, chartering the boat, arranging flight connections, and ordering charts and cruise material. Moreover lessons were organized for the cruising beginners on navigation, signals and chart reading.

The chosen destination was the Croatian islands and two boats were chartered: Gorki, a 37 feet Salona (a surprisingly good local make), and Reni, a 32 feet Oceanis. Finally both boats managed to sail about 250 miles in the unpredictable, but highly enjoyed, early summer weather, sailing north to the Kornati Islands national park and back to the departure point in Split. For a full report please see:

<http://yachting.web.cern.ch/yachting/cruise/pastCruises.html>

## Match Races

(Michal Kwiatek)

Match Racing is a fiesta of duels - at any given moment only two teams compete against each other. This makes it spectacular to watch and great fun to take part in! YCC Match Races are competitive, but friendly. We make a special effort to explain everything to everyone, so both experts and beginners are very welcome. Experience shows that the last couple of weeks before each event are very busy - teams tend to train for these events and the boats are overbooked. So it's good to think ahead, create a team and start getting ready for the next edition!

In 2008 we had a very exciting Yngling Match Race run in solid force 5. One faithful spectator actually described it as the best YCC event of the year! We certainly had more fun than the Geneva Lake giants, the D35 catamarans. The results, including the animations of all matches based on the GPS tracks recorded during the races are available at <http://www.cern.ch/yachting/matchRace>.

In June 2009 we will again organise the Surprise Match Race, which is a great occasion to practice before the Bol d'Or and the Semaine du Soir in Versoix. The best YCC skippers are getting ready for it and they need dedicated crew members! Later in the season, we will run the Dinghy-Yngling Match Race, which leaves newcomers and course participants enough of time to train and create a team. And the learning benefit of the Match Race is enormous!



*Now has the Yngling skipper noticed the wall? Photo: John Fullerton*

## YCC Internal Regattas

(Sebastian Łopieński)

There were 8 YCC internal regattas planned for this season. The calendar was quite usual – the Monthly regattas (from April to October) and two additional events: one for dinghies and catamarans only (the Traversée du Lac in June) and one for keelboats (Versoix-Founex race). It is worth noting that, as in previous years, some of the monthly regattas have special formulas. The very popular Drag race (Monthly regatta in September), for example, is a series of eight to twelve very short races (50-100 m.), where obviously a good start is crucial. Monthly regatta in August is quite the opposite – there is just one race lasting 3 hours, during which boats try to complete as many laps as possible (hence the name: 3-heures de Versoix).

Unfortunately, two of the planned events had to be cancelled: the Drag race (because of a complete lack of wind) and the Versoix-Founex race (because we could find neither an organizer, nor a Q-Boat skipper for this event). While as sailors we well know that we depend on the wind and weather, the latter case is more regrettable. The club depends on its members, and club activities – including regattas – will only be as good and lively as we all make them with our work. Please think about it next season!



photo: John Fullerton

Catamarans, both club's and private's, are more and more popular

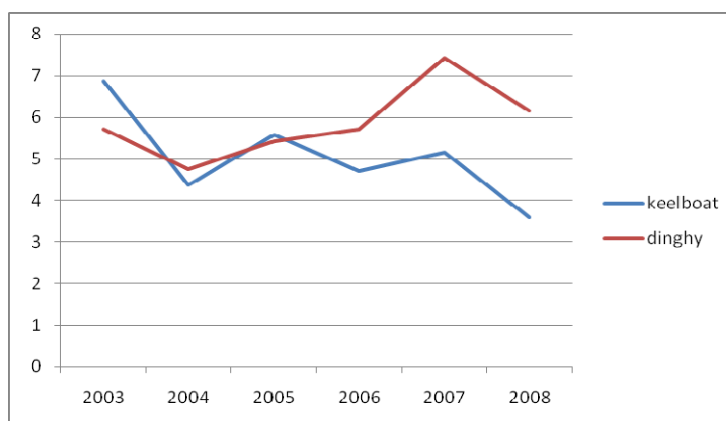
Nevertheless we managed to have 6 regattas. As every year, we have had days with great wind, and days were boats hardly moved, or stopped still when racing. The racing season was long: from mid April to mid October (with the last regatta being almost pure-dinghy event despite cold weather!), active, and exciting (except, of course, for little-wind days...). And good news: there were no major collisions or accidents.

Regatta participation in 2008 was lower than before – only partially because there were effectively 6 events instead of usual 8 or 9. On the positive note, dinghy category is still very dynamic, with a number of regular regatta participants as well as some new faces that came this year.

Regatta participation, since 2003  
(K – keelboats, D – dinghies)

2003			2004			2005			2006			2007			2008		
K	D	K+D	K	D	K+D	K	D	K+D	K	D	K+D	K	D	K+D	K	D	K+D
8	6	14	4	3	7	8	5	13	4	4	8	cancelled			4	3	7
8	4	12	3	3	6	6	4	10	5	4	9	5	6	11	4	6	10
-	10	10	-	10	10	-	7	7	cancelled			6	8	14	-	8	8
7	7	14	3	3	6	2	5	7	-	8	8	-	9	9	3	5	8
3	4	7	6	3	9	3	5	8	2	7	9	5	9	14	6	8	14
7	-	7	5	-	5	6	-	6	5	5	10	5	7	12	cancelled		
cancelled			5	4	9	6	8	14	7	-	7	6	-	6	cancelled		
4	5	9	6	8	14	cancelled			5	5	10	4	6	10	1	7	8
11	4	15	3	4	7	8	4	12	5	7	12	5	7	12			
<b>48</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>55</b>

Average number of boats per regatta, since 2003



This year we've again tried (and managed!) to get the regular regatta participants involved in the organization of the races. Thanks go to Jose Luis Gomez Costa, Christian Mester, Michał Ropka, Sarah and John Fullerton, Marco Benvenuti, Luca Canali and Maciej Stępniewski for running monthly regattas – and to Tim Hancox, Yvonne Rogers, Gijs de Rijk, Guy Bezou and Manfred Willenbrock for skippering the Q-Boat during these events.

There was a change in the Notice of Race introduced this season: instead of all regatta results, only the best three results counted for the YCC Championship. The idea behind the change was to encourage more sailors to fight for the Championship. Previously, the more regattas you participated in, the more points you collected – which potentially disfavored good sailor who couldn't come every month. This year you could win the Championship by winning or performing well in just three events during the season. It is hard to say whether it helped to boost interest in club regattas – I hope it did at least to some extent.

Below are the results of the YCC Championship 2008. Congratulations to the winners: John Fullerton in dinghy skippers category, Sarah Fullerton in dinghy crew and Michał Kwiatek (third year in a row!) in keelboat skippers. And a hint for people who want to take their places next year: of course you have to race well, but not necessarily each time – three times during the season is enough! So don't get discouraged even if during the first, Opening Regatta you just can't get the feel of the wind yet.

Last but not least, thank you to all regatta participants – and I hope to see you even more numerous next season. (Find regatta results, pictures and descriptions at <http://cern.ch/yachting/Internal/Welcome-2008.html>)

YCC Championship 2008 results  
(first 10 places)

dinghy skipper			dinghy crew			keelboat skipper		
#	name	points	#	name	points	#	name	points
1	<b>John Fullerton</b>	<b>34.7</b>	1	<b>Sarah Fullerton</b>	<b>36.4</b>	1	<b>Michal Kwiatek</b>	<b>24.7</b>
2	Alessandro Cerri	29.7	2	Giulio Usai	29.7	2	Sebastian Lopienski	23
3	Angelika Lippitsch	27.7	3	Andrea Messina	23	3	Aaron Dominguez	13
4	Jonathan Cook	24.7	4	Alexander Koschik	16	4	Nick Ziogas	13
5	Reiner Geyer	23	5	Ricardo Goncalo	15.7	5	Paulo Campos	13
6	Marleen van Nes	21	6	Mario Campanelli	13	6	Giovanni Cervelli	11.7
7	Enrico Bravin	18.7	7	Alex Cerri	13	7	Valerie	11.7
8	Luca Canali	16	8	Michael Adams	13	8	Luca Canali	11.7
9	Jan Fiete Grosse	15.7	9	Bartek Pawlowski	11.7	9	Veronique Gomez-Costa	10
10	Andrea Messina	14	10	Jane Frost	11.7	10	Paul Smith	10



*Again, some disagreement as to why the buoy is there? Which way round? Photo: John Fullerton*

## External Regattas

(Christian Mester)

This year, the participation in external regattas was affected by some competing activities, mainly the Pogoria cruise, and high work loads at CERN. Nevertheless, the level of activity was reasonable. Finding skippers has often been problematic. Regatta training has been organized by Michal and Luca for the Surprise and Jan-Fiete for the dinghies. Regattas seem to be perceived as an activity for expert skippers only. Hopefully, the training will help changing this idea and motivate more sailors to participate.



*How to look good - and possibly win the regatta too Photo: John Fullerton*

The season started early with the set of "Hivernal" regattas from December to April. One of our Surprises, Mic Mac, joined in the Genève-Rolle-Genève race. Immediately before the Pogoria cruise and just after the DIY cruise, none of your Surprises took part in the Bol d'Or, mainly due to skipper shortage. The CNV-organized Semaine du Soir has been a good and well accepted opportunity for our dinghy students to have a first external regatta during the courses. Both our Surprises joined as well. These regattas are particularly suitable for beginners, as they do not involve boat transport and sailing in unknown parts of the lake. Mic Mac has taken part in all races of the Semaine du Soir in Founex and finished 18th of 34 in the 6 Heures de Nernier.

The next races to come are the Escalade on 22/23 November, and the Critérium Hivernal on Saturdays 8 November, 31 January, 28 February and 28 March. There are still some places available!

## External regattas bis - Lac de Joux

(Angelika Lippitsch)

The new YCC dinghy RS500, Rising Star, had her first participation in an external regatta this year in the biggest dinghy regatta of Switzerland - the 42nd Bol d'Or on Lac de Joux which took place on August 23 and 24 this year. Her crew Angelika Lippitsch and Alexander Koschik are very grateful to Sarah and John Fullerton who helped them tow the YCC RS500 up the Jura mountains in addition to their own RS400 to take part in the race.

The welcome at Lac de Joux was very icy, but only for meteorological reasons, as it was 2°C when we arrived Saturday morning. But the very warm welcome of the organizing club's committee and the other many dinghy and catamaran sailing enthusiasts made all but up for the cold and early morning start.

The major regatta on Sunday again saw this year big participation, with 60 dinghies and 38 catamarans. New for this year was the addition of a third class of boats - the 'Flying Months' with 12 boats attending, an impressive number for this new and rapidly growing class. Once you see these boats out on the water buzzing by on their hydrofoils you can get an idea of the thrill and excitement they are stirring.

Unfortunately, the start of the race saw very low wind, and the fight up to the upwind mark at the other end of the lake for more than three hours was very hard work. Only once the leading boats had rounded the mark did the wind start to pick up and the change in wind and 'sailing mode' resulted in quite some close boat-to-boat encounters.

For the 2nd leg the wind established to a nice 2-3Bft. But everybody was happy to see that the race course had been shortened and that no 2nd lap had to be sailed. Some battles were fought out coming up to the finish line but all under a very friendly and sportsmanship style.

In total the RS500 and her crew came 33rd out of 60 dinghies in this handicap race. Sarah and John Fullerton on 'Babe' finished 45th.



*Fun on the Lac de Joux with YCC participation Photo: John Fullerton*

## Courses and tests

Marco Silari and Rob Veenhof

The lottery for attributing the places to the sailing classes was held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2008. A total of 73 places were available against 172 applications. Of these, 90 had a CERN email address, 10 had an address in a UN agency and 72 had other addresses; 66 live in France, 92 in Switzerland and 14 elsewhere. As in the past, applicants could express up to three choices; the rule introduced in 2006 to heavily weigh the first choice was maintained as it has proved successful. As usual the dinghy and Yngling classes were the most popular, and only about 30% and 25% of the people who applied for the D and Y courses as their first choice, respectively, obtained a place. People applying for the other courses were much luckier and most of the applicants could secure a place on the course of their choice. Finally 10 students could be accommodated in the ED (advanced dinghy) course, 17 in the Y course, while the SU and CK classes were requested by 8 and 14 people respectively. The latter number is unusually high, probably because of the new CK boat, the GibSea. Finally all 73 places available in the sailing classes were filled (slightly higher than the 70 students we had in the years 2005 – 2007). The table below summarises the courses along with the prerequisites, the number of places available in each course and the number of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> + 3<sup>rd</sup> choice applications.

Course	Prerequisite	1 <sup>st</sup> choice applicants	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> choice applicants	Places available
Windsurfing (W)	–	15	64	6
Dinghy (D)	–	51	63	16
Advanced dinghy (ED)	D	8	11	10
Catamaran (C)	D or Y	8	9	8
Yngling (Y)	–	68	56	17
Surprise (SU)	Y + any other	8	4	8
Cabin keel-boat (GS)	Y	14	5	8

To try to solve the recurrent problem of lack of sufficient crew for Q-boat surveillance shifts, people who wanted to take a test and obtain a licence, whether or not they followed a course, had to take two Q-boat shifts (rather than one as in the past). As before, the first shift by the students was attributed ex-officio by the course coordinators, so that the start of the season was well covered. Towards the end of the season, there was a shortage of shifts for new members joining late in the season, and these people performed alternative tasks.

The theory classes started on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April and continued until the end of May. The Y and SU courses started the first week in May, whilst the GS course had to start late because of a problem with the keel lifting-mechanism which occurred in the beginning of the season. The dinghy and catamaran courses started in mid-May and windsurf in the beginning of June. There were no major problems with the boats and all courses could be run more or less to schedule. Like before 2007, 8 catamaran places were offered. The organization of the dinghy courses followed the scheme introduced in 2005 and confirmed the past years, in which each student was paired to a teacher. The First 25 was replaced by the GibSea for the CK course (now named GS).

The Thursday practice sessions were well attended and many students took advantage of getting extra training and improving their skills before taking their test. Nine dinghy training sessions took place on Tuesdays with a lot of success and video feedback. In addition, several dinghy training sessions were organised on the weekend, with a lot of success. Hopefully, this will continue in 2009!

The role of test coordinator – one per licence – introduced last year was maintained. The duty of the test coordinator was to appoint an examiner, receive the recommendation of the examiner after the test (supported by a written report), check that the person fulfilled the other requirements (like holding the prerequisite licences and having taken the Q-boat shifts) and finally ask Elena Gianolio or Marco Silari to register the licence. The tool set-up last year by Enrico Bravin to keep track of the tests proved very useful: the examiner fills a short report via a web interface, and the report is automatically sent to the test coordinator, Marco and Elena (as well as to the person tested).

The two tables below present: 1) a summary of the licences obtained this year as compared with the three previous years and 2) the fraction of the students who passed their test at the end of the course, again compared with the same data for the years 2005 – 2007. Out of 73 students this year only 29 (40%) obtained a licence for the course they have followed, dropping back to statistics similar to those of 2005 and 2006, after the remarkable peak experienced in 2007 (60%).

	W	EW	D	ED	C	Y	SU	CK	M	GS	Total
2008	4	–	18	3	4	30	6	(a)	5	7 (b)	77
2007	11	2	20	7	3	28	5	0	8	18	102
2006	12	3	14	3	1	20	7	3	2	–	65
2005	3	1	16	6	5	16	8	6	–	–	61

(a) In 2008 the CK licence has been replaced by the GS licence

(b) Include one licence still to be officially registered (waiting for the national licence to be transferred to Switzerland)

Course	W+EW (a)	D	ED	C	Y	SU	GS (b)	Total
Number of students	6	16	10	8	17	8	8	73
Test passed	3	10	1	2	10	3	0	29
Fraction 2008	0.5	0.63	0.1	0.25	0.59	0.38	0	0.40
Fraction 2007	0.59	0.75	0.44	0.25	0.65	0.75	0	0.60
Fraction 2006	0.39	0.5	0.33	0	0.53	0.25	0	0.36
Fraction 2005	0.11	0.26	–	0.37	0.60	0.50	0.37	0.34

(a) No EW courses in 2008

(b) CK licence in 2005 – 2007

The total number of licences attributed this year is higher than in 2005 and 2006, but much lower than in the past season. However, the exceptional number of licences in 2007 was partly due to the introduction of the GS licence for the Gib Sea, as the 18 GS licences were attributed via a fast-track mechanism to people who already held a CK licence plus had quite some experience with keelboat sailing. This season all GS licences were obtained by passing a “real” test. Considering the remarkable drop in the W+EW licences due to the reduced number of places offered for windsurfing this year, the 77 licences attributed this season can be regarded as quite a success! It is interesting to note the relatively low number of SU and GS students who obtained the licence after the course (3 out of 8 and zero out of 8, respectively!), which indicates that – unless the person has previous keelboat sailing experience – usually quite some extra training is needed after the course on these boats before being able to successfully skipper them.

As usual, the success of the courses owes a lot to the dedication of Sascha Schmeling and of the Q-boat key holders who ensured the necessary surveillance, particularly important for the W, D, ED and C classes. The Q-boat teams ran a total of 92 surveillance shifts throughout the season: 40 for the courses, 21 for the Thursday practices, 21 for the internal regattas, 9 for the dinghy training sessions and one for preparation for a match race. The people responsible for maintenance of the boats also deserve a big thank-you, as this task is fundamental for the smooth running of the courses: Stefano Fratianni for windsurf, Reiner Geyer for the dinghies, Gennaro Ruggiero for the catamarans, Tim Hancox and Gijs de Rijk for the Ynglings, Allain Gonidec and Rob Veenhof for the Surprises.

Last but not least: no course could have taken place without the organisational effort of the course coordinators and the several teachers who dedicated many hours to the outings and very often also acted as examiners (but never for their own students!). Course and test coordinators, teachers and examiners are listed in the table below. The theory classes were given by Enrico Bravin, Michel Cornevin, Stefano Fratianni, Reiner Geyer, Sebastian Lopienski, Gennaro Ruggiero and Rob Veenhof.

Course	Course coordinator	Test coordinator	Teachers	Examiners
Windsurfing (W)	S. Fratianni	S. Fratianni	T. Boileau, F. Corsanego, S. Fratianni	T. Boileau, F. Corsanego, S. Fratianni
Dinghies (D)	Reiner Geyer	M. Campanelli R. Geyer	F. Bertinelli, L. Canali, A. Cerri, P. Moreira, B. Pawlowski, S. Poetscher, P. Smith, J. Spanggaard, G. Walder	M. Campanelli, R. Geyer
Advanced dinghies (ED)	R. Geyer	M. Campanelli R. Geyer	T. Boileau, R. Geyer, J. Fiete Grosse-Oetringhaus, J. Spanggaard	M. Campanelli, R. Geyer
Catamarans (C)	G. Ruggiero	G. Ruggiero	A. Fabich, J. Fullerton, H. Richard, M. van Nes	G. Ruggiero
Yngling (Y)	R. Veenhof	R. Veenhof	M. Chevallier, M. Cornevin, T. Hancox, T. Klioutchnikova, S. Maurin, D. Moraes, Y. Rogers, A. Rouzeaud, J. Vasic, R. Veenhof, T. Wegelius	M. Chevallier, M. Cornevin, T. Hancox, T. Klioutchnikova, S. Maurin, D. Moraes, Y. Rogers, A. Rouzeaud, M. Silari, J. Vasic, R. Veenhof, T. Wegelius
Surprise (SU)	T. Layda	T. Layda	P. Aspell, T. Layda, N. Ziogas	P. Aspell, T. Layda, R. Veenhof
Gib Sea (GS)	S. Schmeling	S. Schmeling	T. Hancox, G. de Rijk, S. Schmeling	T. Hancox, G. de Rijk, S. Schmeling, S. Vascotto
Q-boat	S. Schmeling	S. Schmeling		T. Hancox, S. Schmeling



*Some of the younger students this year: at least the teacher is alert!*

*Photo: John Fullerton*

## YCC Social activities and Shop

(Danielle Moraes)

2008 was a very important year for the YCC Social Events. Overall this year we celebrated the club's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The 2008 social season started with the rigging and launching of our fleet on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of April. It was a beautiful day in Port Choiseul harbour and we had the presence of about 35 members. The rigging went very smoothly and we did have the chance to chat and enjoy a nice cup of coffee and croissant by the lake side. On the following weekend (19<sup>th</sup> of April), after the opening regatta we enjoyed a nice meal in Port Choiseul during the Opening Dinner.

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, the new members of the club were welcomed by our president at the "other end" of Port Choiseul where they had the opportunity to listen to a pleasant speech and meet the club Committee, while sharing a glass.

Since the year started with many motivated members, we brought around the "Get Together Dinners" every odd Thursday after the evening practice at the Buvette. Even on a very rainy night, the Buvette was populated with enthusiastic sailors that shared their experience and enjoyed a good moment around a dish kindly prepared by Suzanne.

Given the fact that our club runs thanks to volunteers, time has come to THANK them for their efforts and time they have provided to the club. On this occasion we enjoyed a gorgeous outing on board *La Neptune*. I have to say that we were exceptionally lucky with the weather and we sailed on this lovely boat with a light wind and a wonderful sunset. Not mentioning the cocktail on board, of course!



*Photo: Michal Kwiatek*

Our Social season came to its apex on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of August with the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party. In the company of more than 100 members we had a good time on the terrace of the UN Beach. A beach party with warm weather, generous drinks, barbecue and music to dance the night away! Yes! Over 100 past and present members had the privilege to listen to our honorary president, Chick Nichols, sing few funny songs.

Frankly, as Tim mentioned before, the one thing we *know* we got wrong was that we never thought to record it for posterity. *Never mind if you missed it, there will be another in 40 years!*

The sailing season came to an end on Saturday 18th October when we took the boats out of the harbour to put them safe for the winter. Once more we were very lucky with the weather and could enjoy a beautiful sunny morning to meet the members and talk about the season's events around a table with plenty of snacks and refreshments.

The sailing season came to an end, but the Social activities are still alive. I hope you had all enjoyed the social events this year and I look forward to see you at the Closing Dinner!

For further details please visit the webpage

[http://yachting.web.cern.ch/yachting/social\\_activities/](http://yachting.web.cern.ch/yachting/social_activities/)



*A wintry launch ramp at end of season, and two friends we have watched from the eggshell to almost-adulthood*

*Photo: Nina Ingenkamp*

## Reservations and key systems

(Enrico Bravin)

There are no problems worth mentioning this year as the computer worked very reliably during the season.

Apart from regulating the distribution of the keys, the electronic system allows to make statistics of the usage of the boats.

In the following tables and plots you will find some statistics of the reservations system and also of boats usage, it is not always possible to identify the real nature of the records so the presented numbers contain errors.

### Reservations in 2008

(From the data in the database)

#### Reservations usage

\*Number of times a reservation existed and a boat has been taken by that person (+/- 3 hours from the time of the reservation)

<b>Reserved boat</b>	473
<b>Other than reserved boat</b>	36
<b>Did not sail</b>	303

#### Reservations by Period

Period	Reservations	Deleted
<b>8:12</b>	50	29
<b>12:15</b>	152	96
<b>15:18</b>	313	183
<b>18:20</b>	297	190

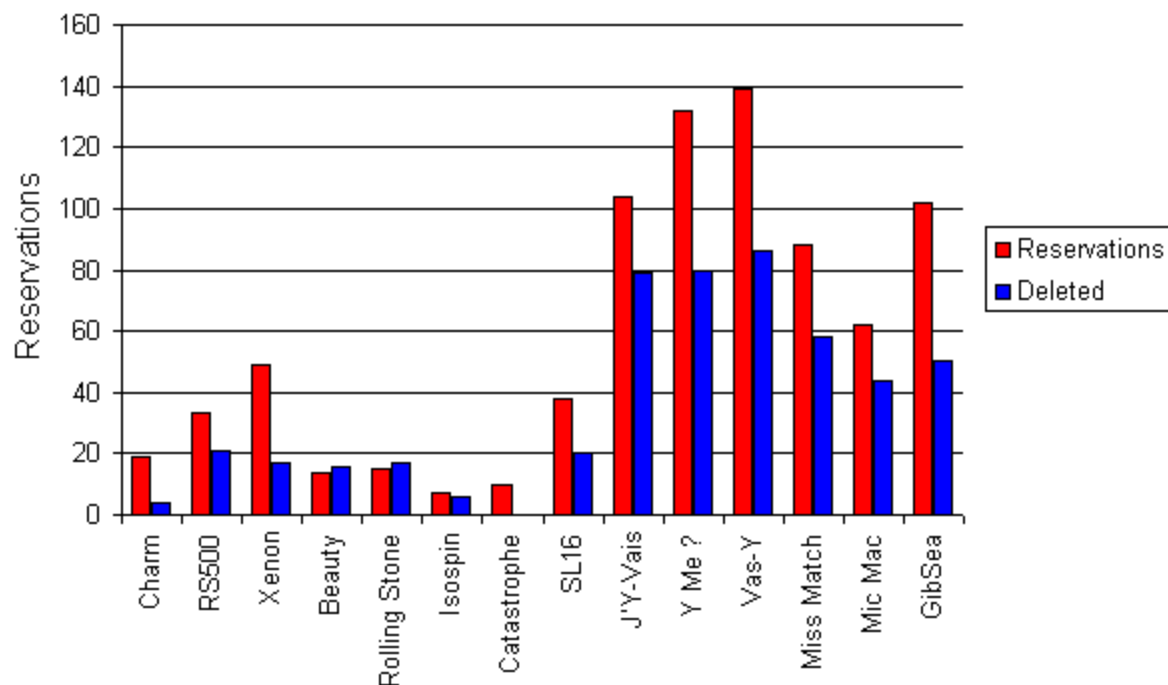
#### Reservations by Boat

	Reservations	Deleted	Administrator	Administrator Deleted	Out of Service (days)
<b>Charm</b>	19	4	66	14	0
<b>RS500</b>	33	21	71	5	25
<b>Xenon</b>	49	17	64	7	1
<b>Beauty</b>	14	16	67	7	0
<b>Rolling Stone</b>	15	17	56	5	0
<b>Isospin</b>	7	6	55	5	0
<b>Catastrophe</b>	10	0	40	21	28
<b>SL16</b>	38	20	78	28	6
<b>J'Y-Vais</b>	104	79	89	17	0
<b>Y Me ?</b>	132	80	78	17	0
<b>Vas-Y</b>	139	86	59	11	0
<b>Miss Match</b>	88	58	97	126	1
<b>Mic Mac</b>	62	44	103	70	19
<b>GibSea</b>	102	50	58	23	20

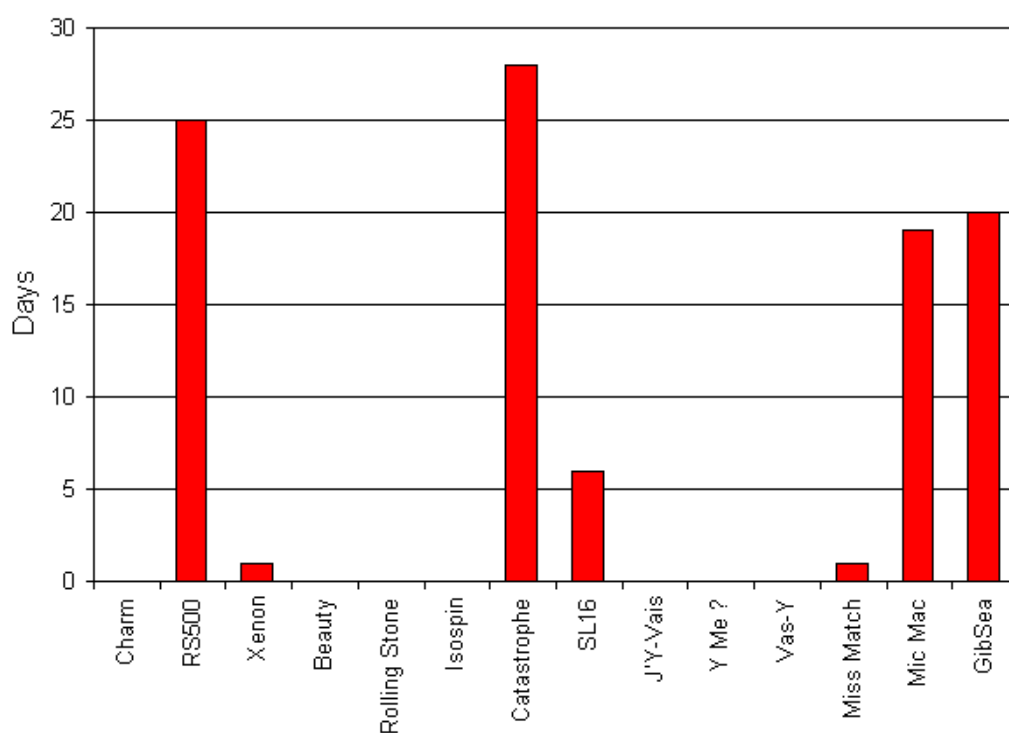
## Reservations in 2008

continued

### Reservations by Boat



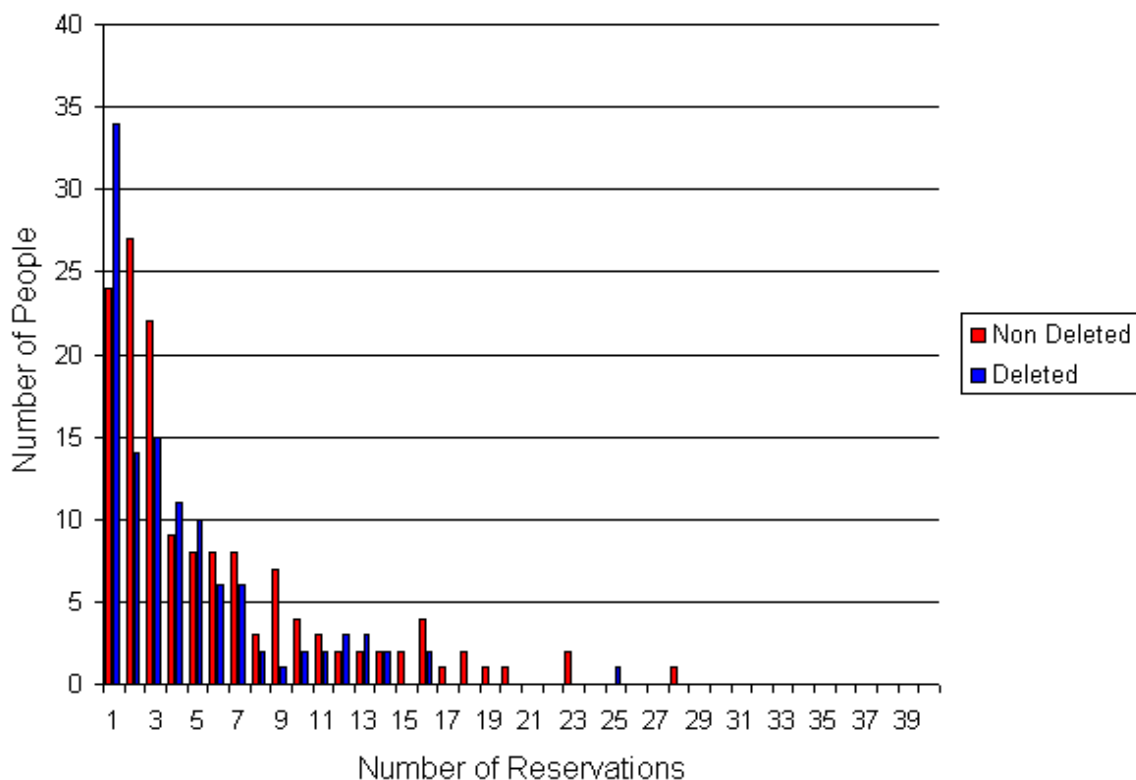
### Out of Service



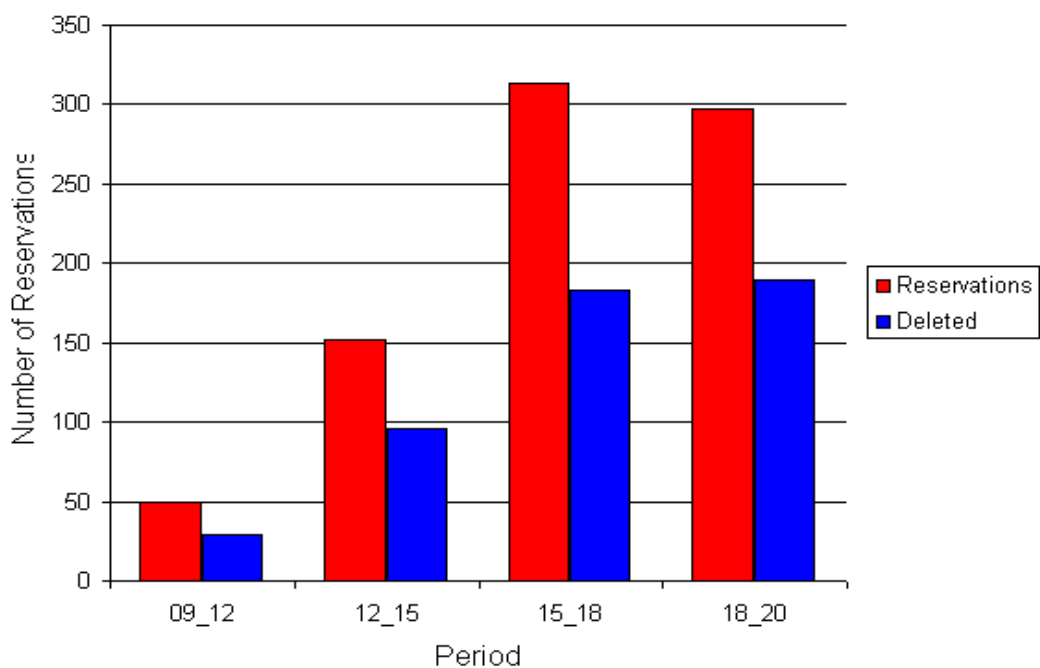
## Reservations in 2008

### Reservations by members

\*ex.: 24 members reserved only once during the year, 8 members reserved 7 times etc.



### Reservations by time of day



## Keys taken between May and November

(From the data in the database)

\*only "outings" longer than 30 minutes are considered

	Private	Administrator	
<b>Dinghies</b>			
Charm	52	16	
RS500	37	13	
Xenon	70	21	
Beauty	39	20	
Rolling Stone	32	23	
Isospin	35	22	
	<b>265</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>380</b>
<b>Catamarans</b>			
Catastrophe	12	10	
SL16	47	20	
	<b>59</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Ynglings</b>			
J'Y-Vais	121	22	
Y Me ?	106	28	
Vas-Y	107	20	
	<b>334</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>404</b>
<b>Surprise</b>			
Miss Match	82	36	
Mic Mac	52	26	
	<b>134</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>196</b>
<b>GibSea</b>			
GibSea	67	16	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>1152</b>
<b>Wind Surf</b>			
Wind Surf	13	0	13

