

DF 95 Group News Update No 20

July 2022



Global delays coupled with Stock shortages are slowing the growth of our DF 95 class fleet

Hi DF 95 Members & Friends

The Australian distributor of Dragon Flite DF 95 and Dragon Force DF 65 yachts plus parts and accessories Hobby Warehouse Ltd must be as frustrated as we are. We have a number of club members who currently are unable to buy standard parts off the shelf due we believe the total closure of the major Ports in China where all Port operations & shipping movements have come to halt as that country grapples with trying to control the spread of Covid.

While confining residents to their homes in the major provinces of China and banning all exports and imports may help contain the virus, it is absolutely Crippling Global trade, hence Joys way the World manufacturer of our boats is unable to deliver stock, hence the current dilemma.

Until this situation improves, whenever? , the only alternative we suggest is to buy from other distributors such as R C Yachts in the UK (Email address infol@radiosailing.co.uk or PH +44 1322 666 363 or their website www.radiosailing.co.uk).

Alternatively, the DF Yachts distributor in the USA Dragon Sailing (Email address support@radiosailing.net) Website www.radiosailing.net or Ph +02 469 215 2425

While the currency differences increase the purchase prices and freight charges are higher this is the only way at present the supply of parts can be overcome. The other suggestion is asked fellow DF 95 skippers to see who may have parts available that you can either buy or borrow until the supply situation comes right. However, it may still be many months before full supplies of off the shelf stock is available in Australia

No 1, July DF 95 Club Sailing programme

- **Friday 1 st**, Club Scratch race championship Round 7 set up at 11.00 am, racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Sunday 3 rd**, DF 95, Club optional race programme, suggesting Match racing assuming we get sufficient boats, if not scratch racing. set up at 11.00 am racing at 11,45 am
- **Friday 8 th**, Club General Handicap racing set up at 11.00 am, racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Sunday 10 th**, Club general Scratch racing day, with help from senior members tuning and practical on water assistance, set up at 11.00 am, racing starts at 11.45 am
- **Friday 15 th**, Club general scratch racing, set up at 11.00 am racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Sunday 17 th**, Special Event. "The Long race "for DF 95s & 65s, a handicap event, with set up at 11.00 am, volunteers meeting 11.45 am Race starting from the beach Le Mans start at 12.15 pm. BBQ Prize giving 2.45 pm the Back Page Bar entry fee \$10 per boat for further details and info see item No
- **Friday 22nd**, General club scratch racing set up at 11/00 am and racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Sunday 24 th**, Club Match Racing round 2, set up at 11.00 am racing starting at 11.45 am.
- **Friday 29th**, Catch up Club Championship Handicap Round 5, set up at 11.00 am and racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Saturday 30th**, Club Championship Handicap round 7, set up at 11.00 am, racing underway at 11.45am
- **Changes to this programme may occur due to weather or ground conditions, and if this was to occur all member will be advised by Email or TX**



Current fine weather on the GC has seen large DF 95 fleet numbers at club sailing days

No 2, “The Back Page Bar Long Race”.

- **Sunday the 17 th**, This is a special one off event for both DF 95s & DF 65s, our DF fleets will compete in **the “Back Page Bar long Race “** a Handicap race day sailing around Emerald Lakes with 3 windward leeward beats as well as sailing from the Beach starting area , passed the Shed and Jetty around to area 4 where the 10 Raters normally sail, then along the southern and western shores of the lake back to the beach finishing marks , Please see the course map below.



- **Race Day Programme**
- **1, Set up to race will be at 11.00 am**, with the start and finish in area 1 the beach. **Racing will commence at 12.15 pm.**
- **2**, The race will be held for all **DF yachts, 65s & 95s** all of whom are welcome to enter, the **race fee will be \$10 per boat**. All boats will sail together over the same course concurrently with Handicap Le mans start from the stone wall at the beach.
- **3**, The course will consist of three single windward leeward one laps, the first off, the beach, the second around at area 4 where the 10 Raters normally sail and third lap will be out from the club jetty where the IOMs sail. **The finish will be too windward between a red and green marks adjacency to the beach depending upon the wind direction on the day.**
- **4**, It is estimated again depending upon wind strength the race should be completed with 1.25 to 1.5 hours (approx. 1.15 to 1.45 pm) after cleaning up returning all equipment to the shed, a **BBQ lunch and event prize giving will commence at the Back Page Bar from 2.30 pm until 4.00 pm**. A perpetual trophy has been made available for this event to be raced for annually.

- **5,** As this is a major club DF Classes race we are looking for additional people to help us run this event , we need people to monitor the boats from the shore as they sail around the course we need people to assist with the beach starts and record the finishing of all boats. Wives and Partners are all welcome and can attend the after match function, BBQ & Prize giving at the Back Page Bar once the racing concludes.
- The interest from skippers to participate in this race has been great, we should have at least 25 to 30 boats and hopefully the weather will be cooperative to us. It also will give all skippers some great walking exercise as they follow their boats around the northern side of the lake.

- **THEREFORE WE ARE SEEKING ENTRIES PLEASE:**

Those of you keen to enter please let me know either by email ronbrown6511@gmail.com or by Ph 0450 176522

No 3, DF 95 Group member Profile:

Our next Club member Profile is John Musgrave another kiwi with lots of sailing background plus many ocean miles under his belt, he is a regular participant in our club sailing programme and is one of the first to enter our class State and or South East QLD Championship regattas, where he regularly has podium finishes.

John is a quietly spoken person a real achiever who has mastered the skill of Radio sailing with exceptional knowledge and understanding of the rules of radio Sailing, he is a real asset to our club as he willingly shares his experience and freely offers practical assistance to our not so knowledgeable or newer members of our DF 95 Group.



He also is one of the first to arrive on our race days to help set up the sailing course and lay the marks, a task he willingly undertakes without hesitation. Through his actions he clearly set a great example to others.

The following text and photos detail a brief glimpse of Johns sailing experience's and gives us all an insight into his past.

SAILING HISTORY

I LOVED PLAYING RUBGY AS A KID BUT BEING SMALLER THAN THE LOCAL MAORI AND POLYNESIAN BOYS MEANT TAKING A HAMMERING EACH WEEKEND SO MY FATHER DECIDED THAT IN THE INTEREST OF LONG-TERM HEALTH FROM REPEATED CONCUSSIONS, HE BOUGHT MY BROTHER AND I AN OPEN SAILING DINGHY CALLED AN ARROW. I WAS AGED ABOUT 11 AND MY BROTHER 9.

THESE BOATS COULD BE SAILED, ROWED OR HAVE A SMALL OUTBOARD ON THE TRANSOM WHICH APPEALED TO MY FATHER AS HE COULD ALSO USE IT TO GO FISHING IN IT. IT WAS OPEN WITH THE ONLY BOUYANCY BEING POLYSTYRENE BLOCKS STUFFED UNDER THE FLOORBOARDS TO STOP THEM FROM SINKING. WHEN THEY CAPSISED YOU COULD NOT BAIL THEM OUT AND HAD TO BE TOWED ASHORE BY THE CLUB RESCUE BOAT. CONSEQUENTLY, THE MUSGRAVE BOYS WERE IGNOMINIOUSLY TOWED ASHORE MANY TIMES DURING THEIR FIRST SEASON. AFTER 3 SEASONS WE FINALLY WON THE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP.



John & his Brothers Arrow designed centreboard sailing dinghy they learnt to sail in

WE JOINED THE GLENDOWIE BOATING CLUB WHICH HAD A CLUBHOUSE NEAR THE MOUTH OF THE TAMAKI RIVER WHICH FLOWS OUT INTO THE WAITEMATA HARBOUR – THE SITE OF AUCKLAND CITY. I BECAME ADDICTED TO SAILING AND READ AS MANY BOOKS AS I COULD GET FROM OUR LOCAL LIBRARY. THE ADDED ATTRACTION OF

SAILING WAS THAT WE SAILED ON A SUNDAY AND IT GOT ME OUT OF GOING TO BIBLE CLASS, MUCH TO THE CHAGRIN OF MY MOTHER, WHO WAS RELIGIOUS. MY FATHER WAS CONSCRIPTED INTO THE NZ ARMY WHILE AT UNIVERSITY AND FOUGHT IN EGYPT AND ITALY WHERE HE WAS WOUNDED AND RETURNED TO NZ TO TRAIN FURTHER TROOPS. THE WAR CONVINCED MY FATHER THAT THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF A GOD AND WAS PLEASED TO SEE HIS KIDS SAILING RATHER THAN BEING BRAINWASHED. MY ELDER SISTER WAS BORN BEFORE THE END OF WW2 SO DAD MADE THE ARMY HIS CAREER AND THE FAMILY LIVED IN MILITARY ACCOMMODATION WHILE I WAS YOUNG – PAKAKURA, WAIURU, TRENTHAM, PALMERSTON NORTH THEN RETIRED IN AUCKLAND WHERE I DID MOST OF MY SCHOOLING.

THE ARROW WAS CAT RIGGED SO MY BROTHER SOON LOST INTEREST, HAVING NO JIB TO TRIM. SO, THE ARROW WAS SOLD AND WE EACH GOT A NZ MOTH. THESE WERE DIFFERENT FROM THE AUSSI MOTH BEING A SCOW AND HAVING A FLAT BOTTOM WHICH WERE GREAT FUN SAILING DOWN WIND IN A BREEZE.

FROM THERE I MOVED TO WELLINGTON TO STUDY PHARMACY FOR 3 YEARS AND RETURNED TO AUCKLAND TO DO MY INTERNSHIP. WHILE AN APPRENTICE EARNING 27 SHILLINGS AND



SIXPENCE A WEEK I DESIGNED AND BUILT A FOAM AND FIBREGLASS CHERUB. THIS FORM OF CONSTRUCTION WAS VERY NEW AND HAVING LITTLE EXPERIENCE IN THIS, THE BOAT TURNED OUT TO BE TOO HEAVY AND WAS NOT A SUCCESS. MANY LESSONS WERE LEARNT THOUGH. I THEN BOUGHT A WOODEN CHERUB AND REPRESENTED NZ AGAINST THE AUSSIS ON THE WAITEMATA. THE AUSSIS BEAT US, HAVING BOATS WITH DEEPER V'S AND A STRAIGHT RUN AFT WHICH SUITED THE REFLECTED CHOP THAT YOU GET ON AUCKLAND HARBOUR.

IN 1972 HAD MY BIG "OE" WANDERING AROUND EUROPE FOR A YEAR IN A CAMPERVAN.

ON RETURNING TO NZ, I DID LOCUM WORK AROUND AUCKLAND AND THE NORTH ISLAND RUNNING RETAIL AND URGENT PHARMACIES, OFTEN STARTING AT 8 AM AND FINISHING THE URGENT SHIFT AT 10PM AT NIGHT AND ON CALL UNTIL 8AM IN THE MORNING.

DURING THIS TIME, I SAILED 12 FOOT SKIFFS ON AUCKLAND HARBOUR THEN GRADUATED TO THE 18 FOOT SKIFFS. WE HAD A BRUCE FARR DESIGNED BOAT CALLED COOL LEOPARD AND WERE SPONSORED BY LEOPARD BREWERIES. THESE BOATS ARE INCREDIBLE TO SAIL WITH THREE ON THE WIRE AND HUGE KITES. I REPRESENTED NZ IN 18 FOOTERS BUT WE WERE BEATEN BY THOSE "BLOODY AUSSIS" ON OUR HOME PATCH. I ALSO CREWED ON ANYTHING I COULD GET A RIDE ON FROM PIED PIPERS TO MULLITIES, TOWNSON 32'S AND DAVIDSON 60'S.



IN 1975 MY FATHER AND I FINISHED BUILDING A 30FT HERRESHOFF (FOOTLOOSE) IN HIS BACK YARD. IN THOSE DAYS THIS WAS VERY COMMON. I RACED THIS BOAT IN THE CORRUBA WINTER SERIES IN AUCKLAND. PRIZE MONEY WAS A BOTTLE OF BURBON AND MANY A BOTTLE WAS CONSUMED ON THE MOORING WITH A SWIM TO SHORE WHEN THE 4 CREW SUNK THE 7FT PRAM DINGHY ON THE WAY BACK TO THE CLUB HOUSE. THIS BOAT GAVE ME THE CRUISING BUG AND THE HAURAKI GULF BECAME MY "HOME" WITH MANY PLACES TO EXPLORE. FOOTLOOSE WAS SOLD AND REPLACED WITH A 34FT STEEL VAN DER STADT (SASKIA) THAT NEEDED A REFIT. I REPLACED THE WOODEN SPARS AND MULTI STRAND WIRE HALYARDS AND REPAINTED IT. IN 1982 I SAILED SASKIA FROM NZ TO TAHITI WITH 2 CANADIAN DOCTORS WHO HAD NO CLUE HOW TO SAIL BUT WANTED AN EXCITING WAY TO RETURN HOME AFTER STUDYING IN CHRISTCHURCH. I CRUISED TAHITI FOR 7 MONTHS THEN SAILED SINGLEHANDED TO HAWAII VIA THE TUOMOTUS, TAKING 31 DAYS. AFTER 3 MONTHS CRUISING AROUND HAWAII, I SAILED TO SAN FRANCISCO WITH 2 CREW, A KIWI GUY AND AN AMERICAN GIRL WHO I MET IN VENICE IN 1973. WE MARRIED IN PEORIA ILLINOIS IN 1983 BUT THE MARRIAGE DID NOT LAST. WE LIVED ON THE BOAT IN SAUSALITO FOR 3 MONTHS AND SOLD HER TO A GUY IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON. THE PASSAGE (32 DAYS) TO THE USA WAS SAILED WITH A BROKEN RUDDER, THE WELD FROM THE STOCK TO THE TOP OF THE RUDDER HAVING SHEARED OFF IN HEAVY SEAS.



ON RETURNING TO NZ, I BOUGHT A PHARMACY AND BUILT A FARR 34, (FOOTLOOSE 2) AGAIN IN MY FATHER'S BACK YARD. THIS BOAT WAS RACED AND CRUISED UNTIL SOLD TO BUY A LAURIE DAVIDSON 45 HULL AND DECKS (WATERMARK) WHICH TOOK ME 16 YEARS TO FINISH. THIS TIME IN IT WAS IN MY BACKYARD. I LIVED ON WATERMARK IN VAVA'U TONGA FOR 6 MONTHS THEN SAILED TO SOUTHPORT, AUSTRALIA AND BOUGHT AN APARTMENT IN MAIN BEACH. WATERMARK WAS SAILED BACK TO AUCKLAND IN 2018 AND SOLD. WHILE BUILDING BOATS I RACED A LASER AT MANLY YACHT CLUB IN AUCKLAND. MY BEST RESULT BEING 2ND IN THE NZ LASER MASTERS IN 2005. I ALSO RACED A LASER WHILE LIVING HERE IN SOUTHPORT, AND WON THE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS BEFORE RETIRING FROM A SECOND HERNIA. I BROUGHT A MARBLEHEAD RC BOAT WITH ME WHEN I MOVED TO AUSTRALIA. I SAILED THIS ON SMAIL'S QUARRY IN AUCKLAND FROM 1984 ON, THEN SWAPPED IT FOR A 10 RATER WHEN I STARTED SAILING AT EMERALD LAKES FROM 2010 UNTIL NOW.

Thank you, John, it is great to be able to read your sailing background and history, we all tend not to fully know our sailing friends and colleagues and see where your extensive knowledge and experience has come from, well done thank you.

No 4, General Group & Club News & Information

- Please be aware the QRYA & the ARYA have now confirmed the DF Nationals for DF 95 & 65s for 2023 will be hosted by the Sunshine Coast Radio sailing Club and will be held at their sailing venue at Sportsman Parade, Bokarina up at the Sunshine Coast from 2nd to 7th of June.
They are planning to run the DF 65s from the Friday the 2nd and Saturday the 3rd, with Sunday the 4th being a spare day in case of weather issues. The DF 95 s will start on Monday the 5th and will run into Tuesday the 6th. There will be lots of great social activities and great racing and would strongly request you consider entering this major event for our DF classes.
- The Sunshine Coats Radio sailing club is about to introduce DF yachts to their regular club programme following demand from several new and existing members and we have offered help and assistance to them with this introduction. So, its planned in in early September for 10 of our PRYC DF 95 members to sail up at there club on a Saturday as part of their regular club day. The actual date will soon be announced by them and when it is known I will advise you all.
- The new Eagleby Radio Sailing Club have also been awarded hosting rights for both the DF 95 2 day State Championships and they have put their hands up to run concurrently the South East Queensland GP 3 championship regatta that Newport has had to give away due to major constructions works at their sailing venue. These 2 events will be held on Saturday the 13th and Sunday the 14th of August and again I would encourage you all to enter. The Eagleby clubs sailing venue is only 30 to 40

minutes' drive from the Gold Coast and it would be great to see PRYC members well represented at these regattas please, enter on line at the QRYA website. Entries close on the 11 th of August and the race fee is \$30 covering both events.

- Our club Secretary Julian O'Brien recently sent all club members an email advising the contractor who successful bid for the construction of the 3 new Launching ramps has started to become established on site. In recent days temporary fencing has been erected at each of the 3 sites in preparation for work to begin. All members have been asked to treat the contractors and Council Workers courteously and maintain safe distance from the construction sites and when machinery is being operated, please.
- Mike Jeffery's has recently posted on Facebook a very useful video detailing the tuning of our boats, which you all will find most helpful, to actual see what settings he is recommending as opposed to reading the information gives us all a better understanding of how and what is needed to get our boats into a more competitive status. Mikes website details.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NKUs12Pfe3s&list=UURpRKSF150hBJhdDpYJPvBg&index=15>

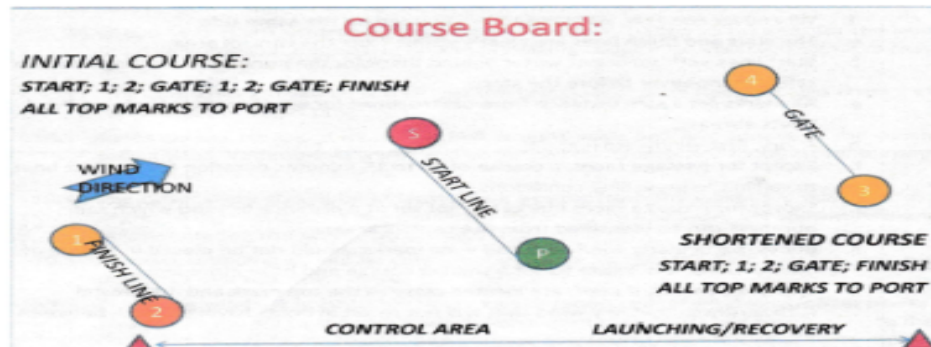


Interesting to note the sail settings of the boats running down wind in this picture

- During the past month Alan Walker one of our senior DF 95 skippers and club committee member who has a vast knowledge of radio sailing and the rules of sailing presented a very informative workshop session on **Course setting** and the need to ensure this is done with some accuracy to ensure there is true windward beats, to also ensure the starting line

is the correct length for the number of boats plus is set with port bias to prevent crowding at the preferred end etc. A copy of this excellent presentation is available either from the PRYC website or by giving me a call and I will send you a copy.

COURSE SETTING



Presented by:
Allan Walker

- I recently was looking at a UK DF 95 website who were advertising new boats fully assembled with 4 rigs and sails, a cradle, sailing bags etc all for 995 British Pounds and went converted to Australian dollars would cost more than \$2300

Complete DF95 Package

£995.00

The Complete DF95 Package Bundle

- DF95 Boat fully built and tuned ready to sail
- 4 Complete Rigs
- Personalised DF95 Boat Stand
- DF95 Sail Bag
- DF95 Onesie Boat Bag
- Supplied with 2.4GHz Radio with Rechargeable Battery

1 Add to basket

SKU: DF95_01 / Category: DragonFlight 95

The month of July has lots of sailing activities for our fleet, which includes our special long race event which I am sure will be a great day. See you all on the water.

Ron Brown

DF 95 Fleet Captain

PRYC

