

DF 95 Group News Update No 3

—January 2021



Hi Guys,

Compliments of the season to you all, hope Christmas and the new year's celebrations went well and you are now ready to face the new year which we all hope will be much better than what we experienced back in 2020.

So welcome to our **2021 sailing season which officially starts again on Friday the 8th** of January with fleet scratch racing at our new set up time of 11.30 am with racing underway at midday. Please remember our sailing priority day is Fridays with Sunday our secondary day.

1, January 2021 DF 95 Sailing dates ---

- Friday 8th, 11.30 am set up, sailing under way at midday - Scratch fleet racing
- **Sunday 10 th 11.30 am set up sailing underway at midday – Scratch fleet racing**
- Friday 15th, 11.30 am set up, sailing underway at midday – scratch fleet racing
- **Sunday 17 the, 11.30 am set up, Sailing underway at Midday – Scratch fleet racing**
- Friday 22 nd 11.30 am set up, sailing underway at midday – Handicap fleet racing
- **Sunday 24 th 11.30 am set up , sailing underway at midday – Handicap fleet racing**
- Friday 29 th 11.30 am set up , Sailing underway at midday – scratch fleet racing
- **Sunday 31 st No sailing as 10 Rater invitational that day, volunteers required to assist**

Also please be aware the normal \$3.00 racing fee remains in place for the 2021 season, and is payable on the day of racing when you sign in

2, PRYC Standard Sailing Instructions (version 8)

You all would have received an email from Julian O'Brien dated 21st of December 2020 advising the clubs committee have approved this document (SSI) for all fleets to use as from the start of the new season. This is a very important step forward for our club and our DF 95 fleet as we now have a written set of sailing instructions that have been tailored for our use as it is planned that we now adhere to the rules of sailing, so issues that arise such as making contact with other boats and hitting of marks to name a few misdemeanors are no longer a permissible practice and when they occur every race participate is expected to undertake the necessary penalty, which will be monitored by the Race Officer and or PRO .

This Document is available on the Clubs website for you all to download so you have a copy. www.paradiseradioyachtclub.com then go to **Club Information**, then **Our Documents**,

It is proposed to revisit this set of Sailing instructions in six months' time to review and make any additions or alterations that are considered an improvement. Hence if you have any suggestions or changes you believe are beneficial please let me know. Finally, I am sure you will join with me to congratulate and thank Bill Clancy for all of his efforts to bring this great publication together.

3, International Yacht Racing rules upgrade 2021 to 2024

Please be aware the **International Yacht Racing Rules** have been updated commencing 2021 and run through to 2024 a copy of these is available to you and can be found on the QRYA website www.qrya.com.au along with another publication on the same website '**Study Guide for the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 to 2024 Radio Sailing rules**' this guide in fact highlights the changes that actually effect Radio sailing.

For those of you who are new to sailing I recommend a read of these publications will help you gain a better knowledge and understanding of the rules that govern our sport.



Study Guide

for

THE RACING RULES
OF SAILING
2021 to 2024



4, 2021 DF 95 Sailing Season Calendar

The PRYC sailing calendar for the 2021 season is now available from the Clubs Website, I plan to run off a few copies that will be available on our sailing days or I will send you a copy by email if you prefer.

As mentioned, the DF 95 Fleet will have a 10-race scratch and Handicap Championship series for 2021 starting in February and finishing in November with the last races. Eight races count for individual points and the winners will receive their trophies at this year's Club prize giving.

Also, we have made application to the committee to hold four, 2-day Match Race events through the year culminating in a 2-day match Race championship series in Early December. I am currently awaiting final approval so we can proceed with the planning of these events which hopefully will begin in March. Will keep you posted.

5, Invitations to non PRYC DF 95 Boat owners

A couple of you have asked the question "Can non-Club members who either live locally or from other Clubs who sail DF 95 s are able to come and sail with us on our allotted sailing days at Emerald Lakes "? The answer is YES, subject to the following.

Visitors who wish to sail with the PRYC DF 95 Fleet who are not members of PRYC are welcome to participate, including members of the affiliated clubs and so all sailors are compliant that day with our club's policies and requirements, each sailing participant is required to sign the Attendance and Covid-19 registers and pay the \$3.00 entry fee prior to the commencement of sailing.

Visitors (non sailors) who attend the day's sailing are asked to sign the "Visitors register of attendance form" which is part of the PRYC Covid-9 safe plan. However no entry fee is required from these people as they are not sailing. Also as mentioned in the news update non members of PRYC, or of another AYRC affiliated club are able to sail with us on three separate occasions prior to them seeking application to join the club, but are still required to pay the prescribed sailing entry fee.

Race entry fees: normal club sailing days incur our standard race entry fee for all skippers participating, However special events, National or State Championships, plus other selected events do require a larger race entry fee which will be shown in the notice of race for such events or in written correspondence covering such special events

6, Winch issues Continue to be problem for some

During last season a number of us have experienced the failure of Sail winches in particular and Rudder servos have also had issues. With the availability of parts for both 95 s and 65s being in short supply due to COVID-19 19 these failures have caused a number of concerns for many boat owners not only here in Australia but around the world.

Recently on the Facebook page of the DF Association an overseas DF Boat owner Peter Ski Wilson has completed an investigation into the possible causes of winch failure and has made a surprising discovery, please read the following article,

Peter Ski Wilson

A lot of DF65 sailors know that the winches can be unreliable. My winches have winch creep and one lack of travel. This is where I need some help from owners who have winch problems. Firstly, anyone who has a winch that has a burnt-out motor, as I want to see if the electronics have burnt out or the motor. I will reimburse anyone for the postage. The other point I am trying to establish is in the potentiometer, I believe they are a carbon resistor type and not wire wound resistor. The winches are rated 4.8v- 6V DC. We use 6.6v, that's 10% above specification. It might not seem much but if you imagine your 240v appliance now getting 264v it would not be good. I know there are electronics experts out there that might be able to forward their thinking on this matter. I could be that we are the problem and not the winches. For those with winch creep, when sailing pull or let your sails out and then just let out or in a tiny amount then slowly sheet in or out and it should go to its proper position. (this looks like a potentiometer problem. we may have to restrict to 6v max. Any feedback on the batteries as in voltage, winch problem would be appreciated.

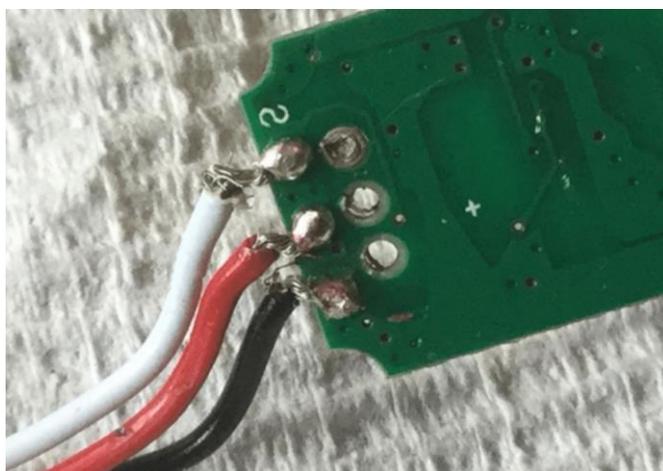
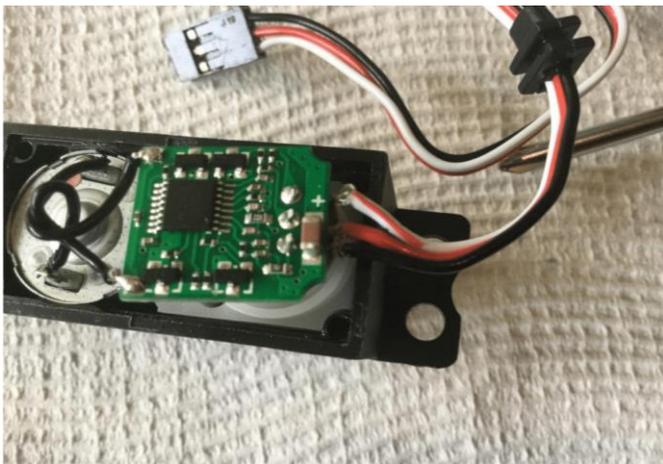
I have spent half a day trying to sort the DF65 sail winches out. I will only deal with winch creep and possible bogies in the winch movement. When I moved the wire going into the winch servo even so slightly, the winch creep got worse and from fully in or fully out it would move 1/3 to 1/4 of a turn at least. With the wiring where the black, red and white wires connect to the cct board, I found loose strands of wire that can and do touch each other, you may be able to see from the photo taken after the pot was unsoldered. (don't do this unless you want the winch for motor and gear parts). The pot looks like a one solder application on the cut board and I used a low wattage soldering iron. On my second u/s winch, I used a pin to separate the wires and did not unsolder the pot. The pot is a 90deg rotation pot as can be seen from the photo. On the second winch servo as mentioned a pin was used to ensure there were no loose strands of wire that could touch or short out anything. I then ran a few drops of super glue in where the wires connect to stop any loose strands of wire causing problems. I found that there was a small amount of winch creep but I could live with that, but I was not satisfied with half a job. As the winch is sheeted in or out the torque moves the pot through the gears and the Cct board moves slightly as well and as the wiring connected to the cct board which is hard wired and fixed to the pot causes the cct board to move one way or the other Which also moves the pot. Now the pot being a 90deg pot that small amount of movement meant a lot of winch travel. I packed a little firm foam a couple of mills thick between the cct board and the pot and again on top of the cct board which pushes against the bottom housing of the winch and guess what, NO WINCH CREEP WHAT SO EVER. Two design faults in manufacture, 1. The Black, Red and White tires should be tinned and then cut back to 1mm then soldered on to cct board To stop wires fraying. 2. The cct board and pot should be secured to stop any movement inside the servo case what so ever. As for burnt out motors, I feel it could be operator error or water ingress to servo. The most important thing to me is

a DRY boat or as dry as practicable. So, anyone that has an old servo with a burnt-out motor stripped gears I would love to get my hands on them to replace the electronics on the winch I did all the work on Which is now u/s. I hope this helps some DF65 sailors with winch problems. p.s. packing

polystyrene may be ok but remember that little motor gets really hot as I found out trying to make it fail after my mods. Merry Xmas and have a great New Year, see you on the water

Some very valuable information in Mr Wilson article that is also applicable to the DF 95 Sail winch creep issues some of us have experienced well worth a read. Thank you, Scott B, for sending us this Peter Wilsons investigation report.

Please see the supporting photos on the following page which helps make Mr Wilsons comments easier to follow and understand.



7, DF new Boats & Parts availability

I know a lot of you are very concerned about the new boats & spare parts availability from Hobby Warehouse the principal distributors of Dragon Force Radio controlled yachts here in Australia. Following a request for an update we have been advised to subscribe to their new monthly newsletter where they will list what products and parts are due to arrive and when these will be listed on their website for purchase. To gain access to the newsletter please go to the Hobby Warehouse website to register your interest. Also please remember while we are awaiting products / parts to arrive some of our DF 95 owners do have spares available so you can continue sailing. Please let me know what specific items you may require.

8, Emerald Lakes Golf & Leisure Club invitation.

After our sailing each Friday afternoon, as from now on, those DF 95 members who are interested in an after-race chat, a refreshing drink, and or some food are welcome to use the facilities at the Emerald Lakes Golf & Leisure Club situated on the Corner of Alabaster Drive & the Nerang Broadbeach Road.

As participants and users of the Emerald Lakes area we members of the PRYC are able to use these facilities, there is no entry cost, only payment for Drinks and Food. We are asked to sign in under the COVID-19 requirements and requested to wear neat & clean casual clothing, shorts and polo shirts with no thongs, singlets or bare feet. There is plenty of parking which is great and the services provided are excellent and competitively priced.

If you are interested, a social membership is available with a variety of member benefits such as Bi-Weekly Cash Jackpots, loyalty points which can be redeemed for beverages and food. The cost is \$10 per social member which is valid till march 2023, 3 years. If you are interested, I have membership application forms.

9, PRYC Clothing

I am seeking your interest to purchase from the club, the following items which would have the club's logo embroidered upon the shirts and hats. Once the actual membership interest is known we can finalize the purchase prices as these are based on volume. Can you please confirm which of these following clothing items you wish to purchase?

Item 1,

Polo Shirts short sleeved, available in Plain White and Teal (Blue / Green) to match the club's official logo colours, and in sizes, SM, M, XL, XXL. and XXXL, Approx. price \$ 28.00 each

Item 2.

Long Sleeved Polo shirts available in Plain White and Teal (Blue / Green) again to match the Clubs official logo colours, and in sizes, SM, M, XL, XXL and XXXL, Approx. price \$ 35.00 each

Item 3,

Plain wide brimmed hats with adjustable chin straps, available in plain white and Teal (Blue / Green) again to match the club's official logo colours, these would be available in 3 sizes. Approx. price \$18.00 each

Ron Brown

DF 95 Fleet Captain

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