



UK 29er Class 2021 AGM – Sailing Secretaries Report



As we all know it has been a different year to any we have known before. COVID 19 has affected not only which events have taken place but how those events have been able to run. At the end of 2020 we managed to run some great events in partnership with WPNSA and under the COVID rules then in place.

- GP1 in September at WPNSA 74 sailors entered so we raced in flights
- GP2 in October at WPNSA 71 Sailors entered again requiring flights
- GP3 in December was our last gasp of 2020 as the country moved toward a new lockdown. The class still managed 60 entries and a great event.

The rest of the Winter and early Spring was very frustrating as we were forced to cancel event after event. Some of the venues became reluctant to make plans in a very uncertain situation.

Spring sun appeared and we managed to run a weekend of informal racing with 10 races at WPNSA. With some restrictions still in place we were limited to 25 entries but with the help of Ovington's Chris Turner we were finally racing again.

Grafham having had to cancel their usual Winter event hosted the Class for a one off Typhoon Trophy (we will return for the winter event in January 2022). The danger of light wind, sun but no sea breeze came true, but 40 boats entered and we got 3 races in thanks to some good decisions by our Class PRO Ian Bullock. Things are currently opening up following the winter wave of COVID and so back to standard GPs.

- GP4 at HISC saw 56 entries getting a full series of great racing out in Hayling Bay
- GP5 has just been completed with 49 entries despite a marked lack of available accommodation in the Weymouth area.

As a Class the 29er's run a great many events and there is every sign that despite the best efforts of the COVID 19 pandemic the Class continues to go from strength to strength.

To run this many events is a team effort and so I would like to thank this year's team. Our Administrator Lisa, the team that has been taking care of prizes and marketing issues - Susannah, Nia and Donna. Also our great Race Officers lead by our Class PRO Ian Bullock who does so much more than just running much of our racing.

Finally, we rely on ALL the parents mucking in, If you haven't done something to help from a day on a safety boat to ticking off entries at registration, we need you to help. Don't forget the whole 29er adventure is run by volunteers.