

## **HYC Launch Club Dinghy Scheme**

Would you like to contribute towards the development of junior sailing in Howth?

Howth Yacht Club is launching a drive to encourage more young people to take up sailing, through the acquisition of a number of dinghies that will be available to new (and existing) members to use for club coaching.

Unlike most other sailing clubs, new junior members in HYC must provide their own dinghy to participate in HYC sailing courses. This has proved to be a disincentive to parents, particularly those from non-sailing backgrounds. In the current economic environment, the up front costs of purchasing a dinghy acts as a considerable disincentive for parents who are often slow to make such a commitment without knowing if their child will even take to sailing. A new dinghy will cost just under Eur 3,000.

Through a new Club Dinghy Scheme, HYC intends to make a number of dinghies available that can be rented out for the duration of a course. Rent will be nominal and will be designed to cover maintenance and upkeep.



**The Topper Class**



**The Pico Class**

A detailed review of the various dinghies has been undertaken and based on a number of criteria, including affordability, durability and maintenance, it is intended to acquire a number of Picos that will be used for children between the ages of 9 and 11 and Toppers for older children, teenagers and adults.

This is a strategic initiative designed to improve access to sailing in our community and to help safeguard the future of the Club by growing our junior membership base. Members are being asked to support in the acquisition of dinghies in a number of following ways;

1. If you have a Pico or Topper that is no longer in use, would you consider donating it to the Club?
2. Would you like to donate a new dinghy, which could be dedicated or named after your company or family, or donated anonymously?
3. Would you think of making a contribution to the Club Dinghy Scheme Fund (which will be a ring fenced fund) to help towards the capital costs of the Scheme?
4. Would you club together with other friends, crew members and members to fund a dinghy?

Our target in 2010 is to acquire five Pico's and five Toppers. The experience in other sailing clubs, where similar Club Dinghy Schemes have been introduced, has been extremely positive and has had a direct impact on increasing the junior participation in sailing within a short period of time.

If you think you might be able to help, please contact any of the following in confidence;

- Breda Dillon – Rear Commodore (086 2318588)
- David Cullen – Rear Commodore (087 6780210)
- Brian Turvey – Sailing Secretary (086 8327425)
- Chris Howard – Junior Organiser (086 6062718)

Thanking you for your support.

**Chris Howard**