

Major Sailing Events in Pwllheli 2012

We are delighted to include details of Clwb Hwyllo Pwllheli's programme of major competitive sailing events for the 2012 season.

In the London Olympic year Pwllheli is delighted to be hosting the International Finn World Masters championship and International Laser UK ranking event. The UK will have medal prospects in both classes at the Olympics in August 2012 in Weymouth. Pwllheli Sailing Club is hosting the UK championships for the International Optimist and International Topper junior 'Olympic Feeder' classes. These will be the two largest dinghy competitions in the UK this year.

There is no doubt Pwllheli is one of the premier event venues in the UK and with commencement of the building of the new National Sailing Academy the future remains bright for sailing in Wales.

1 - 6 April **RYA UK Youth championships**

This is the premier event in the UK youth sailing programme and is used to select sailors to represent the UK at the ISAF Youth Worlds. Over 220 of the finest youth competitors (under19) are expected to compete in 6 classes of dinghy and windsurfer.

21 - 22 April **Welsh Youth and Junior championships**

Over 120 of the best youth and junior sailors in Wales compete for national honours.

27 May - 1 June **International Finn World Masters championships**

This championship is sailed in the Olympic dinghy in which Ben Ainslie has won gold at the last two Olympics. Competitors are over 40 years old and prizes are awarded by age categories, including the Legends who are over 70. In excess of 150 competitors, including current and former Olympians, are expected from Europe and the rest of the World. During this championship the London 2012 Olympic torch will be paraded through Pwllheli on 28 May

22 – 27 July **International Topper UK National championships**

Over 350 young competitors are anticipated to attend this event. It is the second largest class event in the UK in 2012. As an Olympic pathway class it has produced many Team GBR sailors, including the brothers Mon from Anglesey. The class returns to Pwllheli in 2014 for its World championships.

12 – 17 August **International Optimist UK National and Open championships**

These championships are expected to attract over 450 sailors (under16) from over 15 countries. It is the largest class event in the UK in 2012. Many past winners have gone on to achieve Olympic and World honours in later years, including current Team GBR members for the London 2012 Olympics, Hannah Mills and Ben Ainslie.

19 - 24 August Firefly UK National championship

The Firefly is a 12ft. two person dinghy with a strong racing fleet with over 120 competitors expected. The boat was designed by Uffa Fox, featured in the 1948 Olympics and is popular for team racing, including the ISAF World Team Racing championships.

26 - 31 August Cherub UK National championship

A super fast 12ft. dinghy with twin trapeze and asymmetric spinnaker. This development class is an innovator in design and materials with boats weighing only 70 kg spectacular action can be anticipated from an anticipated entry of 60 sailors.

8 - 11 September. RS 300 and 600 UK championships

Two high performance single hander dinghies from the RS 'stable' will complete over four days of racing. The RS 300 is a fast hiking dinghy whilst the RS 600 is a trapeze dinghy.

6 - 7 October. International Laser UK Ranking event

The International Laser has two different class based on the size of the sailing rig. The Standard rig is a men's Olympic class and the Radial rig is the women's single handed Olympic dinghy. Over 130 sailors are expected competing for points for national ranking and selection for international honours in 2013.

27 - 28 October. International 29er UK Grand Prix series

This is an exciting two person skiff with trapeze and symmetric spinnaker sailed by mainly youth sailors. It is a pathway class to the larger Olympic 49er boat. Over 60 sailors are anticipated to be competing in this event, which forms part of a UK national series.