

KNYSNA



YACHT CLUB

Newsletter

July 2020



COMMODORES CORNER #4/5 ANDREW FINN



Dear members – Mid Year Edition!

The Club

It's been awhile since our last formal newsletter and a lot has happened to the world, our country and our Club over the past couple of months.

The General Committee believes that Knysna Yacht Club is a responsible and important body for both our Members and the public at large. Accordingly, we need to look after the safety and wellbeing of all our Members. There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic is a serious threat to our Members and our community, so we have taken actions in accordance with the Government Regulations to mitigate the spread of the disease, which is surely in the Members' best interests.

We live in a society where, whatever decisions are made by the persons elected to make such decisions on behalf of the Members, there will always be some people who consider that they have a better option or solution. They then proceed to try and undermine the decisions that have been made by pronouncing that the decision-makers are incompetent or that they are not acting in the best interests of the Members. These decision-makers were elected by the majority of the Members, so they have been empowered to make such decisions in the interests of the majority of Members.

Therefore, General Committee, is fulfilling its mandate by addressing the following issues on the Members behalf: -

1] Club Staff - Admin, Restaurant, Bar and Maintenance

The maintenance staff, under the guidance of the Vice Commodore, Mike Jacobs, is continuing to do work in and around the Club to keep the premises in good condition.

Nicky Sachs is continuing with Administration from the Office from 08:00 to 13:00 Tuesday to Friday, dealing with subscription payments and general queries.

Please note that, as per the Regulations, the COVID-19 protocols have been implemented. So, when visiting the Club, you must comply by wearing a mask and sanitizing your hands. When visiting the Office, you will also need to have your temperature taken and are required to sign the register.

The Restaurant Subcommittee is still looking at options as to how best to run the restaurant and the bar when the club opens for the season – this date is planned for early September but is subject to the COVID-19 situation at the time. We are still paying our staff their salaries with the aid of TERS (UIF).

Mission:

- To welcome all members, their guests & visitors to the KYC club & its facilities.
- To grow the clubs' membership base.
- To increase the number of functions and activities, both water-based and social.
- To encourage non-members along with their families and friends to join the club.
- To maintain and improve the clubs' facilities and skills

KYC TEAM

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This situation is evaluated monthly as TERS does not pay full salaries or foreign nationals and may discontinue paying altogether. We appeal to any members who might wish to assist the staff in regard to the shortfall to please contact Anthony Parker.

2] Sailing

Gayle Newby and her team have been actively preparing for the new season as you can see from her report below.

3] AGM

After delaying the AGM to be able to conform with the COVID-19 regulations, it is now obvious that we will be unable to hold a normal meeting at the Club. The General Committee has decided to go ahead with a virtual AGM via Zoom on the 27th August. Please note that only paid-up Members may put forward a nomination for the in-coming General Committee or vote at the AGM.

4] Restaurant and Bar

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 regulations, both the restaurant and bar remain closed until further notice.

5] Use to the lagoon for Water Sport

On an ongoing basis, the General Committee has engaged with SA Sailing and SANPARKS with regard to the use of the lagoon. We will keep Members updated as and when the conditions change. We are hoping that we will be back to some form of normality (New Normal) for the start of the season, although all the COVID-19 protocols will, of necessity, remain in place.

Please remember to check KYC Facebook page for all the latest news. <https://www.facebook.com/knysnayachtclub/>

Yours at KYC
Andrew

In-shore sailing – Gayle Newby

While the sailing season is currently closed and the Covid-19 pandemic has severely restricted activities, there has been quite a lot happening.

The highly successful KYC Oyster Festival Virtual Sailing Regatta, which took place on 27/28 June, was organised by Drew Scott, assisted by Roscoe Verkuil, Andrew Finn, Anthony Parker, Dudley Isaac, Mereille Leyland and Gayle Newby. Special thanks go to all the parties for the considerable amount of time and effort spent, but, in particular, to Drew & Roscoe.

Drew Scott, a very enthusiastic sailor, has been co-opted to the Junior Training portfolio on the General Committee. He recently spent time familiarizing himself with KYC sailing facilities in preparation for the opening of the sailing season, which hopefully will be in September.

During May, Mike Pogodin and Gayle Newby carried out an inspection on the Junior Sail Loft as well the Club boats & trailers to make sure that the club's sailing property is secure during lockdown. Many thanks to Mike Jacobs, David Kambalame, and Monty Blazio for their help with storing the boats.

The boat register has been fully updated and the ongoing maintenance and care of the boats, which was carried out by Mike Pogodin and Sanele Maggaza, has been logged electronically. The Commodore has been in regular contact with the manager of SANParks Knysna, in regard to getting permission for sailing on the Lagoon.

At the present time, the Club is closed in terms of Level 3 Covid-19 Regulations, but individual sailors may sail their own boats in their private capacity (not as a KYC member and not with KYC boats), provided they have a fishing permit and a fishing rod on board.

The facilities of the club, such the as the toilets and showers, may not be used during these activities and the club staff may not be asked to assist. Th SA Sailing have been having discussions at National level and lengthy documentation has been published in this regard. However, the requirements that have to be complied with for any such activity are extremely onerous and very expensive.

Please keep in mind that KYC is bound by the Covid-19 Regulations and if it is found to be transgressing, the Club will be forcibly closed and the members of the General Committee will be held responsible and may even face prosecution. The focus of all these impositions is to STOP the SPREAD of the dreadful virus and SAVE LIVES! Please remember this when you feel frustrated.

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