

# Young sailors receive awards recognition

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GYC coach Mike Chapple talks about the sailors' achievements. (12588357)



Eloise Tanguy receives a trophy from Mike Chapple.

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AROUND 160 people attended the Guernsey Yacht Club junior section's annual prize giving at the Professor Shaw Community Centre, which saw more than 25 trophies presented for racing events held over the past 12 months.

With the largest number of sailors for many years, Guernsey Yacht Club is now regularly training more than 140 sailors between five and 18 years of age.

The GYC Juniors dramatically increased capacity to train the younger sailors through closer collaboration with the Guernsey Sailing Trust team during 2015, which helped them largely clear a long waiting list of children wanting to sail.

A number of the young Pirate sailors were presented with RYA Stage 1 and 2 certificates, including Sophie Brooks, Lily Jones, Emily Beck, Erin Watterson, Abigail Boyle and Finn Taylor-Milroy, who were in the winning

team at the annual Mini-Marathon race which raised more than £400 for the trust.

The Marine & General spring and autumn series of races were closely contested across all of the fleets.

Xavier Ellis won the spring series for the Buccaneers fleet (beginner sea sailors in plastic Oppies) and Finn Taylor-Milroy the autumn series. The spring series Optimist Regatta fleet (beginner Optimist sailors) was won by Zach Ellis, with Grace Sherrington taking the autumn series.

Joe Walters won the Optimist Main fleet (experienced Optimist sailors) and Peter Birch the autumn series. Eloise Tanguy secured the spring and Autumn series for Lasers.

For the standalone races, Eloise Tanguy had an amazing season winning five out of the six trophy races in her first year in the Laser dinghy, claiming first in the PKF Regatta, Aquastar Regatta,

Castlemain Trophy, Asplund Start Fest and Chapple Trophy.

She was also presented with the prestigious Royal Bank of Canada Guernsey Youth Sailor of the Year award.

In the PKF Regatta, Peter Birch was first for the main fleet Optimists, with Zach Ellis first in the Optimist regatta fleet. The Aquastar Regatta main fleet Optimists was won by Joe Walters, with Zach Ellis again taking the Optimist regatta fleet trophy.

Joe Walters won the Asplund Start Fest for the Optimist main fleet, with Kiera Carre taking first for the regatta fleet, and Cian Tully sharing the trophy with Eloise Tanguy for the Lasers. The Admiral Robson Trophy was won by Brenda Anderson. Finally, the Jamie Thompson Trophy for the most improved Optimist was presented to Kiera Carre and the Endeavour Trophy to Heather Hutchins.