



C M Y C

THE FRIENDLIEST NEWSLETTER IN SUSSEX?

October 2026



TABLE OF CONTENTS

October Newsletter 2026

Commodore's News	01
The Three Letter Word 'Yet'	02
Conquering the Fear of Capsizing 🌊	03
Equality and Fairness	04
Comet Open	06
Cruising Update	07
West Sussex Regatta 2026	10
West Sussex Regatta Pedalo Race	11
Junior Saturday Club Fun Race 🎉	13
Final Fun Races of 2026! 🌊	14
Training & Development	15
Junior Activities Questionnaire	16
Expenses Policy and Claims	19
CMYC October Programme	20



Not Quite Done

The year started with a challenge.

I was challenged to sail more. In fact, visiting the lake without my laptop or trying to progress one thing or another is a harder challenge than I first realised.

Admittedly I haven't done everything although I have attended nearly every event type and have definitely sailed more this year. The last of these was the Comet Open. We all know I can sail but even I thought twice about joining such an event where the competitors are quite obviously good – some travelling from other clubs to prove their prowess.

Jeff's well written advert was enough to persuade me to participate although on the day the conditions were gusty and the experts were very good. Needless to say, I qualified after 3 races but needed binoculars to see the podium, I was a long way off.

In short, don't be put off joining in with anything we offer. Come and watch if you're not sure and simply have a chat over a cuppa, because the year's not quite done yet.

Here's something else you might want to attend. You won't get your feet wet, but your throat might as there is a bar!



Annual General Meeting

**Wednesday
14 October 2026**

7.00pm Arrive & socialise*
7.30pm Information Session
8.00pm Interlude to socialise*
8.30pm AGM
9.00pm Thanks and close

The Birch Room
The Haven Centre
Hophurst Lane
Crawley Down
RH10 4LJ

**Taking a fresh look at Our future
join us to hear what's planned**

* Refreshments are available for purchase at the venue

There are a range of proposals to vote on at the AGM and we hope to share some of our successes as well as invite you to help us shape the future of the Club in 2027. See you there.

Richard (Commodore)

Crawley Mariners, run by its Members for the Members

The Three Letter Word – ‘Yet’

Better than most four-letter words

This humble little three letter word ‘yet’ is a game changer.

Can you think of anything more deserving than ‘yet’?

Sure ‘why’ is useful too together with its set of brothers and sisters. Rudyard Kipling made claim to these as the six Wise men, although today these are six Wise words.

They link to advice I was given this year by one of our long-standing senior instructors following a perceived error in the Club’s Programme of Events this year. The advice was to “look at the detail” and “not leave it to others”.

While I’m not sure this fits with concepts such as empowerment, however there are six wise words to help examine the detail.

Do you know them?, all six are based on W for Wise...

1. Who?
2. What?
3. Why?
4. When?
5. Where?

They form the basis of open questions but be warned, if you ask someone unprepared, they may feel concern about being asked, as I have discovered. Instructors on the other hand are a dedicated bunch ready for any question with a desire to help students learn and understand; What is this rope for?, Why are we tipping over?, etc.

For example; Why are there only five Wise words listed above? ‘What’ is the missing word? In fact, What is listed above but hoW isn’t.

Questions help discover rather than challenge and form part of everyday communication, but what has this to do with our favourite word ‘yet’?

Discovering knowledge is great and using it is even better, but there are often blocks in the way, perceived or otherwise. Questions help determine the block.

Yet is such an easy word to use and it helps overcome these barriers leaving the door open for hope and potential. Take a look at these:

- I can’t sail
- I’m not confident enough to sail
- We haven’t enough people signed on

Now add our humble little word to the end of each: I can’t sail, yet or I’m not confident enough to sail yet. This turns everything around and makes us want to discover how we can achieve our ambition and the best way to discover how is to ask questions.

What has all this got to do with sailing?

In short; come along to any of our sessions, there are no stupid questions, we’re a friendly bunch ready to help. Check out the programme online (www.cmyc.co.uk / members area) and join in because you are always welcome at Crawley Mariners Yacht Club.

Conquering the Fear of Capsizing

I loved being in a dingy when I was a very young child, with very happy memories of being taken out in Bosham harbour, but I've never liked the idea of ending up in the drink! I really enjoy sailing – as long as there isn't much wind. The reason? You've guessed it. I am scared of capsizing.

I've learnt a lot thanks to Adult Saturday Club instructors spending time with me, but there is always that fear of capsizing, which restricts me from really enjoying myself. Recently, I've been watching my young granddaughter in her first few sessions at Junior Saturday Club and gasped in horror as I saw her capsize. To my relief and admiration, she took it all in her stride, came back beaming and asked to return the next month. It got me thinking; if capsizing held no fear for her then why couldn't I be the same. It was time for me to give myself a talking to and consider facing my fears.

I signed up for the next Adult Saturday Club, requesting to practice capsizing. It was perfect weather as I was able to wear my dry suit without roasting, but the water was warm. I was under the care of Dan who talked me through the technique and then sent me off in one of the Club Toppers, which was pretty easy to capsize, and he was on hand in the powerboat to offer advice. After successfully righting the boat and managing to climb back in I really got into it and had a further 7 goes. What a sense of relief. I came in off the lake buzzing.



In hindsight, I deserved to feel nervous about capsizing, I was ill-prepared and wouldn't have known how to cope very well.

I felt the fear and did it anyway and can feel that the experience has already made me a more confident sailor.

But how would capsizing in my own Gull be? I signed up for the next Adult Sailing Club. The problem initially was to make the boat capsize; I'd chosen a Gull for a reason! This time I was in the care of Mike S who helped me explore different techniques for getting back in the boat for a further 5 capsizes.



If you feel the same fear, I can highly recommend the experience. I actually loved it!

My thanks to Dan, Mike and also Jeff.

Sarah-Jo



Equality and Fairness

Equality and Fairness for All

It would be easy to write a vision statement for the Club that includes empty words about equality, fairness and inclusivity to appease and be politically correct, but words are not enough.

The Management Committee recognises we have a few anomalies because we get asked:

- Why are swimming only members allowed to go kayaking?
- Why can't everyone (over 18) vote about Club proposals?
- Why do I have to pay the Full Member rate just to kayak (or SUP)?
- Why are some members exempt from performing duties?
- Why are some people storing their boats without paying?
- Why is the Committee proposing to block new members joining?

These are genuine, and not the only questions that get asked. Importantly the Committee has a plan to address them to set an even playing field, or in our case, a lake without waves for fairness and equality for all members.

Why the Sudden Change?

Nothing is changing overnight. We have even brought the AGM forward to provide two months in which to confirm plans ahead of the 2027 renewal period if required.

Of a few months back the Committee determined that the next AGM would be a good opportunity to provide an update to members by holding an information session ahead of the AGM and you are invited to attend this on Wednesday 14th October, 7pm for 7:30 start in the Birch Room, The Haven Centre, Hophurst Lane, Crawley Down.

We plan to start a conversation about the future of the Club and have instigated a futuristic view of the car park, grounds and the Clubhouse as examples to get you thinking about what you want from the Club. In the meantime, we aim to address the existing issues:

- Why are swimming only members allowed to go kayaking?
 - There are three membership categories that have single interests (swim, model yachts and coastal). Those thought to be getting more than they paid for are normally Full Members. To avoid doubt and division the Committee are seeking to make everyone, through a consultation period in 2027, Full Members from 2028 – able to participate in everything without suspicion.
- Why can't everyone (over 18) vote about Club decisions?
 - The Committee are proposing that all single interest members (swim, model yachts and coastal) over 18 can vote following renewal in January 2027.
- Why do I have to pay the Full Member rate to kayak (or SUP)?
 - The Club does not offer single interest memberships for those only wanting to use Stand-Up Paddleboards or kayaks. Rather than add more unequal and divisive categories, the Committee wish to ensure all members can enjoy the lake to its full potential and maintain the community feel the Club is recognised for with everyone contributing.

Equality and Fairness

- Why are some members exempt from performing duties?
 - The Committee are proposing that all single interest members (swim, model yachts and coastal) will be required to perform duties from January 2028 following the consultation period in 2027.
- Why are some people storing their boats without paying?
 - The Committee have spent a lot of effort this year trying to resolve this problem that has built up over the years and are proposing that every vessel stored at the lake has a life-long (not annual) sticker. To help administer this and make fair use of space all vessels stored will require a payment.
- Why is the Committee proposing to block new members joining?
 - The Committee are not restricting new members, quite the opposite with plans for growth via the New World and Social Friends teams supporting this. We've set out our shop window on the new signs and are simply avoiding gaining members who do not perform duties and are not treated equally while we complete a consultation period in 2027.



Is it a Big Issue?

No. We remain open to positive feedback as we address these anomalies. As it stands, we have just 13 members who fall within the three single interest categories and a year to resolve amicably.

Making Waves

We ask that if in doubt or you have a concern you simply ask, because to date this Committee have tackled all the big, elephant in the room questions. We have taken on and delivered objectives in the long-term interests of the Club that were thought un-obtainable.

Why not come along to the AGM and learn first-hand what we've done and what we're planning for today and tomorrow. You can also put yourself forward to be part of the consultation group and help us shape the future of CMYC.

What was the Car Park Question?

Why are cars parked near the Clubhouse on level ground when I could put my boat there, and the cars are easier to move?

Good question...

Come and find out more at the AGM to learn how we plan to ensure all members are treated equally, can enjoy the lake to its full potential and maintain the community feel the Club is recognised for with everyone contributing.



Crawley Mariners Comet Open

Saturday 12th September

The weather forecast was looking promising, WSW 3-4, partly cloudy. The water levels at Hedgecourt Lake however were much lower than normal due to the prolonged drought so the race team set a smaller course to avoid the shallows near the edges. Twelve boats signed on for the racing, five visitors and seven home boats.



In race one, CMYC sailor, Jeff Smith led from the start and sailed an error free race to win from Simon Thompson, also CMYC, in 2nd. Chris Robinson was 3rd. In the second race Jeff was too early on the short start line and had to gybe away to start on port behind much of the fleet. Now it was Eddy Pope's turn to lead the fleet round and to finish 1st with Simon in 2nd and Chris in 3rd. By the afternoon the wind had increased with bright autumn sunshine and significant gusts which caused a few capsize but also made for some exciting close racing. Simon led in race three and Jeff in 2nd was unable to overtake. Chris sailed another consistent race to finish 3rd. In the final race Jeff established a commanding lead which he held to the finish. All in all it was a successful day for the home sailors.

Thank you to all on the race team and to the support boat crew for helping to make it such a successful and enjoyable day.

Overall Results:

1st Jeff Smith, CMYC; 2nd Simon Thompson, CMYC; 3rd Eddy Pope, CSSA.

Pos.	Helm	Sail No.	Club	Race1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Points
1	Jeffrey Smith	872	CMYC	1	4	2	1	4
2	Simon Thompson	809	CMYC	2	2	1	2	5
3	Eddie Pope	377	CSSA	13	1	4	4	9
4	Chris Robinson	867	Burghfield SC	3	3	3	3	9
5	Mike Thompson	518	CMYC	4	6	13	5	15
6	John Coppenhall	532	Hunts SC	5	5	5	7	15
7	Meg Warren	174	Chipstead S C	6	7	13	6	19
8	John Steward	858	CMYC	9	8	6	13	23
9	Helen Evans	868	Silver Wing SC	8	9	8	8	24
10	Richard Warnett	169	CMYC	13	10	7	13	30
11	Mike Smith	117	CMYC	7	13	13	13	33
12	Mike Wilson	506	CMYC	13	11	13	13	37

Donal Roche, Race Officer



Cruising Update

We have had a very successful Cruising season in 2026 with not too many of our planned events cancelled due to bad weather. The prolonged summer heatwave meant that we could often sail in just a spray top, t-shirt and shorts, not forgetting to apply the factor 50 sunscreen. Highlights of the season included

A noticeable change is that there has been a significant increase in the number of our regular sailors who now keep their cruising dinghy in Cobnor Estate boat park. While this is super convenient for harbour cruises, it also provides a disincentive to then de-rig and trail the dinghy to other venues. Both Solent cruises had insufficient numbers to make them viable as did the Portsmouth cruise. Both Solent cruises were down graded to Chichester cruises and both were very successful. The first involved a sail to the Nab channel, the second a visit to Wet Pole beacon and the Emsworth seals. The Family Cruise and Camp weekend was well attracted 20 campers and was a very convivial weekend.

I will be interested in feedback from regular cruisers as to whether we should delete Portsmouth and Solent cruises from the 2027 programme. The Solent cruises also increase the duty requirement but also provide real tidal experience for power boat crews.

Numbers attending cruising events were as follows:

The Family Cruise and Camp weekend was well attended with 20 campers in total including 4 young sailors

Sat 28th March Chichester 2 boats 5 sailors A windy cruise to East Head and back.

Sat 04th April Chichester Easter Saturday Not recorded

Sat 18th April Chichester 6 boats 13 Sailors Prinstead Beach

Sat 02nd May Chichester 1 boat 3 sailors

Sat 09th May Chichester
Novice cruise 4 boats 7 sailors Emsworth Channel

Sat 30th May Chichester 6 boats 14 sailors Dell Quay

Sat 20th June Chichester 5 Boats 9 sailors West Pole

Sat 4th July Portsmouth Cancelled insufficient numbers

Sat 25th July Solent 1
Downgraded to Chi cruise, insufficient numbers
2 boats 4 sailors cruised Cobnor to Nab Channel

Family Cruise Camp Weekend, Cobnor Estate Thur 06th to Sun 09th Aug incl.



Cruising Update

20 persons camped including 4 young members

Friday 2 boats 4 sailors

Saturday 4 boats 10 sailors Hayling Island

Sat 22nd August Round HI

Cancelled light winds 2 boats 4 sailors chi cruise led by Steve Grey

Sat 29th August Chichester 13.09 4.7 4.0 Sp

Cancelled Weather

Sat 05th Sept Solent 2 06.00 3.9 2.0 Np

Cancelled insufficient numbers Chichester cruise instead. 4 boats sailed to West pole and visited the seals in the Emsworth Channel

ANOTHER GREAT CRUISE THOUGH NOT QUITE THE SOLENT

We had planned to visit the Solent on Saturday 5th September. Cruising in the Solent takes a lot of planning and is labour intensive. We do need the support RIB as we are often need to cross shipping channels and we then need to launch and retrieve the RIB from the beach. This is labour intensive and needs eight to ten sailors to manhandle the boat. As I only had a few takers by the Wednesday I stood down the Support boat and downsized the plans to a Chichester Cruise. Clementine Chilvers has written her report which follows. Donal

SUN, SEA & SEALS

When the Solent cruise was cancelled, we headed out on the water anyway — and what a fantastic alternative it turned out to be!

We left Cobnor at 10:30am with Mike Smith & I sailing his Comet Versa, Donal Roche & Frank Harding in the Victoria 16, Steve Grey in a Miracle and Kevin East in a Wanderer. Ian & Judith and Paul & Shirley sailed independently.

The first leg to East Head was a beat in a Force 3, followed by a fetch out of the harbour at 11:40am towards West Pole, passing through races with sails of every colour — it was an amazing sight!

We then headed for Hayling Island, Mike & I had great fun trying out the spinnaker — adding a little excitement! We arrived at the sailing club at 1pm for an hour, enjoying our picnic on the beach. The stunning view from the clubhouse made this stop a real treat 😊

After lunch a highlight had to be the Emsworth Channel seals. We spotted them relaxing on the sandbanks and had the wonderful experience of them swimming around us.



Cruising Update

Then it was back towards Cobnor on a run and broad reach, with the wind picking up to a Force 4 and a few stronger gusts. Taking about an hour we arrived around 4:30pm.

The sailing was challenging, exhilarating and enormous fun — only one capsized from our group! At least he dried off quickly in the sun 😊 With three more cruises still to come this year, there's plenty more fun to be had on the water. All in all, a flipping good time — what more could you ask for?

Clementine



West Sussex Regatta 2026 – Felpham SC

Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th September - Diana

Sadly, we had to return the 'Team Trophy' we won last year, so that it could be presented to this year's highest placed team, who this year was Felpham SC. Only five teams took part (*there are usually 10*). They take the top six results from each team to find the winner and last year we had four Toppers in the Rookie Fleet with a 1st, 3rd, 4th and 7th. In the Feva Fleet we had a 4th, whilst we had a 1st in the Laser Fleet. A remarkable achievement for one of the smallest teams with ten sailors.



This year there were 98 sailors registered made up of Laser; Fast and Slow Fleet and

Rookies.

DAY 1 – was VERY, VERY WINDY!! (F5/6 with gusts of 7), so sadly after much discussion it was decided to cancel all sailing for the day and concentrate on putting lots of races on the next day.

Being a sea club, Felpham had spent some time organising various land activities just in case these were needed. Some sailors who lived locally went home and came back on Sunday. That meant that around 70 sailors stayed on site and the club became a 'hive' of activity inside, in the marquee and elsewhere.

It was great to see each group had adult leaders and many of the DI's and Assistant DI's helping with each group. There was so much to choose from and each age group seemed to be catered for - there were quizzes and an 'art club'. Outside of the club there was a walking Trail around Felpham (Amy went on this with a group that included our sailors and said it proved to be very interesting.) Very popular was 'Pedalo Racing' at a park nearby, with each group allotted 2 hours. (and a free ice-cream at the end). Amy went with our group, and Mike and I decided to go and take a few photographs if possible. It was certainly great fun and enjoyed by all on the lake, and by parents who were watching.



At the end of the day all the sailors were given a bowl of hot pasta and cakes so it turned out to be a very enjoyable and busy day. However, it was evident over the day when walking about and 'fighting' the wind, and looking at the waves, that the correct choice had been made.

DAY 2: A very early start as those at Cobnor had to be back at Felpham by 8.00am. to prepare for a day of racing. It was ideal conditions for all sailors and also the beach teams. It was decided that four back-to-back races would be run finishing by 1.00pm. The Lasers and other fleets – except Rookies - would be amalgamated into one. Once again, our Rookie and Topper sailors did really well with results between 2nd and 7th out of 22 boats. Charlie, having changed to the ILC4 fleet recently did well coming 10th out of 24 boats.

GREAT WEEKEND WITH GREAT RESULTS



West Sussex Regatta 2026 – Pedalo Race

If you would like a copy of any of the photos contact Mike or Diana

It is difficult to believe, but planning for this event actually starts in August when the Club running the event sends out most of the details.

The entry form for the team and payment has to be in by the 1st September. Prompt return of the entry forms and payment enabled us to be the first team entered. Thank you to the parents for sending me your Entry Forms and payment to the Treasurer in so promptly as this enables him to sort out the payment to the host club quickly - we were the first club to enter this year!



2027 WSSYSA Regatta

Venue: Chichester Yacht Club

Date: 18th/19th September



West Sussex Regatta 2026 – Pedalo Race

If you would like a copy of any of the photos contact Mike or Diana

We have no idea who won, but amazingly no one got wet
and everyone had a free ice cream.



Junior Saturday Club Fun Race



We had a fantastic turnout of 6 boats for Septembers Junior Fun race. The race kicked off with a competitive start with all sailors positioned right on the line.

Despite the challenging shallow waters, the fleet did really. George took an early lead in his laser closely followed by the 3 toppers. A big well done to Ashley and Harry who both did a great job at completing the course.

Results

1st George

2nd Hugo

3rd Olivia

4th James

5th Harry

6th Ashley



Junior Saturday PM Session

The Feva and Laser group brought out 6 sailors. Whilst the wind was light it provided the perfect opportunity to focus on building boat handling skills and race starts in preparation for those heading to the west Sussex regatta.

The Oppie group also took full advantage of the calmer weather by using the inflatables for a fun session.

Great Turnout for Have-a-Go Racing in September

We had a brilliant turnout for our latest Have-a-Go Racing session, with six boats hitting the water. It was also fantastic to welcome some brand-new faces to the fleet!

The Shallow water made for a challenging start, but everyone managed to get out safely.

We went on to do some whistle-drill tacking and gybing. This gave everyone a perfect chance to sharpen up their boat-handling skills. We finished off the session with two short races which brought out everyone's competitive side!

A massive well done to everyone who took part. A special thank you goes to our powerboat helm and crew for providing essential safety support throughout the day.



Final Fun Races of 2026!

October 10th & November 7th

I know many of you have managed to get some great sailing in during the summer either on holiday, Junior Helm Week or the NSSA and WSSYSA Regattas. Sadly, we have now nearly reached the final Fun Races for this year. I can then check through all the races this year to find out who finished with the lowest total score in the Oppies and lowest in the Toppers, to find who will win the trophies this year.



START TIME for the final FUN RACES will be 12.30 pm to be ready to leave the shore and 12.45 for the race start. As usual the race will run for approximately 20 minutes, so make sure you are there with a boat and ready to start on time.

It has been a great year as Esther and Charlie have encouraged quite a few Oppie sailors to take part in the Fun Races. We have also seen a number of Topper sailors improve their results. Plus, this year it was great to have several Laser sailors joining in.



Look forward to seeing you next year as well, around Easter time when we will be starting Saturday Clubs again.

Thanks to Esther, Charlie, Alison and Geoff for your help and support with the Fun Race

DIANA



Pre-Christmas...

We're counting the newsletter editions to Christmas

It is just three newsletter editions before our pre-Christmas social event organised by the new Lakeside Social Team; October, November and December.

Lakeside Social Team

We have met several times but now we're on a mission to invite you to a pre-Christmas social at the Clubhouse on 12 December from 2pm.

You can find out more about the event in the November newsletter as we complete our plans to bring you a little special something ahead of the big event.

One thing you can be sure of it will involve a mince pie or two.

Keep the date free:

12 December

This month 14 of us visited the Copthorne Social Club courtesy of Mike & Tania and enjoyed checking the bar facilities, a private meeting room and a function room.

We will be recommending use of the function room to the Committee for an event early in the New Year – yep, we're thinking ahead and already have ideas for a topical and entertaining guest speaker.



If you'd like to join our team, you would be more than welcome. We will be introducing a CMYC Community WhatsApp group to ensure we keep everyone interested informed.

Training & Development

Upcoming Training & Development Opportunities

- Social & The Grebe Club - Fun - 4th October - Oceanwide
- Junior Saturday Club - 10th October - booking on Webcollect
- Adult Saturday Club - 17th October - booking on Webcollect
- Topper (15:00) & Beginner (13:30) race series - Race 8 - 17th October
- Cobnor 23rd to 25th October - booking closed

Feedback

Please give feedback on any CMYC training, click [here](#) to complete the form, there is a link to form on the club Website in Members Area – Policies and Documents.

Training WhatsApp groups

Two WhatsApp groups have been created within the CMYC WhatsApp community to provide more timely and better directed communication for training. Information will continue to be supplied via Newsletter and noticeboards. The groups are:

CMYC Training - Adults

CMYC Training - Juniors

Please join these groups if you are interested in our training programme.

Adult Saturday Club & Powerboat Refresher

Another light wind day, forecast 4mph dropping to 2mph didn't look at all promising. However there was wind at times. Lucie & Clementine went out in the Comet and Pico while Andy & Caroline introduced new members George, Nikolas and Claire to rigging and tacking before taking to the water for a not too exciting sail. Probably the most excitement was had by Sarah-Jo who continued to fight her capsizing demons under Mike's watch and his advice, see her write up elsewhere in this Newsletter. Next year we are hoping to have a special session for those fearful of capsizing along with some water safety advice.

The Beginners race was cancelled due to lack of wind.

Topper Sale

The club is selling a Topper having bought a very good second hand one, contact Jeff Smith if interested.



Junior Activities Questionnaire

Thank you to those of you who responded to the questionnaire, there were some interesting points raised. I have responded to some of those of general interest below.

Cobnor

Two thirds preferred our Cobnor weekend to be during the October half term.

Response 1: Not clear who is welcome to join (age, ability and interests) and whether to freely join or wait for being asked to. A spring weekend may also be more attractive.

Reply: It is primarily aimed at youth sailors aged 13 to 19, but we will take children over 10 if they are confident, they may need to be accompanied by a parent. The weekend is also open to adults. There is no minimum sailing ability, however it would be unwise to have not sailed at all. We have previously run the weekend in Spring, this tends to conflict with revision periods and the water can be very cold. If we get to the point where there is more demand then we can reconsider a spring event. Keep an eye on the Newsletter & noticeboards for details of events and courses, these are seldom by invitation only. If in doubt ask.

Racing and Coaching

This is a difficult one, we appreciate that not everyone is competitive and may not want to race, which is why the Fun Race is separate from the morning and afternoon sessions. We previously had a race at the start of the afternoon session with those from the morning encouraged to stay on, not many did. Several children booked for the afternoon session did not turn up until after the race, which made it unworkable. At this level, racing is not really about winning and being competitive, it is about learning to sail efficiently and learn some tactical skills. We will consider options for race coaching in 2027.

Junior Saturday Club

80% of respondents were happy with the times.

Response 1: Maybe have an older age group to sail, learn coaching and develop advanced skills.

Reply: Our Feva & Lasers group is aimed at 14 to 17 (16 previously) year olds, aiming to teach more advanced skills. The morning Race Coaching session is open to anyone under 18 who can sail a triangular course proficiently. The age limit in 2027 will be the end of the school year in which they turn 18, consistent with NSSA entry.

Response 2: Shore Briefing before Preparing the Session on the Water. Also maybe Introduction of all Juniors & Instructors

Reply: There is a general briefing for parents and children at the start of each session, this is to make parents aware of upcoming events and opportunities. The briefing ends with instructors being introduced and individual groups heading off for group specific briefings. There may be odd occasions when this does not happen due to time constraints. We should also ensure that any children new to a group are introduced.

Response 3: They would like it more often in the summer but appreciate it's a lot for volunteers.



Junior Activities Questionnaire

Reply: Not only do we have the Junior Saturday Club but we also have Adult Saturday Club and during the summer we have Levels/Stages 1 & 2 courses, Junior Helm Week and National Schools Sailing Association Regatta, so it is pretty full on. There are the Beginners Race Series and Have A Go racing sessions both with coaching, and the Topper Race Series which we encourage juniors to attend.

Junior Helm Week

The week 16th - 20th August was selected by a clear majority, so that will be the week for 2027, which is consistent with this year, i.e. the third week in August.

Response 1: Given the numbers this year, I wonder whether you could have had a single combined session that was a bit longer. Overall it would have been a smaller commitment for all involved in the organising/running and it would give a longer experience for the children. Also more children would mix and meet each other. You could start later than the morning session typically does for those who travel further.

Reply: If we combine the sessions we need to maintain the required ratio of instructors to children, this year that might have meant doubling the number of instructors, which we may not have been able to do. Also we have a limited number of club Toppers, this year only one child had their own boat. Merging the Oppies into a morning session was considered this year, but it was not possible as some siblings were booked into PM Toppers. For 2027 we will consider a change to the form that gives flexibility to switch the selection of morning or afternoon, which would make it easier to combine sessions if numbers are low.

Response 2: An option for 16+ to get involved including sailing.

Reply: They can sign up as volunteers. In years gone by the numbers sailing made it impractical to add a session for this group, but with lower numbers increasing the upper age limit may be a possibility. This year all except one child was under 14, we need to find out why 14 and 15 year olds are not joining in, if you have any suggestions please let us know.

Grebe Club

There was a 50/50 split on which are the preferred day and times, however those running the sessions have asked to change to Saturday afternoons, this is to be confirmed.

Response 1: I don't know what Grebe Club is.

Reply: Last year when Grebe Club was introduced it was one of the most heavily publicised events, however if you have joined more recently then you may have missed this as publicity has been more limited this year. There is a lot of information on the website at: <https://www.cmyc.co.uk/sailing-activities/juniors-at-cmyc/grebe-club/>

Response 2: Grebe club newsletter? Could the activities be sent out to participants or the CMYC groups so that we can arrive prepared and ready to go? Sometimes activities are water based and sometimes not. They've all been great sessions though!

Reply: The website, see above, details the activities for each session, although it could be clearer on whether the session will include water based activities.



Junior Activities Questionnaire

Response 3: Maybe a short Theory on all aspects of Sailing ...30 mins Max Knots, Seamanship, Points of Sail etc

Reply: We have specifically excluded teaching subjects that should be covered by a qualified instructor to avoid more demand on our instructors and to ensure sailing theory is taught to RYA standards. However, if there is an instructor willing to commit to such sessions it may be possible.

Family Sailing

This looks like it could be a popular addition to the programme, more details later.

Any other suggestions?

Response 1: Improvements needed to website. Needs to be user friendly. Dedicated section for the juniors (children)

Reply: Go to the website and select Sailing Activities > Juniors at CMYC, you then have a menu of junior activities. If you have suggestions on how this or the friendliness of the website might be improved please contact our website administrator admin@cmyc.co.uk.

Response 2: Can we bring back bbq's during sessions at junior Saturday clubs!

Reply: Absolutely, although bbq's have been stopped during the drought there is no reason why they can't start up again, however this is down to individuals to organise. Perhaps you could post a message on the club WhatsApp to get others interested.

Conclusion

This has been a useful exercise, thank you for your suggestions and positive feedback. Hopefully our 2027 programme will bring some improvements for you as a result of this questionnaire. Please contact Jeff with any follow up.

I encourage all parents to make use of the resources we have:

- Newsletter: The monthly Newsletter tells you what is coming up and when you can start booking. Articles by participants are always welcome, and offer a different view on our activities, please make the most of this opportunity to inspire others.
- CMYC Website; This has descriptions and dates for most of our events and courses, if you think something is missing or difficult to find please let website administrator admin@cmyc.co.uk know.
- eCalendar (Google, Apple etc.): subscribe at the bottom of the programme page <https://www.cmyc.co.uk/programme/>
- Handbook: This details our various activities, tells you where to find related information on the website and contact details for organisers and committee members and is available via the website: <https://www.cmyc.co.uk/members-area/policies-and-documents/>
- WebCollect: Look for upcoming events. Please keep your details up to date, this is one way we know what courses members want.
- WhatsApp: There are lots of WhatsApp groups within the CMYC community, do make use of these, for instance CMYC Training - Juniors and CMYC Racing Chat.

Jeff Smith jeffsmith76@gmail.com



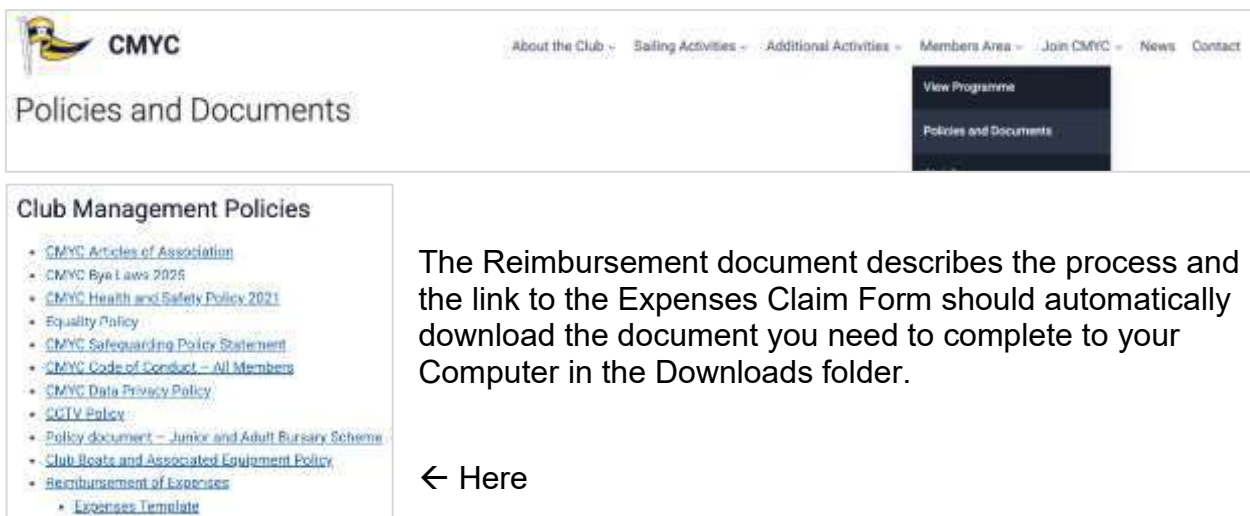
Expenses Policy and Claims

With the range of costs we incur to manage the site, boat fleet, other assets and member benefits it is not uncommon for expenses to be incurred by members.

With prior approval it is reasonable for these to be refunded from the Club's account.

There is an agreed Expenses Policy in place, and we now have an Expenses Template document to be used, for any claims arising from 1st August 2026.

The Reimbursement Policy and Expenses Template are visible on the CMYC website under the Members Area menu → Policies and Documents as shown below:

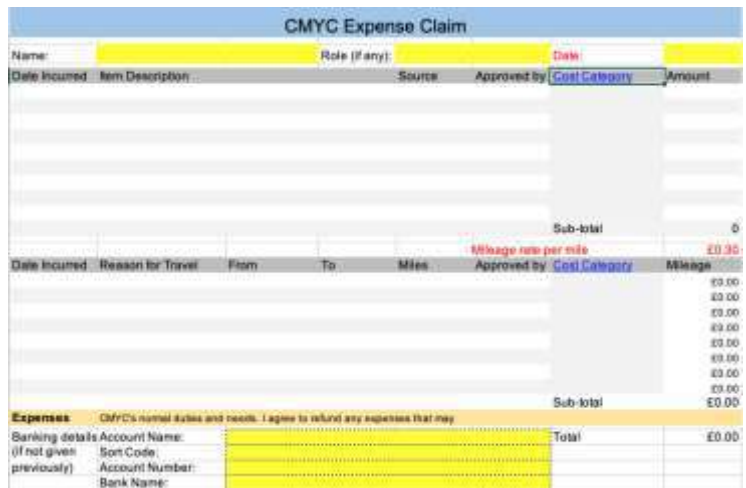


The screenshot shows the CMYC website header with navigation links: About the Club, Sailing Activities, Additional Activities, Members Area, Join CMYC, News, and Contact. Below the header, the 'Policies and Documents' menu is highlighted. On the left, a sidebar lists 'Club Management Policies' including: CMYC Articles of Association, CMYC Bye Laws 2025, CMYC Health and Safety Policy 2021, Equality Policy, CMYC Safeguarding Policy Statement, CMYC Code of Conduct – All Members, CMYC Data Privacy Policy, CCTV Policy, Policy document – Junior and Adult Bursary Scheme, Club Boats and Associated Equipment Policy, Reimbursement of Expenses, and Expenses Template. To the right of the sidebar, text states: 'The Reimbursement document describes the process and the link to the Expenses Claim Form should automatically download the document you need to complete to your Computer in the Downloads folder.' Below this text is a left-pointing arrow followed by the text '← Here'.

The expense form is in two parts:

for items →

and travel →



The screenshot shows the 'CMYC Expense Claim' form. It is divided into two main sections. The top section is for 'Items' and includes fields for Name, Role (if any), Date, Date Incurred, Item Description, Source, Approved by, Cost Category, and Amount. The bottom section is for 'Travel' and includes fields for Date Incurred, Reason for Travel, From, To, Miles, Mileage rate per mile, Approved by, Cost Category, and Mileage. Both sections have a 'Sub-total' field. At the bottom, there is a section for 'Expenses' with a checkbox for 'CMYC's normal duties and needs. I agree to refund any expenses that may be incurred.' and a section for 'Banking details' with fields for Account Name, Sort Code, Account Number, and Bank Name. The form also includes a 'Total' field and a '£0.00' value.

Please ensure your claim is approved and that you submit receipts for costs incurred with this form to Treasurer@cmyc.co.uk

Jerry

Vice Commodore Finance and Administration

CMYC Programme

Date	Event
1 st Oct	Thursday Informal Sailing
3 rd Oct	Itchenor Cruise Autumn Saturdays Race
4 th Oct	Social, Social Sailing The Grebe Club Autumn Leaf
8 th Oct	Thursday Informal Sailing
10 th Oct	Junior Saturday Club Work Party
11 th Oct	RYA Powerboat Level 2 - Day 2
14 th Oct	Annual General Meeting
15 th Oct	Thursday Informal Sailing
17 th Oct	Adult Saturday Club Beginners Race One per Month
18 th Oct	Autumn Leaf
22 nd Oct	Thursday Informal Sailing
23 rd - 25 th	Cobnor
24 th Oct	Autumn Saturday Race
25 th Oct	Autumn Leaf
29 th Oct	Thursday Informal Sailing
31 st Oct	Autumn Saturday Race



and so much more...

