

# YCC NEWSLETTER



MAY 2023

## PRESIDENT'S WORD

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After several years of reduced activity (Covid in 2020-21 and harbor dredging in 2022) we finally have a full season ahead of us! The club started with a first evening where old and new members meet at the welcome drink on March 30<sup>th</sup> followed by the launching of the fleet on April 1<sup>st</sup> where more than 80 members came to Port Choiseul in Versoix to prepare the beginning of the season. This rapidly allowed to make 10 boats available (1 dinghy, 4 ynglings, 4 large keelboats, and the Q-boat), giving the greenlight to the new sailing season, in advance compared to previous years.

The yngling and Surprise courses started as soon as the boats became available. In the subsequent weeks, seven more dinghies became available and the last two keelboats (Mamma Mia and Jedi) are being prepared. This will allow the Dinghy courses to start around mid May followed by the catamaran preparations and courses.

The preparation of each boat usually requires several hours of work by multiple persons and requests multiple skills and venues to the harbour and multiple trips between CERN BA5, Versoix and shops for spare parts. We estimate that several hundreds of hours of work have been necessary to start the season and prepare the boats, so my sincere thanks to all our contributing members.

Another essential activity that has started is the Thursday practice every week at 18:00. This is the regular and main club event for all the members where people can meet, discuss, sail and make plans for further sailing activities which represent the club atmosphere. After the sailing, many members meet in one of the two buvettes to share their experience and pictures around a drink or even a dinner. During the Thursday outings, members usually find sailing partners, crews are formed, and newcomers get integrated in the club.

This year, the club experienced a sudden increase of its membership with more than 100 new

members, many of them being beginners with little sailing experience.

We have also witnessed during the first Thursday practices a large attendance of our members (more than 50). This made the allocation of a boat to all participants particularly difficult. For this reason, in order to accommodate the maximum members on our boats, a huge effort has been devoted to speed up the preparation of the last boats. Moreover, a pre-registration to each Thursday practice has been put in place to better understand individual sailing preferences in order to better organize the event and invite more skippers to come to the harbor.

The current situation is normal as we have many motivated beginners at the beginning of the season while skippers often prefer warmer weather and water, especially when sailing dinghies and catamarans.

However, while we are confident that the situation will normalize in the coming weeks, I would like to call skippers to come to the Thursday outings to meet club newcomers. We expect more sun, warmer water and fair winds in the coming weeks!

## FLEET STATUS

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Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, almost all boats have been prepared and are now ready for sailing.

Again this Sunday 30 April, a few members spent long hours to put our Surprise Mamma Mia from its storage place at CERN to Port Choiseul. This was preceded by a huge maintenance work to repair the hull, put multiple layers of anti fouling and protection products under the wise supervision of Tim and Francois.

## FLEET LAUNCHING & WELCOME DRINK

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The new motor boat “Mother Duck II” is ready but still pending the import into Switzerland.



The two club events, the welcome drink on 30<sup>th</sup> March and the launching of the fleet on 1<sup>st</sup> April were both a great success with an outstanding participation of members.

Despite the cold rainy weather in Port Choiseul, more than 80 participants helped preparing our boats from 9am to 5pm on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April. This was a great opportunity for newcomers to get a first familiarization with our boats and get in touch with more experienced sailors.

A special thanks to our social activities organizers, Federico and Alessandro, in charge with the logistics, who made both events unforgettable !



Enjoy some pictures of the launch of the fleet in the next page.

Convoy from CERN BA5



Motorboat Baby Duck



Dinghy



J70 Padawan craned into the water



Catamaran



Organizing committee Gijs, Alessandro, Federico, Gesche



Yngling



## THURSDAY PRACTICE

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Our Thursday evening outings started already mid April and gathered many enthusiastic sailors !

Sessions are held every week on Thursday, starting at 6 :00 pm sharp in Port Choiseul.

## YNGLING CORNER

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Yngling skippers and crew, please be aware that there have been some problems for which we need everyone's help: The jib halyards have reportedly become quite tight and difficult to get hooked onto the tensioners.

If this happens to you, please check the Dyneema halyard (silver-coloured cord with shackle that attaches to head of the jib): there should be NO TWIST in the Dyneema, even if you try to let it swing freely in an attempt to 'untwist' it. It has likely been under much tension for such a long time that the twist has settled. If there is any twist at all, pull the Dyneema mostly out of the mast, and untwist it in the opposite direction - please note, you might need to untwist it dozens and dozens of times, until it is almost twisting in the opposite direction!

The Yngling jibs are showing damage because they have been folded to get them into the net - Please DO NOT FOLD any jibs, but roll them, put in the black bag and set them under the net, into the cockpit. On Janisico and Vas-y, you might be able to store the rolled jib on the side shelf under the deck to keep it dry.

Also some sailors reported Janisico's jib tensioner being stuck and hard to release. If this happens to you, please pull out the green knot near the bottom, outside of the tensioner, and it should then be much easier.

Thank you for helping to take care of our boats!  
Denise Lew, Yngling Maintenance Support

## THEORY LESSONS

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The theory lessons are now completed but you can find the slides presented online on our [website](#).

A big thanks to the teachers for their instructive presentations which represent a useful addition to the practice. All classes were well attended, with 20 to 30 participants on-site and more for the classes that were also online.

The new class by Emmet Ryan, former competitor with the Irish sailing team, drew some 25 enthusiasts. They were taken through all stages of a regatta preparation and decision-making issues on the water. Thanks Emmet!

## HELPER PAGE

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in case you want to help the club in the various maintenance or surveillance tasks required for its operation, [you can sign up to our helper page](#).

## YCC HOSTING SWISS SAILING LEAGUE

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Our club will be organizing the first regatta of the prestigious Swiss Sailing Promotion League in 2023 which will take place on 27 and 28 May in Port Choiseul.



14 competitive teams from various Swiss sailing clubs will come to Versoix to compete in an exciting weekend of sailing.

YCC's team (Elia Borrego Arnau - skipper, Nathalie Birt, Kate Robertson and Andres Vieitez) is training hard and hopes to do our club proud.

If the weather is good, there will be live music and drinks at the bar from 8.30pm. All members are invited to enjoy the music and the great atmosphere.

### Activities for YCC members:

- **10 May (19-20:15):** Discover Swiss Sailing League regattas. Zoom with panellists Tim Foster, Elia Borrego Arnau and Michal Kwiatek.
- **27 and 28 May (afternoon):** Spectator boat with race commentary.
- **27 May (20:30-22:30):** Live music by Blue Velvet and bar, all YCC members welcome.
- **26-29 May:** Volunteer opportunities (no experience needed). Sign up on the [helper page](#).

To register for Zoom session Discover Swiss Sailing League regatta and/or the Spectator boat, [email Andrin and Nathalie at YCC-External-Regatta-Coordinators@cern.ch](#)

To follow the race from close, you can also reserve a boat and see the action from the first row !

## OTHER EVENTS

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Do not miss activities organized by the club which are about to start. You can consult [the club activity calendar on our website](#).

[Semaine Du Soir](#), each evening from 19 to 23 June, jointly organized with the Centre Nautique de Versoix. Registration will soon be opened on our external regatta page and is open to all sailors of the club. The racing is followed by (live-)music, food and drinks in the harbour.

[Calendar of regattas \(internal, external, training\)](#)  
Several external regatta events such as the Geneve-Rolle-Geneve or the Bol d'Or are now open for registration. This is a great opportunity for experienced sailors to discover the lake from a different side and sail competitively against a big fleet of national and international yachts

## ARTICLE ON SLAWOSZ

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Get some news from Slawosz Uznanski, expert sailor of our club, who was selected as astronaut at the European Spatial Agency in November 2022: [an article](#) was published on the 'Journal de l'immobilier' newspaper.



## GLENANS SCHOOL (ENGLISH)

The famous Les Glénans sailing school has introduced English-spoken courses.

Les Glénans is a non-profit organization, certified by the French sailing federation, where 70% of organizers are volunteers and which promotes a community spirit to share all tasks on board. Departure of cruising courses from Concarneau, Britain. [Course description](#).

## BOAT FOR SALE

GLOBE 530

Ballasted dinghy. bought new in 2005, first hand, excellent condition, very little sailed.

Sailing category C, at sea : 4 persons. in protected waters. 5 persons.

Sold with all equipment : anchor, fender, life jackets and its trailer (french or Swiss), registered in France.

Immediately available and visible in France.

Length : 5,34m - width : 2,08m. integral pivoting daggerboard : navigation draft 1,15m, minimum 0,15m. mainsail 11,20m<sup>2</sup> - easy reefing. jib 6,20m<sup>2</sup> with furler. Large Genaker on furler with bowsprit.

Price: 8000 EUR (boat, trailer, navigation equipment).

Susuki 3.3 HP engine : 400 Euros

Contact : [pierre.ninin@cern.ch](mailto:pierre.ninin@cern.ch)