

N e w s R e l e a s e

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Seldén Sailjuice Winter Series welcomes new events and ranking categories for 2024/25

Representing the 16th Edition of the Seldén Sailjuice Winter Series, Seldén Mast has confirmed it will return as title sponsor for the off-season sailing series, which has become one of the most popular and prestigious circuits in British dinghy racing.

Taking place since 2009, the Series brings together some of the biggest winter handicap racing events into a unified series that routinely attracts some of the best sailors in the country to compete against each other.

The Seldén Sailjuice Winter Series aims to appeal to as many classes as possible, with typically almost 100 different types of boat represented across the season, from fleets as diverse as the traditional Norfolk Punt and National 18 to emerging classes like the Hadron H2 single hander.

Over the years the Great Lakes Handicap Group has set its own variation of the standard RYA PY (Portsmouth Yardstick) numbers to produce very close competition for pretty much every kind of boat that takes part.

Levelling the playing field

Co-organisers Simon Lovesey and Andy Rice are also introducing a number of innovations for the up-coming Series, including plans to create handicaps for older versions of dinghy classes – which follows an ever-growing number of fleets that have developed their own systems for creating competitive racing for same-class boats of different vintages and varying quality.

“Working closely with the Great Lakes Handicap Group over the past decade we already have a well-proven set of handicap numbers for the ‘Best in Class’,” explains Lovesey, co-organiser of the Seldén Sailjuice Series.

“Now we are looking to work with all interested parties to create a fair playing field for sailors, often younger with minimal budget, to be able to compete on equal terms in older boats that cost a few hundred pounds rather than multiple thousands.”

Seldén Sailjuice Winter Series

The Fernhurst Books Draycote Dash at Draycote Water Sailing Club in November is the first of nine events taking place across the winter months, culminating with the series prize giving on the main stage of the RYA Dinghy & Watersports Show at the end of February 2025.

New for the 2024/2025 season, the Polar Chase will join the other eight established events in the Seldén Sailjuice Winter Series, taking place at Chase Sailing Club near Walsall on 14 December 2024.

Based around the UK's biggest winter handicap events, the Series gives a focal point to dinghy racing during the quieter months, where some fleets choose to use some of the events as their class championships – such as the RS Aero which typically brings up to 50 boats for the concluding event of the season, the Oxford Blue, which serves as the RS Aero Winter Championships.

New Ranking Categories

With many competing sailors representing the forces (ASA, RAFSA, RNSA) or their schools, organisers have also announced new extracted rankings this winter for Forces and Schools.

“We are proud to continue our long-standing partnership with the Seldén Sailjuice Winter Series, which has become a cornerstone of British dinghy racing,” says Seldén Mast Ltd’s Managing Director, Steve Norbury.

"This series captures the true spirit of innovation, inclusivity and competition and we're delighted to be able to support sailors of all levels who, like us, want to get out on the water and continue sailing and competing all year round. From seasoned champions to those racing on a budget in older boats, we're excited to see what this year's edition will bring and to be a part of its ongoing success."

The races that will form the 2024/2025 Seldén Sailjuice Winter Series are as follows:

Fernhurst Books Draycote Dash, Draycote Water Sailing Club - 23 & 24 November 2024

Datchet Flyer, Datchet Water Sailing Club - 7 & 8 December 2024

Polar Chase, Chase Sailing Club (new for 2024/25) - 14 December 2024

Yorkshire Dales Brass Monkey, Yorkshire Dales Sailing Club - 27 December 2024

Gill Grafham GP, Grafham Water Sailing Club - 29 December 2024

GJW Direct Bloody Mary, Queen Mary Sailing Club - 11 January 2025

King George Gallop, King George Sailing Club - 18 January 2025

John Merricks Tiger Trophy, Rutland Sailing Club - 1 & 2 February 2025

Oxford Blue, Oxford Sailing Club - 15 February 2025

Prizegiving will take place in February at the RYA Dinghy & Watersports Show, Farnborough.

For more information on about the Series visit: www.SailJuiceSeries.com

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Notes to editors

High-res images are available online at <https://maa.agency/media-centre>

About Seldén Mast Ltd

- Seldén Mast Ltd is the UK subsidiary of the Seldén Group, with facilities for manufacturing carbon, dinghy and custom yacht spars.
- The company is the world leader in dinghy spars, with more races won with Seldén spars than any other brand.
- Working in partnership with large OEM dinghy builders, Seldén Mast Ltd designs and manufactures complete kits of parts for boats.
- Seldén Mast Ltd manufactures custom yacht spars for some of the world's most prestigious brands. The design department combined with the state-of-the-art fabrication facilities (for both carbon and aluminium masts) allows Seldén Mast Ltd to customise the standard yacht product to the higher levels of quality and functionality required by the world's most exclusive yacht builders.
- For more information on Seldén Mast visit www.seldenmast.com

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