

Dear LSC member

I am writing to request your assistance at the forthcoming UK Optimist National Championship being held at Largs from the 8th – 14th August 2009. If you have time to offer, it would be wonderful to have you as part of the team and supporting LSC and the Scottish Sailing Institute in hosting this prestigious event.

So far there are 350 entries! This will be largest dinghy championship at Largs – ok not the largest dinghies but the largest number of them! The optimists are a strong class and the UK class association and the Scottish class association have been working hard over the years to increase the number of children experiencing this ideal introductory boat and giving the opportunity to learn to sail and ultimately learn to race.

To coordinate a successful event at Largs will rely on all hands on. I will be coordinating volunteers for the week and there is an assortment of jobs.

We are seeking committee vessels, we require 6 in total and the race days are Sat 8th – Fri 14th. In an ideal world it is great to have the same committee vessel for the full championship but kit can be transferred if we should have a rota of vessels. We also need people to carry out the roles onboard the committee boats – timers, recorders, flags etc.

We are also seeking motherships. The motherships support the fleets by providing a floating base where the young sailors can come and tie up and have a much needed rest, a loo stop, a bit of shelter and some encouragement. The motherships are often arranged on a rota basis and this would be ideal for anyone willing to help but unable to commit 7 days.

Ashore we require a team of people to support: launching and retrieval of the boats and sailors; carpark marshalling and traffic patrol; VHF monitoring and general support in giving info to competitors and their families. We will require this support throughout the week leading up to the main championships, during the event and also on Friday 31 July as the Scottish Optimist champs is at Largs and people arriving for this will no doubt intend to stay for the full week.

There will be an entertainment programme which includes an International reception for or overseas visitors, football tournaments, ceilidh and a highland games. If anyone is up for manning throw the wellie or any other HG activity then please let me know – we are planning to have this up at Kelburn on Tuesday 11 August.

All volunteers will be invited to a helpers' thank you party hosted by LSC and the class association on Thursday 13th Aug.

If you are able to assist in anyway please get in touch and I will give you more information. My contact details are:

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Kind regards

Jo

[Joanna Turner](#) Scottish Sailing Institute