



Hello fellow Laser enthusiasts,

Some of you may have already seen that the [RYA](#), [LaserPerformance](#) and [UKLA](#) have recently announced an initiative (funded by Sport England) to encourage more participation in club sailing by Laser sailors – The initiative is known as '[Activate your Laser Fleet](#)'.

Dave Worth , Alan Jones and myself attended the regional workshop event just over a week ago at Crosby SC (which by the way is an amazing £10M facility! – some photos' from the event are posted on Facebook [here](#) if you're interested, can you spot Alan & Dave?). We left the event full of enthusiasm, idea's and determination to do everything we can to provide the help and encouragement needed to get more Lasers out of the boat park and onto the water at Torside. Personally I also left the event with honour of having been stitched-up as Glossop's Laser Fleet Captain for 2010.... thanks Alan & Dave ☺!

We recognise that within the 'fleet' there is quite a large range of sailing experience and abilities and we know from our own experiences that the more time we spend on the water, the more our sailing improves and as we improve, the more enthusiastic we become and the more we enjoy our sailing. We want to get all the Laser sailors at Glossop into this positive feedback loop. So if you're a novice sailor don't worry about embarrassing yourselves or tell yourself you're not up to it – everyone needs to start somewhere, so why not make 2010 the year you get stuck in and I guarantee you'll make progress and have some fun along the way!

In practical terms there are a number of benefits we can make use of under this initiative. These include :-

- Discounts from Laser on parts for our boats – I'll be posting a price list shortly, so stay tuned!
- Provision of RYA Regional Coaches for Training – We've already secured 3 training days!
- The use of shiny new Demo Boats from Laser for events/training/open days

And last, but by no means least the opportunity to have Olympic Gold Medal winner Paul Goodison spend a day a the Club to do some coaching for us! The 'prize' of having Paul Goodison is being offered by the RYA to the club with the most innovative idea for increasing Laser participation. Our big idea is as follows :-

1. We will run three fun/training days, specifically targeted at Laser sailors (or aspiring Laser sailors wishing to join us from other boats!). These days will cover everything from practical boat repair & 'pimping', Basic boat handling skills clinics and some 'fun' racing for all abilities. We also hope to have a 'social' aspect too (BBQ/Beer after sailing etc...) The dates have now been confirmed as follows and more detailed agenda's will be made available nearer the dates.
 - Saturday May 15th
 - Sunday June 20th
 - Saturday July 31st
2. We will monitor individuals attendance during the season and reward every race **participation** in 2010 regardless of your finishing position (remember it's taking part and enjoyment that counts!) with a raffle ticket (Wednesday night / Sunday Pursuit / Sunday Handicap & Glossop Laser Open events will all count)– the more you attend, the more raffle tickets you will be allocated and the better your chance of winning!

3. At the end of the 2010 Frostbite season we will hold a raffle prize draw and the winner will receive a brand new, crispy, authentic Laser sail worth £345 (list price)

We will be requesting a nominal charge for the 3 days training of £25 (total), the proceeds will be used to fund the purchase of the sail and potentially other smaller prizes. The initiative needs to be self-funding so you can do the maths for yourself... but we will need to have a dozen or so people sign up for this initiative to make it work.

I really hope this all sounds interesting to you and just to reiterate, this initiative is intended to get people out on the water having fun in their Lasers and this doesn't mean we have to be a Paul Goodison or a Ben Ainslie or aspirations to be an Olympic athlete!

Please let me know asap whether you'd like to participate in this 'Activate Glossop Laser Fleet' initiative.

Of course if you have any comments / suggestions / feedback, please don't hesitate to let me know. Finally, don't forget there's sailing this weekend on Sunday & Monday so hope to see you up at Torside!

Best regards,
Dave

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This e-mail has been sent to club members that I believe have a Laser – please let me know if either you don't have a Laser and received this message by mistake (my apologies for the spam) or if you can spot that I missed someone off the list :-

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