

# **Catapult** CLASS ASSOCIATION

## **Bala TT**

**Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 July 2024**

Next month we shall be returning to Bala for the second time this season for a joint event with the RS100 fleet.

The Association's liaison person for the forthcoming event will be Stuart Ede (01904 738158, 07575 059339, [catamaranstu@outlook.com](mailto:catamaranstu@outlook.com)). The local rep will be Rob Sloggert ([sloggerr@gmail.com](mailto:sloggerr@gmail.com)), **Catapult** sailor and Commodore of the Club.

### **The racing**

The first start will be at 13.00 on Saturday (briefing at 12.00). Three races are scheduled. The first start on Sunday will be at 11.00 (tbc) with another three races planned, when we shall be joined by the club fleets. A discard will come into effect when four or more races have been sailed. The club's standard Sailing Instructions will apply with one modification for Catapults: all on-the-water infringements can be exonerated by one penalty turn of one tack and one gybe. A Map of the Marks and the SIs (in unamended form) accompany this invitation, but they can also be downloaded from the Open Meetings page of Bala Sailing Club's website:

<https://balasailingclub.wordpress.com/open-meetings/>.

### **Entry fees**

The fee for the weekend is £35, and online entries are now open at:

<https://webcollect.org.uk/daymembership/event/catapult-and-rs100-combined-fleet-open-saturday-20th-and-sunday-21st-july>, for which **the closing date is 17 July**.

### **The social scene**

The bar will be open, and food will be available on Saturday Night. The Galley will be open for both days.

### **How to find the club**

Bala Sailing Club is situated on the north east corner of Lake Tegid not far from Bala town. From the main crossroads at the eastern end of Bala's main street take the B4391 heading south. After crossing the north eastern end of the lake turn right on to the B4403. The entrance to the club is about 100m down the road on the right.

For those of you with satnavs the postcode is LL23 7BS.

### **Accommodation**

There are four campsites in the immediate vicinity. The closest to the sailing club is the Pen y Bont campsite, just 5 minutes walk away (01678 520549, [www.balalakecamping.co.uk](http://www.balalakecamping.co.uk)). The Pant-yr-Onnen campsite is very popular with members who like to build a holiday around the event ([www.balacamping.co.uk](http://www.balacamping.co.uk), 01743 718283), because you can sail off the beach

there. The other two campsites are Glanllyn Lakeside ([www.glanllyn.com](http://www.glanllyn.com) 01678 520227) and Ty Isaf ([www.tyisafbala.co.uk](http://www.tyisafbala.co.uk) 01678 520574).

If camping is not your 'thing', then there are plenty of hotels and B&Bs in Bala and surrounding villages, because this is a major centre for touring Snowdonia and the rest of North Wales. The official North Wales Tourism website is [www.gonorthwales.co.uk](http://www.gonorthwales.co.uk) (01492 531731), or there are several other websites offering accommodation in the area (eg [www.stayinwales.co.uk](http://www.stayinwales.co.uk)). The Sailing Club website also has a link to a list of local accommodation on its website (under the Visitors Information tab click on Where to Stay). Get yourself booked in now to avoid disappointment.

### **Local attractions**

Many members turn this event in to a great holiday by extending their stays before and after the weekend and taking the opportunity to tour the magnificent Snowdonia National Park. If you're particularly energetic, in addition to the great walking there is excellent mountain biking (and bike hire) in the Coed-y-Brenin Forest or white water kayaking at the National Whitewater Centre above Bala Town.

Into steam trains? There is the narrow gauge steam railway that runs along the lake right past the Sailing Club, and slightly further afield there are the Ffestiniog and Talyllyn narrow gauge railways and the recently opened Welsh Highland line from Portmadog to Caernarvon.

These lines form part of North Wales's industrial heritage. If you want to learn more about one of the area's most famous exports, then you can go down a slate mine at Blaenau Ffestiniog or take a hair-raising zip slide ride across a quarry at over 70mph!

How about castles? There are more than you can shake a stick at: Conwy, Penrhyn, Caernarvon, Beaumaris, Cricceith, Harlech and many more.

Then there are the fabulous beaches generously spread around Cardigan Bay, the Lley Peninsula and Anglesey.

For garden fanatics the world famous Bodnant Gardens near Conwy are within easy reach. Or how about a stroll through the Italianate streets of Portmeirion famous for its pottery and being the scenic backdrop to the 60s hit series the Prisoner?

This is the venue that has everything: fabulous surroundings and great sailing, so don't miss it!