

Hansa Class UK Annual Report

January 1st - December 31st 2022

At the AGM in 2021 it was agreed that a membership fee would be introduced for the class association in March 2022. A link was set up on the HCUK website where people could complete their registration and pay. Two levels of membership were available, full membership with voting rights, and associate membership for those who just wanted to be kept informed. It was made a condition that sailors who wanted to compete in HCUK events must be a full member. The exception to this was for sailors who would only sail at their home club's event, they were only required to be an associate member. The cost for full membership was £10, associate membership was free. In 2022 there were 102 full members and 36 associate members.

During the winter HCUK continued to run Virtual Regatta events which were supported by a zoom meeting for those who wanted to get involved with the banter. Not only is this quite useful for tactics and knowledge of rules, it is a good fun forum to keep regular contact with a few from the community.

A full programme of 10 Traveller events was put together. Unfortunately, because of damage to the pontoon facilities at Oxford SC that event had to be cancelled. The remaining 9 events all took place as planned and were well attended. Building on the inclusion of Birmingham SC in 2 fun regattas in 2021, they successfully hosted their first TT event, albeit in difficult circumstances due to low water levels following a drought. Over the season, 54 boats took part in one or more of the regattas: 7 2.3s; 21 303 1-person; 15 303 2-person; and 11 Libertys.

The HCUK National Championships took place at Carsington Sailing Club 17th-19th June. Numbers were still slightly impacted by the pandemic, seeing 29 boats entered across all the fleets. There were a few travelling sailors from Ireland, Scotland, the Netherlands, Oman, Singapore, and from Australia. The host club put on a very well organized 3 days, with all 8 races completed.

We were very fortunate to have crossed paths with an Olympic performance coach who discovered Hansa sailing. Pete Conway offered his time and knowledge to attend all of the events to share his wisdom, taking pre sailing briefings, followed up debriefings on zoom. This has been invaluable and the standard of sailing in all fleets improved.

The Hansa World Championships 2023 will be held in Portimao, Portugal. HCUK would like to support a team of sailors of all levels to attend. This will require significant fundraising, and initial conversations have started to galvanise interest and enthusiasm amongst the team.

At the AGM Ron Sawford announced that he would like to reduce his involvement with the class association, with somebody else taking on his duties. Ron formed the class association in 1999 and has been instrumental in its growth and smooth running ever since. Ron's position will be hard to fill as he has worked tirelessly above and beyond his position as Secretary. We are very grateful for all that he has done for all of our members over the years.

David Durston

Chairman