

# Welcome Message



## Welcome to the Murrays Bay Sailing Club Web site

Murrays Bay Sailing club aims to provide a sailing environment that caters for all levels of dinghy sailing within the family environment, with particular emphasis on developing young sailors to achieve excellence in the sport of centerboard sailing and into sailing as a sport for life.

The club is located on the beach at Murrays Bay on Auckland's North Shore. The club runs a progressive training program ranging from Learn to Sail (LTS) through Learn to Race and then onto several fleets of performance racing dinghies. These fleets include Optimist, P class, Starling, Laser, 420s, 470's and Techno sail boards. We also have a strong fleet of Zephyr dinghies sailed by our more mature sailors.

Murrays Bay has a proud history and enviable track record of producing performance sailors. This tradition is continuing. The club's history is rich with names of sailors recognized through national championships; Americas cup sailors and Olympic representatives. It is hard to quantify exactly why so many of our sailors do well.

Clearly there is a tremendous amount of work put into training. It may also have something to do with the early training in excellent sailing waters found off the bay. We would like to think it is also a result of the friendly environment and companionship found at the club.

Thank you for visiting our site. Please feel free to come and visit the club and meet members during midweek training nights or during Sunday club days during the season.

See you at the club and all the best for the coming season.



# Club History



Tai-o-tea, the original Club at Murrays Bay, operated from a small starting tower built on a concrete foundation for a searchlight, below the bus stop. In 1952 Tai-o-tea moved to Browns Bay. Locals, prompted by a Mrs Smith who ran the beach dairy, decided to start a boating club in 1958. The original members included a Mr Skyeme, who at that time owned the house which is now the clubhouse.

The aims of the Club were to encourage yachting, motor boating and fishing. Family membership was £1.10s. Annual General Meetings were held in the old Outram Hall. Race starts were off the wharf, with the OOD armed with a shotgun and three orange beach balls suspended from broomsticks to start races. There were no patrol boats. P Class, Moths and catamarans were the main classes.

In 1959 the Council agreed to supply all the materials for a boat ramp, with the Club supplying labour. As interest increased the need for a patrol boat became paramount, and in 1961, Miss Nance, a 16ft boat with a Ford 10 motor was purchased for £200. During the 1960's, Tai-o-tea and Torbay Clubs asked Murrays Bay Boating Club to amalgamate in 1961, but the request was declined.

The Club sent its first representative to the Tanner Cup in 1967, £20 being paid towards his expenses. Club member Geoff Smale won the Sir Bernard Ferguson Award in 1968 for services to yachting. In 1966 the first 24 Hour Race was sailed. Membership continued to rise as sailors realised the benefits of the great sailing waters. The Club was asked to run many major regattas. Classes sailed at Murrays Bay at this time were, P Class, Zephyrs, Cherub, OK's and Moths.

The building was purchased from Mr Skyeme in 1972 and \$3500 was spent to convert it into a clubhouse. It was valued at the time at \$38,000. Starlings and Javelins made their appearance. In 1982 Brin Wilson was launched, and shortly after R2 arrived on the scene. In the 80's and into the 1990's the Club continued to be extremely active in encouraging and developing young sailors. The Optimist has been a major part of this development.

A major refurbishment of the building took place in 1990, virtually creating a new building. Further extensions were made in 1992 to accommodate a Waterwise facility, and provide some more storage area. The Club has developed a reputation for excellent management with many top class sailors emerging winning national and international titles. An Olympic medal, the Club's first, was won in 1992 by Craig Monk in the Finn Class.

In 1994 Murrays Bay Sailing Club had three world champions: Nik Burfoot (Laser), Leith Armit (OK Dingy) and Daniel Slater (Youth Laser). 1992 saw the Club renamed Murrays Bay Sailing Club, to reflect more accurately the activity of the Club, namely centreboard sailing. Its aim is 'To be a club that provides young sailors with the best possible environment to sail fast and achieve excellence in the sport of centreboard sailing.'



- 2002/3 MBSC Hosted P and Starling Nationals - Mark Overington won the Starlings; Hayley Wilson won the Girls P Class Nats (Naomi James). Susannah won the Girls at the Opti Nationals and North Americans.
- 2003/4 Thomas Olds won the P Nationals. Matt Coutts won the Starling Match Racing Nationals. Daniel Willcox won the Opti Nats and went on to get 4th in Worlds. Susannah won the Girls at the Optis and both Dan and Susannah were in the NZ winning team at the Worlds, consequently jointly receiving 'YNZ Junior Sailor of the Year'.
- 2004/5 Dean Barker Olympic Rep in the Finn. Susannah won the Girls at the Optis for a record third time.
- 2005/06 Mat Coutts won the Laser Youths. Marcus Hansen won the Opti Nats. Susannah won the Girls P Class Nats (Naomi James). Re-introduction of the Zephyr Class to MBSC and immediately became the strongest fleet in Auckland
- 2006/7 Alex Maloney became Opti girls world champion & third overall after placing 3rd in the Opti Nats. James Turner placed 2nd in the Opti Nats & 34th at the Worlds. The NZ team were the leading Opti team.
- 2007/8 Dan Slater won silver in Finn World Cup and represented New Zealand at the Beijing Olympics.