



# BUSA Annual Update 2020-21



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# Chair's Welcome

Hi everyone!

I hope I will be a familiar face during this upcoming year, both on the circuit and on our various media platforms. Myself and the rest of the BUSA committee are here to be the busybodies behind the scenes making sure every member club is getting support, development opportunities, funding and high quality national events. We have been and continue to be working hard to communicate changes, ideas and updates.

As expected, this year will look a little different to those previous. We are keeping up to date with the latest government, RYA and BUCS advice so you can contact us and discuss any concerns you may have with getting up and running again. Firstly though, make sure you have had discussions with your university and host club.

For BUSA enquiries, your first point of communication is your area chair (so make sure you are on your area Facebook page). If they aren't able to answer your question, email [busacommittee@gmail.com](mailto:busacommittee@gmail.com) and the right person will get back to you.

Keep us up to date by tagging @BUSAMedia on Facebook and Instagram. We look forward to seeing you on the water soon.

**Karen Thomas**  
BUSA Chair 2019-2021

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# Meet This Year's Committee



**Chair** – Karen Thomas (Cambridge)  
**Administrator** – Hannah Peters  
**Vice Chair** – Abby West (Loughborough)  
**President** – Peter Saxton  
**Vice President 2019-21** – Ailsa Muskett (Aberdeen)  
**Vice President 2020-22** – Nicole Ames (Solent)  
**Honorary Treasurer** – Jenny Cropley (Oxford)  
**Development Officer** – Iona Smith (Glasgow)  
**Media Officer** – Emma Hartley (Bristol)  
**Fleet Racing Officer** – Daniel Fox (Brunel)  
**Match Racing Officer** – Hannah Hunt (Sussex)  
**Team Racing Officer** – Jamie Webb (Cambridge)  
**Keelboat Officer** – Vacant  
**Scottish Area Chair** – Emily Hill (St Andrews)  
**Northern Area Chair** – Pippa Cropley (Manchester)  
**Midlands Area Chair** – Kate Ledgard (Sheffield)  
**Western Area Chair** – Will Cunliffe (Cardiff)  
**South Central Area Chair** – Jess Harman (Solent)  
**Eastern Area Chair** – Patrick Croghan (UEA)  
**Honorary Member & Technical Delegate** – Matt Goodbourn  
**RYA Representative** – Jessica Beecher  
**BUCS Representative** – Cleo Lyn

# 2020-21 Season Information

## Key Dates

14-15th Nov 20	BUCS Fleet Racing Championships - Datchet Water SC
30-31st Jan 20	BUCS Team Racing Area Qualifiers - Northern, Eastern, Midlands, SSS League 1
6-7th Feb 21	BUCS Team Racing Area Qualifiers - South Central, Western, SSS League 2
6-7th March 21	BUCS Team Racing Playoffs - venue TBC
28-1st Apr 21	BUCS Yachting Championships
6-8th Apr 21	BUCS Team Racing Championship Final - Grafham Water SC
10-12th Apr 21	BUCS Match Racing Championships

## BUSA Calendar

The BUSA website is the key place where BUSA publishes information about the major university championships, as well as a [calendar](#) of lots of other events aimed at students, including university-run events. This is also where you can find contact information for all [university clubs](#) and the [BUSA Committee](#). To add your university's information, please send us details about your sailing club and what will interest potential recruits, what events you run and who the main contacts are at the club etc. This will be a great tool to help encourage new sailors to your club and to promote your events and activities. Send to [busasec@gmail.com](mailto:busasec@gmail.com)

## Event Reports and Publications

BUSA encourage all university sailing clubs to submit event reports throughout the year, which can be published onto the BUSA website and across our social media channels. Please send your event report and photos to [busacommittee@gmail.com](mailto:busacommittee@gmail.com)

Following the 2019 AGM, BUSA submitted a proposal shaped by our member clubs to change the format of the BUCS Team Racing Championship to allow for 6 regional qualifiers. Unfortunately despite our best efforts, BUCS chose not to accept this proposal. Consequently, a poll was held to determine the format for 2020-21 based on the options they gave us. With 41 clubs voting, a majority was achieved for Option A. Therefore, the 2020-21 format will be as follows:

**BUCS Team Racing Championship Qualifiers:** Teams compete across 6 regional qualifiers over two weekends. 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> place teams progress directly to Finals, 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> place teams progress to Playoffs.

**BUCS Team Racing Championship Playoffs:** 24 teams compete. The top 9 teams progress to Finals.

**BUCS Team Racing Championship Finals:** 27 teams compete for BUCS points, plus a guest entry from the Irish University Sailing Association.

# Meet Your Area Chairs



## South Central

Hi, my name is Jessica Harman and I am your South Central Area Chair for the 2020-21 season. The South have some of the best teams in the country making it a competitive region as well as some fantastic training opportunities. I will be attending many of the BUSA events and local team racing events too.

This year I really want to push the development areas for the teams. This means introducing primarily team racing focused teams into yachting and visa versa. This way teams will be able to form inter region training which will benefit all the teams.

If you have not already, please make yourself familiar to the Facebook groups. This is where you can find regular updates, plans and events in the upcoming year. These include: BUSA Sailing and BUSA South Central. If you have any questions, please get in contact with me via Facebook or email me at [4harmj38@solent.ac.uk](mailto:4harmj38@solent.ac.uk).

**Jessica Harman, BUSA South Central Area Chair**



## West

Hi, I'm Will and I'm the Western Area Chair for 2020/21. The West has some of the most competitive racing, best events and fantastic socials on the BUSA circuit and I'm looking forward to making sure that we have another great year in spite of the challenges ahead.

With a new regional training event (the Western Warmer) in prospect, plans to link up club sailors across the region in the pipeline, and the election of our first regional development officer, Michael (Mikey) Dennis there's plenty to be excited about.

To stay up to date with all that's going on in the region, but also to publicise your events or projects please do join the BUSA West Facebook group and for any questions, ideas, or help feel free to get in touch with me via Facebook or by email: [williamcunliffe@live.com](mailto:williamcunliffe@live.com). I'll also be on hand with Cardiff at most of the Western events this year so do come and say hello! I look forward to seeing you all back out on the water.

**Will Cunliffe, BUSA Western Area Chair**



## Midlands

Hello, I'm Kate the Midlands Area Chair for the 2020-21 season. After a year in the Western Area, I'm moving back to Sheffield (now in the Midlands Area) and looking forward to the year ahead.

My aims are to continue the development from the previous Midlands Mixers, and despite the Midlands being located furthest from the sea raise awareness of the environment across our sport!

For any information about events in the region join the Facebook group 'BUSA: The Middle' - feel free to put events/lift organisation etc. on here too! I'll be at many of the local events this year and qualifiers, if you see me feel free to say hi, or ask me any questions at these, you can also message me or email me ([kwmlledgard1@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:kwmlledgard1@sheffield.ac.uk)) any time!

**Kate Ledgard, BUSA Midlands Area Chair**

# Meet Your Area Chairs



## East

Hi I'm Patrick, the Eastern Area Chair!

The East is a brand new region this year and I'm keen to get off to a good start! Sadly I have a habit of getting BFD's on the first start.

I'll be working with Bella (development officer) to deliver top notch content: I'm talking socials, memes, events... the whole kaboodle.

Don't hesitate to get involved over on our Facebook group (BUSA: The East) and feel free to ask me any questions, either message, email on [P.Croghan@uea.ac.uk](mailto:P.Croghan@uea.ac.uk) or add me on snap: pc943 (adding back just this week).

Looking forward to seeing you all on the water!

Patrick

**Patrick Croghan, BUSA Eastern Area Chair**



## North

Hi, I'm Pippa you're northern area rep for 2020/21!

I'm currently in my second year at Manchester University. My aim for the year is to continue developing the northern universities through delivering quality events & training.

I'll (hopefully) be at many events around the north this coming year so don't hesitate to say hi or ask any questions :)

I will continue to update all northern universities through the 'BUSA: the north' page on Facebook but if anyone had more specific questions please don't hesitate to contact me on Facebook or on email: [Philippa.cropley@student.manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Philippa.cropley@student.manchester.ac.uk)

**Pippa Cropley, BUSA Northern Area Chair**



## Scotland

Hi, I'm Emily and, even though I'm Northern Irish, I will be the Scottish Area Chair for the 2020-21 season.

This year my goal is to organise 3 successful and safe SSS league weekends whilst acting as a link between Scottish Student Sailing and BUSA to update everyone on recent BUSA news and plans,

I will be sending out emails and updating the "Scottish Student Sailing" Facebook page. I'll also be at SSS Women's and all of the league weekends as a representative of the BUSA committee if you fancy a chat. Hopefully I will be at some English events as well to show off the superb Scottish dress up talent! If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to email me at [eh218@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:eh218@st-andrews.ac.uk)

**Emily Hill, BUSA Scottish Area Chair**



# Discipline Need to Know



## Team Racing

With 84 teams of six entering the Qualifiers round of the BUSA Team Racing Championships last year, this discipline is one of the largest and most competitive forms of university sailing.

The large number of team racing events on offer each year means there is something for everyone to get involved with. If you are new to team racing check out the BUSA website for introductory links and resources, or contact your Area Chair to find out what development and training events are happening in your region.

If you have any questions, or great ideas about team racing don't hesitate to get in touch with Jamie - [busateamracingofficer@gmail.com](mailto:busateamracingofficer@gmail.com).



### **BUCS Team Racing Championship 2021** Grafham Water 5th-7th April 2021

Hosted by Cambridge University Cruising Club



## Fleet Racing

With many freshers joining university having predominantly fleet racing experience, the BUCS Fleet Racing Championships, which runs in the first few weeks of term, is a fantastic way to encourage and welcome these new members into the club.

Beyond the championships, there are a whole host of different opportunities for members to take part in. Many classes offer great discounts and support for students, including the Firefly and RS200 classes. You could even encourage your club members to join in with club racing at your host club, a great way of getting extra sailing outside of the planned training sessions!

Lots of updates coming throughout the year about different events and opportunities. Make sure you keep an eye out for them.



### **BUCS Fleet Racing Championship 2020** Datchet Water SC 14-15th November 2020

Hosted by Brunel University Sailing Club



# Discipline Need to Know

## Keelboat Racing

One of the highlights of the student sailing calendar for many is the annual BUCS Yachting Championship, which takes place in the Solent each Easter.

The fleet has a great mix of established keelboat racers, many of which are part of the British Keelboat Academy, racing alongside keen dinghy sailors looking to get involved in this side of the sport and learn new skills on bigger boats.

There are a number of other ways to get out sailing keelboats with your university team and BUSA are actively looking to expand our offer across new regions and levels of experience. For a chat about how your club can start racing keelboats, please get in touch - [busacommittee@gmail.com](mailto:busacommittee@gmail.com)



**BUCS Yachting Championship 2021**  
Port Solent / Gunwharf Quays  
28<sup>th</sup> March - 1<sup>st</sup> April



## Match Racing

Match racing is a rapidly growing discipline within the UK and there are plenty of opportunities to get involved with the RYA's winter or national series events throughout the year.

Each year, the BUCS Match Racing Championship attracts a huge mix of sailors. At the top of the fleet, some of the best youth match racers in the country battle it out for the medals, whilst the event also serves as an entry into the discipline for many, whether they are coming from a fleet or team racing background.

Look out for more resources from BUSA over the coming year to support more sailors to get involved in this exciting discipline and develop their skills.



**BUCS Match Racing Championship 2021**  
Venue TBC  
10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> April



# BUSA Development - *What have we been up to?*

## BUSA Webinars

There is no doubt that Covid-19 has changed how we do things, but it's not all been negative. As we adapt to the "new normal", BUSA will be working hard to offer more to our members outside of traditional face-to-face events.

Look out for a series of webinars coming soon to give tips, advice and a forum to discuss different elements of student sailing with other clubs.

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 - RYA Sailability  
10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 - Start of term/Covid-19  
28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 - Beginner engagement  
8<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - Improving your Fireflies  
22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 - Improving the quality of your team racing event

All recordings of our webinars will be collated to watch whenever you like on our [Youtube](#).

## BUSA Membership Survey

At the end of last season every university sailing club gave us an insight into their day to day running, goals and challenges. This data is vital for us to understand how we can best support our member clubs. We have collated these details and they will shape our offer going forward.

## BUSA Development Fund

Due to financial uncertainties as a result of Covid-19 event cancellations, the BUSA Development Fund is currently on hold. We endeavour to open this later in the year when we have a better idea of what the 2020-21 season will look like in terms of our events.

## Welcoming kSail

We are delighted to announce that kSail, longstanding supporters of student sailing and team racing, have become our latest partner organisation.

Full details to be announced, however benefits to clubs will include discounts on kSail products, access to team racing results management services and expertise from Keith Sammons via the BUSA Webinar series.





# BUSA Development Projects

## Area Committee Creation - Year 1

The idea of creating area committees is not a new one, and was the reason area reps were renamed to area chairs in the 2018 BUSA restructure. We hope that the creation of area committees will increase the knowledge base available, region specific development and pool of individuals making positive change happen across the country consistently.

### What will you see happen this year?

- Area development officers have been selected
- Area 'captains meetings' will be held in October
- Increased regional pride & affinity
- A base of knowledge, connections and support will be built in each area





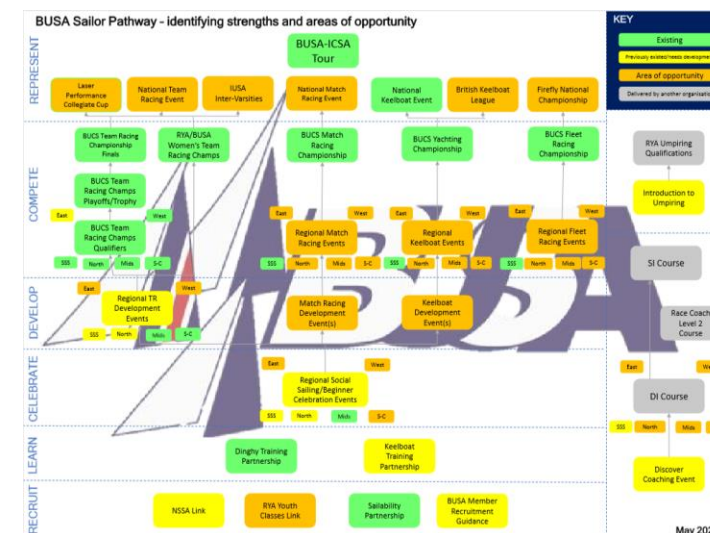
# BUSA Development Projects

## The BUSA Strategy - Looking towards 2050

Annual committee turnover can be one of BUSA's biggest challenges. Whilst fresh faces and new ideas often lead to positive developments, sometimes it can be difficult to ensure adequate handover and avoid having the same conversations each year. Lots more could be achieved over a longer period of time if new committee members had a resource to understand the overall aim of BUSA and what they could work towards over their period of involvement.

### What have we done so far?

- Initial mapping of BUSA's current offer to student sailors - the "sailor pathway". Identified things done well, areas requiring further support and areas of opportunity to develop.
- A sub-committee then worked to develop goals across 5 areas of university sailing: Learn, Celebrate, Develop, Compete and Represent. We hope this will ultimately improve BUSA's offer to sailors of all abilities and across all disciplines.
- Of course, the university sailing landscape changes each year and priorities will shift. We have created an annual review system, encouraging each new committee to reflect on progress so far and refine or create new goals based on their views and opportunities at the time.
- The full strategy can be viewed on our website [here](#).







# BUSA Development Projects

## Club Sustainability

Our sailing environment is the water; either on reservoirs, on rivers or at sea. We therefore have a responsibility to help maintain these environments, their beauty, security and diverse ecosystems. In turn, our actions aid the fight against climate change. As university clubs, we have an opportunity to encourage environmental awareness.

### How are we supporting this area?

- BUSA has created a guide to help your club improve its sustainability
- Through a sustainability awareness week we have promoted actions and encouraged engagement
- Partnership with The Green Blue helps focus clubs working towards environmental aims
- A group chat of sustainability officers has been created to encourage sharing of ideas and collaboration



Missed our conversation with Dee Caffari about all things sustainability? Catch up [here](#).



Find out who took home last year's prizes at the 2020 RYA Dinghy Show [here](#).



# BUSA Development Projects

## Sailability Partnership

RYA Sailability is a large and growing section of the RYA. Many of these young people go on to university but may not currently be joining their university sailing club. This year, we want to change that!

### What will we be doing?

- Partnering our university clubs (you guys) with your closest RYA Disability Development Officer
- Starting conversations with Sailability Clubs so you can direct students, and volunteer!
- In a Sailability/BUSA/KSail endeavour, we are introducing Team Racing to RYA Sailability. To get this off the ground, we need seasoned team racers to help us out. It's a great opportunity!
- Providing training for University Sailing Club committees to offer inclusive sessions for members.

And last but not least, at the 2020 Fleet Racing Championship, 6 Hansa dinghies will be available to sail.

Have you considered opening your doors to students with a physical or intellectual disability yet? Go on, add it to your next committee meeting agenda and get in touch with us, we'd love to hear from you!





# BUSA Development Projects

## Female Sailing Development - WINSS

Discussions around inclusion and equality of women in sailing and within BUSA specifically have been ongoing for many years. Over the past few years there has been a drive to increase the participation of women in university sailing, with rising numbers of women participating in university level sailing showing the success of recent initiatives.

We now aim to increase the number of helms across disciplines and the standard of racing. Last year the BUSA Development Fund [awarded grants](#) to a number of female-specific sailing events to help towards this goal.

### What will we be doing this year?

- Shining a light on BUSA Female Sailing Development on International Women's Day.
- Supporting [a female team](#) with entry costs for the Women's J70 Open Championship in September 2020.
- Launching the WINSS (Women in National Student Sailing) initiative to share ideas and help shape female participation in student sailing.

Are you passionate about improving opportunities for female sailors? Keep an eye on our social media channels for more details on the WINSS programme coming soon, or get in touch with us via [email](#). We'd love to hear from you!

### Participation Stats

Percentage of helms who are female at:

- Fleets: **35%**
- Match Racing: **18.8%**
- TR Finals: **12%**
- Yachting: **9%**



# Alumni Engagement

## BUSA Alumni Membership

Over the summer, we have been putting a lot of work into ideas to engage former alumni of BUSA to give them the opportunity to support student sailing today. **The first step in this process is our Alumni Membership programme which we hope to start early in the new term.**

**In particular, we're hoping that the proceeds of alumni membership can help to fund:**

- **A new Alumni Development award for university clubs. With the winner determined by a vote, the award will provide funding to the most deserving university's project aiming to grow or improve their offering to students.**
- **Support of future editions of the BUSA Tour: allowing this fixture which many alumni will have enjoyed to be sustained for future university sailors.**

Aside from these plans, once the alumni membership programme is established, we are also interested in putting on a BUSA Alumni, 'Generations Event', to reconnect past university friends from across the country.

There is plenty still to be achieved on this project, but watch this space and hopefully there will be lots more information coming throughout the year.

Do you know any alumni who might be interested?  
Any parents who enjoyed BUSA Sailing in the past  
and want to get involved today? If so then get in  
touch via [busacommittee@gmail.com](mailto:busacommittee@gmail.com)





# Follow @busamedia to stay up to date with another fantastic year of student sailing!

