

To be held at the
Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy
Portland
Dorset

28th September to 4th October 2002

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Weymouth Speed Week 2002

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Introduction to Weymouth Speed Week

The event is centred on an accurately measured 500-metre course located in Portland Harbour. This provides the challenge for the speed sailor to pit his wits against the elements and endeavour to raise the World speed record upwards from the current absolute speed of 46.52 knots set by Yellow Pages Endeavour in Australia in 1993.

In the 1970's and 1980's Weymouth Speed Week attracted many thousands of pounds of sponsorship money and competitors attended by invitation.

During the 1990's Weymouth Speed Week has been run entirely by the voluntary efforts of a few individuals with the co-operation of Weymouth and Portland Borough Council and the support of the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy. The Amateur Yacht Research Society has assisted by donating prizes each year and together with a number of other individuals has made financial contributions. In addition individuals have made their sailing boats available for use as 'course boats' during the week. The efforts of all these organisations and individuals have made Weymouth Speed Week the enjoyable and exciting event that it is today.

The lack of rules provide the ideal proving ground for both experts and dreamers to build the type of boats, which, but for Weymouth Speed Week would never see the light of day. There are no restrictions as to who may enter and all types of sailing craft are welcome. Weymouth Speed Week is a unique event.

In addition to the absolute World record there are two 'local' records to be broken. Firstly the Portland sailing speed record over 500 metres of 36 knots set by Crossbow in 1980 and the speed of 37 knots set by Richard Jones on a sailboard over a 318-metre beach course.

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The Organisers

Organising and Management Committee	Bob Spagnoletti Nick Povey Norman Philips Robert Downhill
With the assistance of:	
Hon Treasurer	Norman Phillips
Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy	Sandra Gollop
A.Y.R.S. representatives	Fred Ball Graeme Ward Michael Ellison
Operations & Course Director	Phil Gollop
Timing	Bob Spagnoletti
Web Site	Nick Povey

Contact details during Weymouth Speed Week

Throughout Weymouth Speed Week the following people will have access to 2 way radios and remain in contact with the timing boats, clubhouse, beach and rescue boats.

Nick Povey 0771 340 1292

Bob Spagnoletti 07814 312997

Robert Downhill 07860 711127

Norman Philips 07763 224 585

Sandra Gollop 01305 860101

Weymouth & Portland Sailing Academy, Osprey Quay, Portland,
DT5 1SA

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Details of the 2002 Event

Weymouth Speed Week 2002 will be held from Saturday the 28th September to Friday the 4th of October 2000. There will be a final debriefing on Saturday the 5th October in the Clubhouse at 10.30 a.m. The event will be based at the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy that is located at the end of Chesil Beach on the site of the old naval helicopter base on Portland Dorset

For the fourth consecutive year the entry fees for the week have been set as:

Boats	£120
Sail and Kite Boards	£75

These charges are for the use of the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy including launching and mooring fees, the provision of the timing equipment, radios and surveying equipment, the boats used at each end of the course, rescue cover and the results presented as a printed booklet.

There are two prizes each day, the fastest boat and the fastest board. These are presented each day, either in the clubhouse or at that evening's social event.

Competitor's support boats are included in the entry fee. However all boats need a receipt to be shown to the Portland Ports 'traffic warden' to whom the receipt must be shown on demand.

Social Membership of the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy is free for the week but all visitors to Weymouth Speed Week must sign the visitor's book at reception.

The Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy has all the facilities of a top class sailing club including showers, canteen and bar. Refreshments will be available throughout the day. There is adequate parking for cars and trailers. Campers and motor homes are allowed on the site. For people who want to stay on the site all week, it is important that arrangements are made with

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Sandra Gollop of the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy telephone 01305 860101.

Social events are arranged throughout the week, where these require catering arrangements tickets for attending these events must be obtained at least 24 hours before they takes place.

The charges for the social events are as quoted in the itinerary of events. Tickets will be on sale at the registration desk.

Motor vehicles and trailers should be kept in the designated car parking areas and not in the boat park. Slipways must be kept as clear as possible and launching trolleys moved to the boat park.

We are all looking forward to having a great week. All the competitors will be making the effort to demonstrate that Portland Harbour is the premier venue for speed sailing and Weymouth Speed Week is the showplace for wind-powered craft. The efforts of the many individuals that make Weymouth Speed Week happen each year are entirely voluntary. If during the week you were able to assist then your contribution would be very much appreciated by everyone.

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Important Information for Competitors

Insurance

All competitors must have third party insurance cover for £2,000,000.

Briefing

A daily briefing will be held in the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy clubhouse each day at 9:30 a.m. Please ensure that you attend.

Safety

If you intend to go on the water ensure that you have adequate protection from the weather. Life jackets or buoyancy aids must be worn at all times when on the water.

Always remember to look out for people in the water and if you see someone check that he or she is not in difficulties - do not assume anything. Safety must be of paramount importance. If someone falls overboard from a boat or is seen to be in danger then everything stops until he or she is rescued.

At each end of the course(s) there will be someone with a radio able to talk to the rescue boat(s) and they will have a telephone. If you are aware of any potential safety problem report it to them promptly.

Sail Numbers

All competitors must have 300mm high sail numbers on both sides of their sails. Numbers should be positioned starboard side high. Sailboards should position the numbers towards the clew of the sail, not at the head. This is because the head of the sail twists off and if the numbers are positioned here they are very hard to read when viewed from the side of the board. The maximum sail number used is 999. Sail numbers are on sale at the registration desk that is located in the clubhouse near to the bar. To distinguish Weymouth Speed Week competitors from other people on the water you are asked to add a 'dot' behind your sail number. These will be freely available from the registration desk.

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The Course(s)

The form the competition takes is based on a 500 metre course with transits at each end. The transits can be sighted by those doing the timing either from land or more usually from boats on the water. This flexibility allows the course to be laid in any direction to produce the best conditions for obtaining maximum speeds. When the course is open a green flag will fly at the start end of the course.

There is no limit to the number of runs that can be made. Competitors should aim to cross the start at 30-second intervals from other competitors, if simultaneous starts occur then some starts will be lost. With a little discipline no problems should be encountered. To ensure that the timing crew observe your start it is advised that you start between the boat and the buoy that indicates the transit line. The finish can be made either side of the boat at the end of the course, thus enabling the competitor to take their best line.

To enable us to ensure the best conditions for speed the course will be adjusted when necessary by agreement of the majority of sailors on the water, as it takes a while to change the course direction, frequent course changes are not desired.

The course is under the direction of the Course Director who has absolute discretion regarding all aspects of the conduct of the competition.

Flags

The meaning of the flags at either end of the course is as follows

1. Red flags at each end of the course - the course is closed.
2. Red flag at one end green at the other - the course direction is one way from green to red.
3. Green flags at each end of the course - as there is not much wind or traffic timing is being done both ways.
4. A yellow flag flying in addition to the red and green flags signifies there are two courses in operation. A beach course and a harbour course.

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Results

Once again the Amateur Yacht Research Society have generously donated prizes. These are glass tankards engraved with the date and are presented daily to the fastest boat and the fastest board. The results are reviewed and approved by the official adjudicator whose decision is final.

As Weymouth Speed Week is not associated with any organisation or governing body, any decisions taken by the committee are final and not subject to review by third parties.

Feedback

It is our intention to make Weymouth Speed Week an enjoyable event for all who attend. To assist us in this aim we will provide 'comment forms' which will be available on the clubhouse bar. If at the end of a day there is anything that you would like to bring to our attention or a suggestion for improvement then please jot it on a form and post this in the box provided.

The Speed Sailing Pages web site receives 100 visitors most days. The thing that we get asked the most to provide is information on the boats and boards that compete. To assist us in this you are asked to put some details on the forms provided, for the board sailors in particular it would be greatly appreciated if you could complete a form each day giving details of the equipment used that day.

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Itinerary for the Week

Saturday 28th September

Registration at Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy on Portland from 9:00 a.m.

Course open 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *

Welcome Buffet at Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy 6:30 p.m.

Sunday 29th September

Briefing 9:30 a.m.

Course open 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

Monday 30th September

Briefing 9:30 a.m.

Course open 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

Chapplehay Tavern from 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 1st October

Briefing 9:30 a.m.

Course open 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

Evening meal at Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy 7:00 for 7:30 p.m. £8.00 ***must be pre-booked***

**Course times may be modified to suit weather conditions.*

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Wednesday 2nd October

Briefing 9:30 a.m.

Course open 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

Amateur Yacht Research Society meeting at the Royal Dorset Yacht Club in Weymouth 7:00 p.m. for 8:00 p.m.

Thursday 3rd October

Briefing 9:30 a.m.

Course open 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

'Chilli night' Social evening at the Castle Cove Sailing Club 7:30 for 8:00 p.m. *(as the Castle Cove club are in the midst of a move to new premises there may be an element of surprise concerning the venue for this event!)* **must be pre-booked**

Friday 4th October

Briefing 9:30 a.m.

Course open 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

Dinner at Vaughan's restaurant 7:30 for 8:00 p.m. **must be pre-booked**

Saturday 5th October

Debriefing in the Clubhouse at 10:30 a.m.

**Course times may be modified to suit weather conditions.*

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