

MEDLEY SAILING CLUB, BINSEY, OXFORD

Medley Sailing Club (MSC) is a friendly dinghy sailing club close to the centre of Oxford.

We sail on the river Thames (Isis) from March to November, with racing on Sunday afternoons, and on Wednesday evenings from May to September. There are about 120 members and about 85 boats in the club. Almost half the boats are raced, much higher than the national average. We run a number of social events. Members are encouraged to take part in the club's activities, including an early introduction to the running of sailing events.

LOCATION

MSC is on the river Thames, between Osney and Godstow locks, and is close to Binsey village. It is between Bossom's boatyard and the Perch Inn.

The Club can be reached across Port Meadow from Walton Well Road, off Walton Street, in central north Oxford – cross the Meadow (on foot/bicycle) to the bridges and follow the towpath towards Binsey. The Club can also be reached from the Perch Inn at Binsey; down the track towards the river, turn right and the Club is about 50 yards downstream.

We are quite close to Binsey village, grid reference SP496076.

FACILITIES

In the Clubhouse there is a kitchen, clubroom, changing rooms, and there are showers and toilets. Members may store dinghies in the boat park (subject to space availability, and for an additional fee). The Boatshed is available for members to carry out boat repairs, and is used for winter boat storage.

The Club owns three dinghies; a Moth, an Enterprise and a Topper, which members can use.

Members may introduce visitors. We have a privately licensed bar and there are tea and light refreshments on racing days. While inexperienced sailors are very much welcomed at MSC, we do not provide any formal sailing tuition. The Club runs a discretionary Bursary scheme to encourage Junior members to develop sailing skills on courses elsewhere.

SAILING

*There are 3 racing fleets -
British Moth, Fast, and Slow.*

British Moths are the largest fleet, with currently almost 30 of the single-handed 11ft dinghies, and around 12 sailing regularly.

This is the biggest Moth fleet in the UK.

Medley runs an annual Moth open meeting which attracts many sailors from other clubs.

Fast – Enterprises mainly make up the Fast fleet, with the occasional Solo, and Merlin. Between 4-6 of the Enterprises race regularly.

Slow – Toppers are the mainstay of the Slow fleet, with some Heron and Mirror dinghies. The Club is keen to encourage the younger members to take up sailing in this fleet.

CONTACTING MEDLEY SAILING CLUB by EMAIL

Membership: membership@medleysailingclub.co.uk

Racing: racing@medleysailingclub.co.uk

Information: secretary@medleysailingclub.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP

Membership categories are;

Ordinary (aged over 25),

Youth (aged 18-25),

Junior (11-17) and Honorary.

Members may join as an individual or as a Family Group.

There is a one-off joining fee, with a returnable deposit on the Boatyard key. There is an annual Membership fee and an annual Berthing fee is asked for each boat.

Temporary membership is available. Sailors are required to have 3rd party insurance and an annual river licence.

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

There is a regular newsletter, *The Ripple*, usually quarterly. This can also be accessed at www.medleysailingclub.co.uk, which has links to a number of other sites such as the British Moth Boat Association, the Thames river authority (environment agency), the RYA etc.

ORGANISATION and OFFICERS

MSC is run on a voluntary basis, with a committee of nine officers elected at the Annual General Meeting. While the committee carries out the business of the Club and organises events, members are encouraged to play a part in the wider activities such as building and grounds maintenance and housekeeping. MSC is affiliated to the RYA and is represented on various bodies such as the Thames Valley Sailing Clubs, and the River (Thames) Users Group.

DUTIES

All club members are assigned duties during the season (usually twice), including acting as Race Officer, and Assistant Race Officer. This is an excellent way to learn more about racing. New members are introduced to this through a system of shadowing as soon as possible after joining. Other duties include making tea, cleaning the clubhouse and cutting the grass in the compound.

CONTACTING MEDLEY SAILING CLUB by SNAIL MAIL

Membership: Membership Secretary,
Racing: Race Officer,
Information: Honorary Secretary,

**Medley Sailing Club,
The Towpath,
Binsey OX3 0NJ**