



Training Centre Report

Sailing Season 2021-2022

After a delayed start due to Victorian Government SARS-CoV-2 restrictions, the training program began one month late at the beginning of December and ran through until the end of April.

It ended up being a very full and busy program.

We ran the following programs during the season.

Saturday morning Sail Training 17 scheduled sessions

Try Sailing: 30 (All sourced from local primary schools and held in Training Optis and Hobie Waves)

Start Sailing (juniors) : 24 (Training Optis)

Better Sailing: 3 Training Optis and Pacers

Start Racing: 6 (Minnows)

Start sailing (Adults): 6 (Rs Quest)

Sunday morning

Youth development squad: 7 (Laser 4.7)

Christmas/New Year

Junior and Youth training camp: 11 (Minnows and Laser 4.7)

Tackers Holiday Program: 11 (Training Optis and Hobie Wave catamarans)

April School holidays

Powerboat Handling Certificate

May

Sabre Masterclass Coaching, two days. 30 participants.

Notes

*The regular Saturday and Sunday morning training and coaching programs have had a total of 76 individual participants.

*Our regular training schedule of first aid, powerboat and instructor courses has been completely disrupted over the past two years. We will be playing catchup in these areas for the next couple of years.

*The Tackers Holiday program was disrupted when the head instructor (Evelyn Floyd) caught SARS-CoV-2 a week before the first week was to begin. Fortunately, she well enough to do the second week. Thanks Evelyn!

Retention from Try Sailing remains a challenge. We have done better this year with about one third converting to membership and the start sailing program.

Equipment

Six new Opti Trainers were launched with the help of a grant from Whitworth's Marine which secured them at half price.

A club Sabre was launched. Donated from an insurance write off, Murray repaired and scrounged lots of bits and pieces to put together a solid and competitive boat which can be used for sail training and racing for members who may wish to use it.

An aluminium trolley was constructed by Peter van Hugten for 'Rosemary'. Another special thanks to Peter for donating a Sabre trolley for that project as well.

Total sail training equipment on hand:

- Training Optis: 20
- Pacers: 4
- RS Quest: 2
- Hobie Wave: 2
- Sabre: 1
- Windsurfers: 6
- Stand up paddle boards: 2

The range of equipment now available to the Training Centre allows us great flexibility in delivery. The Hobie Waves in particular have been incredibly useful for those times when conditions are unsuitable for regular training of beginners. At least children can have a great experience on the water even in strong winds!

Our team:

None of this would be possible without dedicated and passionate volunteers who commit themselves week after week, especially in the face of some very challenging weather! I'm so appreciative and thankful for all their efforts in making this happen.

Scott Watson, Evelyn Floyd, Liam O'Brien, Donovan Bailey, Milly Evenden, Finn Loader, Wes Miles, Ollie Bulka, Glenn Koffeyberg, Ollie Zielesna, Tessa Kohne, Tom Kohne, Bastian Gilby, Jamie Caithness and Michael Johannessen. A special mention to John Jagger, Mark Bulka, John d'Helin, Alan Riley and Geoff Walker for special coaching appearances and to Katrina Berryman for offering herself as T.C. administrator for next season. Also, thanks Paul Jenkins for refurbishing an older minnow and Trevor Knight for his handyman skills. Cam Dunwoody is fabulous as always, running the powerboat training when he can.

This is a massive team effort. Thank you so much to all of you.

Murray O'Brien

McCrae Training Centre Principal