

Catapult CLASS ASSOCIATION

Kielder Water TT, 11-12 September 2021

Although the fleet has visited Kielder Water SC once before many years ago, this will be a new venue to many members. Kielder Water is the largest man-made lake in Europe, and it is set amongst the forest clad North Pennines in the beautiful Northumberland National Park. It is a stunning place to sail.

We shall be sailing as part of Kielder Water SC's Annual Open Regatta, which will also incorporate the Osprey Scottish and Northern Championships. The Event Poster and Notice of Race accompany this invitation.

Further information can be obtained from Dave Watt (davejwatt@yahoo.com), the Club contact. Stuart Ede will be our liaison person for the event (catamaranstu@outlook.com, 01904 738158 or 07575 059339).

Registration

While you can register on arrival, the Club encourage you to enter online in advance at <https://webcollect.org.uk/kwsc/event/kwsc-september-open>. The cost for the weekend will be £25 per boat including the £5 CCA prize levy. Payment will be taken by direct debit.

The racing

There will be 5 races with one discard being allowed provided 3 or more races have been sailed. The briefing will be at 12.00 on the Saturday, with two races back-to-back at 13.00. On Sunday there will be three races back-to-back at 10.30. Catapults and Ospreys will each have their own starts.

Accommodation

Camping is free on an area next to the club grounds. No booking is required. If need be, there is an overflow facility into a neighbouring car park, for which there may be a £10 charge. The club grounds will be open on Friday.

If you are a member of an RYA affiliated sailing club and would like to spend longer sailing on Kielder Water, you can do so by applying for part year Country Membership of KWSC at www.webcollect.org.uk/kwsc (click on Browse subscriptions>Part Year subscriptions>Country membership and then >Equipment for the key access). Membership costs £52.50 plus key access to the main gate and clubhouse for £50 (£40 of which is a returnable deposit). You can then move your campervan or caravan into the main club compound when the Open Regatta is over, but only until the following Friday when weekend camping reverts to being for full members only. The Royal Yachting Association is working on a dinghy trail you can download from their website and follow around the reservoir – with luck it might be ready by September.

For B&Bs, guest houses, hotels and campsites the Club has a number of suggestions on its website (www.kielderwatersc.org - Visiting KWSC>Where to stay) or go to www.visitkielder.com.

Social events and catering

On Friday the clubhouse and bar will be open to 23.00. The Club galley will be open all day on Saturday and Sunday for breakfasts, sandwiches and snacks. Plus **there will be an evening meal which needs to be booked in advance** (there is a button on the online registration form) and paid for on the day. The licensed bar will be open to 23.00 on Saturday and until leaving time on Sunday.

Directions

Kielder Water SC is at the south eastern end of the lake (put NE48 1BX into your satnav), situated half a mile from the dam near the Tower Knowe information centre. Kielder Water itself is well signposted from most major roads in Northumberland.

From the east (Newcastle and the A1) take the A69 (Hexham signs). At Hexham turn northwards onto the A6079 to Chollerford, then follow the B6320 to Bellingham and the C200 to Kielder. Follow the tourist signs for Kielder Water and Forest.

From the north (Edinburgh, Jedburgh) or south (Darlington), travelling on the A68, take the B6320 and follow the tourist signs for Kielder Water and Forest.

From the west (Carlisle and the M6) turn off the M6 at J43 and head east on the A69. Turn off the A69 at Greenhead and follow the B6318 (the "Military Road") and take a left turn after approximately 13 miles (the turn off to Fourstones is opposite on the right). Join the B6320 road to Bellingham turning left at the junction and then follow the signs to Kielder.

NB The Club warns that you should make sure you have plenty of fuel in your tank, as the nearest garage is at Kielder village 7 miles west of KWSC. The pumps are operated by credit or debit cards only and open from 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week. There is a garage 10 miles to the east in Bellingham and at weekends is only open on Saturday morning.

Other attractions

You're in Northumberland - you'll be spoilt for choice! The Northumberland National Park contains some of the very best scenery and walking country in England. The Kielder Tourist Information website (www.visitkielder.com) tells you all you need to know about the immediate vicinity, such as the myriad walking and cycling trails around the lake. The Pennine Way winds its way nearby, or why not walk sections of Hadrian's Wall?

Roman history buffs can spend hours in places like Chesters Fort, Vindolanda, Housesteads and Corbridge. Meanwhile stately homes and gardens like Wallington House and Belsay Hall with its famous Quarry Garden beckon to devotees of 17th, 18th and 19th century history.

Or you can succumb to the lure of the magnificent Northumbrian coastline: gorgeous silver sand beaches watched over by brooding castles like Dunstanburgh, Bamburgh and Warkworth. A little farther up the coast you come to Holy Island and Lindisfarne Castle reached by causeway at low tide. And beyond that you reach Berwick with its massive ramparts – the most besieged town in England and Scotland, it's changed hands so many times!

Nature lovers can take a boat trip to the Farne Islands to see the puffins, terns, kittiwakes, cormorants and seals up close and personal.

Or if you prefer your wildlife digesting gently in your stomach, gourmets can taste real Craster kippers straight from the smokehouses clustered around this tiny fishing port.

That's only a flavour of all there is to see and do – see what other delights you can discover!