



TARBERT LOCH FYNE YACHT CLUB

RYA SCOTLAND CLUB OF THE YEAR 2006

Newsletter

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COMMODORE'S VIEW Loch Fyne Skiff: A One-Design class

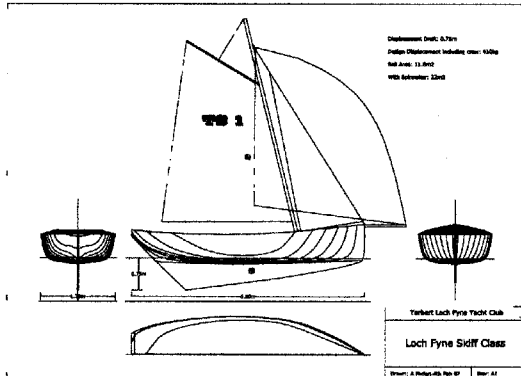


Figure 1: Proposed Tarbert Loch Fyne Skiff Class

Over the course of the last few meetings, the committee has been discussing ways and means to rejuvenate the regular yacht racing within the Club. The consensus of opinion is that the Club needs some sort of catalyst to get this going.

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Having discussed this problem, the logical solution would be to provide and encourage a one-design fleet that can be sailed by both adults and cadets. This class should be a stepping stone to yacht racing, but provide also affordable racing to the adult members of the club. The boat should also be of a size such that it can be sailed by up to a three-person team.

Following this decision, typical club one-design fleets were reviewed. Whilst some such as Pipers and Loch Longs would be suitable, the availability and

feasibility of building up a fleet is doubtful. There are also some examples of one-design - specific to their locations - that have done very well, such as Salcombe yawls along with the Loch Longs.

In the course of this review, it was suggested that a fleet of Loch Fyne skiffs would be a potential solution. Robert McPhail has the Loch Fyne skiff moored opposite the Victoria Hotel, and it is much commented upon by visitors to the village.

From this, the concept of Tarbert Loch Fyne Yacht Club sailing Loch Fyne Skiffs has grown. From this suggestion, the concept of a Loch Fyne Skiff class has evolved within the committee.

As a starting point, I have taken the lines plan for a traditional Loch Fyne skiff and have modified these into a variant which keeps the basic lines of a Loch Fyne skiff and some of the sailing properties, but which has an increased level of performance.

The availability of plans for Loch Fyne skiffs is at best scarce, although there are still some boats in existence. In adapting this boat for the Yacht Club purposes, it was necessary to lose some of the displacement traditionally associated with this type of boat, to make it light enough for our use.

The design of the TLFYC Skiff Class is



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For quotation

based loosely on the Loch Fyne skiff "De Wet", on lines that were taken - from a model supplied by her builder Dan Fife of Tarbert - by Alfred Mylne, Naval Architect, Glasgow. These lines were published in the "Dixon Kemp Manual of Yacht and Boat Sailing and Naval Architecture" published in

www.tarbertlfc.org.uk

