

### Skippers Meeting held at NCYC 5.30pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2010

Topics discussed and conclusions reached as follows:

- 2009-2010 courses – most skippers were happy with the courses laid but interference with Boskalis tugs and barges had been a problem. As the dredging contract is nearing completion, these interactions should cease shortly.
- 2010-2011 courses – considerable discussion ensued regarding possible changes such as outside starts, windward/return courses with 2 races per day, pursuit races, laying of shorter courses for Div.2 yachts, windward starts in the harbour. Most of these options would require extra resources (boats & personnel) but will be referred to the Sailing Committee for consideration.
- Spring/Summer seasons – general agreement was reached that the current 20 race Summer season should be split into 2 seasons with the Christmas break in between.
- Saturday or Sunday racing – overwhelming support to continue Sunday racing was received & the Rear Commodore will retreat to his cave for another year.
- Topyacht Entry System – Mark Richards gave an illuminating & illuminated discourse on this computer entry system. He explained that under Rule 55 (Blue Book) & Rule 4.3.6 (White Book), it is the responsibility of skippers to ensure that the race officials have details of all crew sailing on their boat in each race (including next of kin contact details) and that crew are members of YA. The Topyacht system provides a database which can be accessed by skippers who can tick off, from a list of their crew pool, all those sailing in a given race. Visitors or new starters may also be entered with relevant details. Mark explained that a computer, along with someone to assist, will be made available at the club prior to racing for those skippers who don't have computer access. Last minute crew changes can be notified to the RO by SMS (preferably) or VHF

*Paul Gleeson*

Rear Commodore

NEWCASTLE Cruising Yacht Club.