

DF 95 Group News Update No 19 June 2022

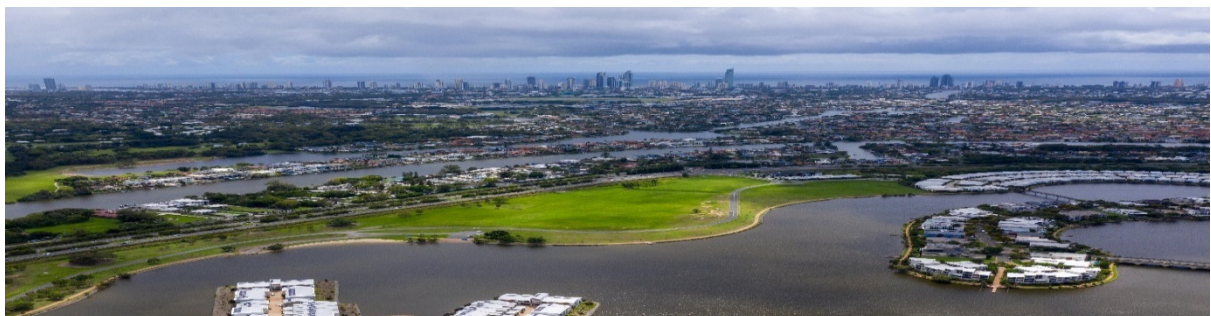


Where has our sunshine gone, this has to be wettest sailing season we have had for many a year

Hi DF 95 Skipper & Friends,

It has become a regular, just about weekly event over the past few months having to send out postponement / Cancellation notices to you all, advising no sailing due to the weather, flooding or saturated ground around our lake. Not only does this continuing situation cause frustration and disruption to our sailing programme, but it makes trying to rearrange a coordinated race programme very difficult especially when special events and or Regattas rely on volunteers and outside people to help and assist our club host these events.

Therefore, we have had to make a few decisions to help us get our race calendar back on track, firstly we are weather dependant, the saturated ground around the lake edge has to dry out so we all are safe and free from walking in wet, slippery and slushy conditions under foot. The committee have been in touch with the council and we have been advised that Councillor La Castra has requested the Maintenance dept to investigate the state of the grass verge along Emerald Lakes Dr. Until it dries out, please refrain from parking along there. Hence until the ground dries out our sailing will continue to be curtailed. However, depending upon wind direction, we will try and utilise the Beach area more where it is possible to park on the sealed Carpark Road surface and only a short walk to our race starting area. Also, we will ensure our club Championship Scratch and Handicap monthly events have priority and we will try and ensure these are sailed on Fridays when the weather & wind conditions prevail in Area one (The Beach)



It is my belief the areas where the one metres and 10 Raters sail will need many days of fine windy conditions to dry out. Hence the shed and beach areas are our only options at present and we will need to ensure when these venues are chosen to race in we try to ensure a steady breeze and reasonable sailing conditions prevail especially when championship events are in progress.

No 1, June DF 95 Revised sailing programme,

- Friday 3 rd., Club Scratch Racing Championship Round CC6, set up at 11.00am, racing underway at 11.45 am.
- Sunday 5 th DF 95 Group Match race 1 st round for 2022, set up at 11.00 am, racing starting at 11.45 am, 8 boats selected 20 races
- Friday 10 th General Club Handicap race day, set up at 11.00 am racing underway at 11.45 am.
- Sunday 12 th, General Club Scratch race day, including member training and mentoring, set up at 10.45 am training underway at 11.00am, scratch racing from 11.45 am
- Friday 17 th General Club scratch race day, in preparation for the next 2 days South QLD DF 95 Championship GP2.
- Saturday 18 th/ Sunday 19 th 2-day event South QLD DF95 Championship GP2, QRYA event hosted by PRYC set up at 8.00am, racing underway at 10.00 am both days
- Friday 24 th Club Handicap Championship round CC6, set up at 11.00 am with racing underway at 11.45 am.
- Sunday 26 th, Another DF 95 Member training day, set up at 10.45 am, training underway at 11.00am scratch racing from 11.45 am

It is possible if the weather does not improve and the grounds around Emerald Lakes do not dry out sufficiently to make it safe for us all, it is possible this racing programme will change.

Written notification to you all will be made by email at least 1 to 2 days prior to each event being sailed. It is also possible the sailing calendar will be modified again so we can catch up on the lost days racing where championship and hosted events were postponed or cancelled.



Large Fleets of competent skippers makes for exciting competitive racing especially with one designed Yachts, a major factor in the global growth of DF Yacht's across the world

No2, General Boat Maintenance,

Several members have asked about what items should they have on hand, as a general tool kit to carry out basic maintenance when an issue may arise during a race day. Having the key items is essential, such as spare Rudder Servos, Sail Winch, Batteries, Receiver, Battery tester, some Super Glue, Self-Adhesive tape, plus tools, long nose pliers, scissors, Screw Drivers, Allen keys and spare Dyneema cord being the main items that will allow you to continue sailing on the day



The key spare parts & Tools you need on race day to ensure you finish all races Programmed

No 3, Weather Protection for your transmitter.

Protecting your transmitter from the ingress of rain water is a very real issue, as the electronic components contained within the unit are very susceptible to corrosion and therefore need to be kept dry and free of any water. Currently Hobby King have Transmitter Gloves available Turnigy branded for purchase on line at \$24.10 plus freight. For those of you interested to buy, please go to www.hobbyking.com the company's website, Freight cost is around \$11.00 as they come from Hong Kong and take about 8 to 10 days to reach your address. The prices shown are in Australian dollars.



No 3, Members Profile,

Up next is long time Paradise Club member Richard Bray, Sail No 812, a very well-respected gentleman sailor who continues to be a regular attendee despite his 88 years who continues to enjoy racing his 95. He is a very competitive skipper who has over the years gained excellent sailing skills and a thorough understanding of the rules of sailing which when coupled with his yacht racing abilities makes him an awesome competitor. While Richard has a few health issues that require him to be seated for most of the racing day he is always in the top half of our fleet. He also can still show a lot of our younger skippers how to pick the wind shifts as well as getting good starts.



Richard Bray, Sail No 812 one of our clubs most respected members and skilful skippers

Richards Story he has kindly penned,

My first sailing experience was crewing for my elder brother in a 12 ft Trainee on the Oxley reach of the Brisbane River in the immediate post war years. I would have been about eleven and did not enjoy it much. Mucked around in a couple of canoes I built during school years in Brisbane but nothing serious until after I had married and had the good fortune to be transferred to the Gold Coast for work.

Things happened quickly with a growing family and the acquisition of the first real boat – a Hartley 16ft. This was 1968 when offshore racing was nonexistent. I was one of small group of locals who enjoyed racing in the Broadwater. The standard course was twice around Crab Island. The ladies would start us from the western shore of Straddie by dropping towels at the appropriate time.

I soon dropped the Hartley for a Hunter19, one of which had crossed the Atlantic. It was a great heavy weather sailer but was not east to launch and retrieve as its swing keel still had about half protruding when wound up. It was a very good match for the popular boat of the day – the Rob Legg RL 24.



I had the good fortune to retire from my job as Electrical Engineer with SEQEB in my mid-fifties. I had already become involved with boat building once the firm introduced a nine-day fortnight. The first was a Francis 26 – a pro laid the glass on the mould I had built, and I did the rest. This was a beautiful boat but not quite the right one for the Broadwater – too hard to push off the sandbanks! After retirement I went on to build six boats in total at our home in Greer Terrace Southport.

After the Frances 26 was a 23ft Norwalk Island Sharpie. This was a timber two masted ketch with a swing centre board and internal lead ballast. It was an alarmingly tender boat and after a capsize I modified the board to a half lead bottom and strengthened the winch. It ended up a very good sailer.

A Nutshell 7'7" was tender for the Frances 26 but my favourite dinghy was in fact was called FAVOURITE and was an 18ft Whitehall type year 1900 replica with the beautiful wineglass shaped transom.

Final build was a Herreshoff launch 18ft powered by an outboard in a concealed transom well.



Boats for the family during their school years which were not built by me included Sabot, Northbridge Junior, Moth, Laser and a 125. I became aware of R.C. boats in 2005 when I spotted them on the lake off Laguna Avenue at Palm Beach. I was wandering around recuperating from major heart surgery. The participating sailors were in fact members of the present PRYC. It soon became obvious to me they were unhappy with the venue because the surrounding tree growth caused unacceptable wind interference. A vote was taken, and the majority departed for Emerald Lakes. I initially remained but shortly joined them with my first home-built IOM, a Triple Crown. I quickly learnt that on these windy waters a more substantial and waterproof hatch cover was vital! I moved on to a succession of IOM boats - a Ghost, a Vickers 5, a plan B and finally a home-built Goth. When the DF65 appeared on the scene I was an early convert and its presence saw the demise of the then popular Micro Magic. The arrival of the DF95 attracted skippers of all classes with approximately 50 now registered with PRYC and CRYC. The standard is extremely high with skippers of national and international repute leading the way. My physical abilities are slowly diminishing but I hope to continue participating in this rewarding activity for some time yet

Richard Bray



Richard's ability and exceptional skill to pick wind shifts early usually gets him to the top mark first

No 4, General Group & Club News & Information,

- At last month's club AGM the Club elected a new committee and Flag officers to manage your club for the next year, We wish to pass on our congratulations to Rex Scott who is the new Commodore with a very refreshing series of new ideas and plans for the future and to see Radio sailing continuing to grow, Mike Cosgriff is the Vice Commodore, a very successful DF 95 & IOM skipper, Ralph Eade has returned as the club Treasurer and Julian O'Brien continuing in the role of Secretary, Martin Roccliffe has become a committee member another DF 95 Skipper and Alan Walker one of the club original founding members has put his hand up to join as a committee members for the 2022 / 23 years, Alan also is DF 95 and IOM Skipper of some repute. Bill Clancy Sailing Secretary is also continuing with one of the most important positions in our club, his knowledge and experience is second to none. To you all, again our congratulations and we wish you every success in your new roles and you can be assured of our Groups future support.

- With the number of major regattas and championship events our club has agreed to host on behalf of the ARYA & the QRYA, some 10 in total this season, puts a lot pressure on the management of our club especially when a large number of members are unwilling to give of their time to volunteer help and assistance to run and stage these events. Please remember if all members volunteered for just one event in a year, we would have sufficient help and assistance. Please give some careful consideration to putting your hand up to volunteer.



Regattas & Championship events cannot be hosted without Volunteers, please help


- As your Fleet Captain I have become a little concerned over the past few months as our Fleet numbers, which were at 48 as at the 30 th of March, with 26 DF 95 Skippers being active in our sailing and Racing programme over the past season. However, I now see as many as 22 DF 95 boat owners not bothering to come along to sailing at all. Yes, there is a number of you that have legitimate reasons for not sailing, health and/ or family issues / commitments. However, I am starting to believe our competitive racing programme is one of the main contributors to the problem, as some skippers do not finish in the top 10, they quickly become disillusioned, find that there is little or no enjoyment, hence they give up because they originally thought Radio sailing was going to be an easy sport to pick up.

Well, I can see why some of you feel this way, and after some discussion we have formulated an idea that may just help and encourage you people to return to sailing. To this end it has been agreed that we split our fleet into 2 groups, The A fleet is to be made up of our top skippers around 14 to 20 skippers who race regularly, who are highly competitive and enjoy radio yacht racing as their main motivation and enjoyment, which is fine. However, for all of you who just want to sail, Race for fun and enjoyment without the high level of Competition It has been decided to form a B fleet of Skippers who will sail on the same days, Fridays and Sundays over a separate course at the same time.

Coupled with this two-fleet concept, B fleet Skippers will have the opportunity to arrive a half hour earlier where our top skippers will provide one on one mentoring, advice, with tuning and sail selection, practical on water tuition, help and guidance with the rules of sailing we adhere too. This help and assistance are provided at no cost, but can only be arranged by appointment please. This initiative is only not only designed to help your individual knowledge and skills of sailing, plus boat handling but will give every B fleet skipper an opportunity to move into the A fleet if they so desire once they reach a higher level of sailing / racing competence. This Plan is no different to those who wish to race in major sports such as motor racing etc. To register your interest, or to just have a chat about this plan, or if you have any questions please give me a call.

No 5, DF 95 Group Quarterly Dinner,

I am pleased to announce our next Group Dinner with wives & partners will be held at the Good Choice Chinese Restaurant at Shop 2 Corner of Sir John Overall Drive & Lindfield Drive Helensvale on Thursday the 16 th of June with drinks at 5.00 pm and dinner at 5.30 pm. This restaurant is fully licenced and is BYO Wine only. Can I please have confirmation from those wishing to come along on Thursday the 16th of June, so bookings can be made. Please email or phone me to confirm your acceptance, thank you.



好彩飯店

Good CHOICE
CHINESE RESTAURANT

LICENSED & BYO WINE ONLY

TAKEAWAY
5580 6618

Trading Hours:
Monday-Saturday
11.30am til 2.30pm
Monday-Sunday
from 4.30pm



DRAGON DEAL \$50 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Spring Rolls • Chicken with Cashew Nuts • Sweet & Sour Pork • Beef with Black Bean Sauce • Large Special Fried Rice 	PHOENIX DEAL \$70 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Spring Rolls • Chilli Prawns or Honey Prawns • Peking Crackling Pork • Mongolian Lamb • Vegetarian Delight • Large Special Fried Rice
BUDDHA DEAL VEGETARIAN \$47 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Vegetarian Spring Rolls • Vegetable Singapore Noodle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satay Vegetables • Mixed Vegetable Hot Pot • Vegetarian Fried Rice

LUNCH SPECIAL from \$9.50

Shop 2 Gecko's Corner
Cnr Sir John Overall Drive & Lindfield Drive, Helensvale

No 6, Dragon Flite 95 Class Rules. Update

I recently was looking through the DF 95 UK website and came across the class restricted Rules where a series of explanations have been added to the text, that makes for interesting reading especially where additional material and comments have been added making the interpretation of the Rules a little easier to understand. I have down loaded these and am only to pleased to email a copy upon request.



dragonflite 95

DRAGONFLITE 95 RESTRICTED CLASS RULES

2021

Version 1.3

Revisions are marked in blue and explanations in red (*explanations do not form part of the rule*)

BFT	Description / knots	km/h	DF95 rig
0	Calm <1 kts	<1 km	A
1	Light air 1-3 kts	1-5 km	A
2	Light 4-6 kts	6-11 km	A
3	Gentle 7-10 kts	12-19 km	A
4	Moderate 11-16 kts	20-28 km	A or B
5	Fresh 17-21 kts	29-38 km	B or C
6	Strong 22-27 kts	38-49 km	C or D
7	High (Near Gale) >28 kts	50-62 km	Stay home

No 7, Back Page Bar Long Race update,

Again, due to inclement weather conditions we have had to postpone for the second time our long Race for DF Yachts at Emerald Lakes. As mentioned earlier with our race programme having been totally disrupted by continual rain our priority is to try and get the club Scratch and Handicap championship monthly events completed when conditions allow, hence the Long Race will now be set down for Sunday the 17th of July, starting with set up at 11.00am and handicap racing at 12.15 pm. It is estimated the course will take at least 1.25 to 1.5 hours to complete, prior to the Prize Giving and BBQ Function at the Back Page Bar from 2.45 pm until 4.00 pm



The new DF 95 Back Page Bar Long Race perpetual trophy and Proprietor Nick Lindsley of the Back Page Bar Tavern who is kindly hosting the after-match function and BBQ on Sunday the 17th of July.

We have some 24 DF 65 and DF 95 yachts who have expressed interest to race in this event, so it should be a great day. Further information will be advised closer to the event.

Let's hope our weather settles down, the Sun shines and the Breeze becomes more favourable during the month of June.

See you all on the water,

Ron Brown

DF 95 Fleet Captain

PRYC

