

# NAIVASHA YACHT CLUB NOTES

SUNDAY the 13th May, saw the advent of a new era in the annals of the Naivasha Yacht Club, when the new club house on Lotus Island was opened by Major Hemstead, whatever criticisms the members may have on the grounds of accessibility they have little complaint as to the suitability of the site from any other point of view. The Committee have worked marvels in the short space of three weeks, having provided a floating pontoon in addition to the club house, which although small at the moment is all that is necessary, it is situated well above the lake on the hill side so that a good view of the races is possible almost from start to finish.

If the attendance at the opening is maintained there is not the slightest doubt but that the premises will have to be enlarged in the near future, especially the accommodation at the pontoon. There were some nine sailing boats and two motor launches tied up which did not leave much room, it was quite a fine sight. The sailing members will find the pontoon a great convenience when they have minor repairs to do, trying to fix something when a boat is at anchor and when tied up along side is just the difference between a nuisance and a pleasure.

Lotus Island is pleasantly wooded, and I can foresee a number picnicing on race days in really ideal surroundings.

A good strong but steady breeze prevailed throughout the afternoon and gave some very good sailing. Nine boats turned out and jockeyed for the start, not being on the island I could not see the order in which the boats actually crossed the line but Osprey must have been almost on the line as the gun went she was closely followed round the outer buoy by the rest of the fleet, it struck me that the starting line is not at right angles to the course for the next mark as there was considerable crowding round this buoy, if this is the case I can see the Committee sitting up with towels round their heads judging the crop of protests that will surely ensue.

An unusual feature of the race was the number of disqualifications out of the Nine starters only three finished.

Penguin and Hallowe'en both fouled the first buoy. Blue Tit and Wisp both recrossed the finishing line thereby getting in the way of the oncoming boats. Kingfisher's skipper was unable to see Sparklet in consequence and fouled her. That put five of them out of the race; on coming ashore Sparklets skipper found much to his disgust that he had not crossed the finishing line thus leaving only three survivors.

"Osprey," Mr. Dyer, as usual led the fleet round the course but failed to save her time, "Blue Bird," Mr. Gillet, sailed very well and was on Ospreys heels the whole way round, not far behind I noticed Wagtail late Enid going extremely well. The result shows quite close handicapping especially when one realizes the course was a new course. There is one point that skippers should remember and that is that after crossing the finishing line they must keep clear of the course.

I understand that the club are discussing the formation of a Dinghy class, the suggestion is one that should encourage amateur building, the boats will probably be round 12 feet overall and a strictly limited sail area, there is also a suggestion that the boats must be locally built and the sailing or cost price must be within an economical limit.

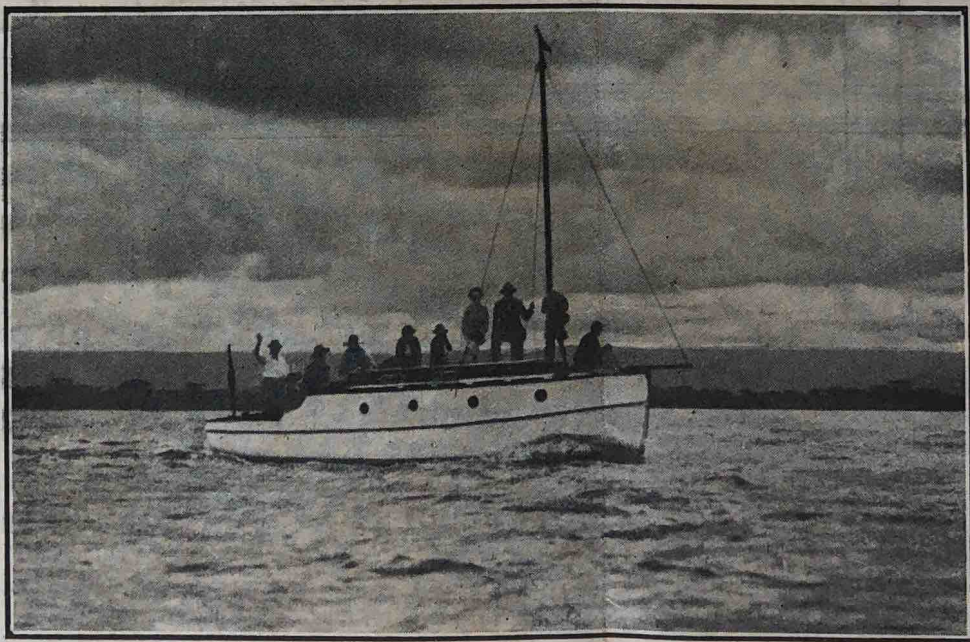
Sailing Dinghys are becoming more and more popular, I noticed that THE RUDDER the well known American yachting monthly has just started a designing competition for this class of boat the first prize being \$ 250. It will be interesting to see the type of craft their readers favour. Compared with English boats the American Dinghys I have seen have less beam and not so full at the bilge, also rather finer entrance, a cranky boat is often the result.

If the club can arrange races for this class of boat which the average amateur should be able to build really well for round about £25 to £30, I feel quite sure the number of boats on Naivasha will rapidly increase.

The Dinghy class of boat is easy to row, roomy and has quite a fair turn of speed under sail, it is also easily driven by the small out-board Motor.

## RESULT OF RACE

	Actual time.	Handicap.	Nett time.
(1) Blue Bird	1 Hr. 0 Min. 47 sec.	3 36	57 Min. 11 Sec.
(2) Osprey	57 23	Scratch	57 ,, 23 ,,
(3) Wagtail	1 3 25	5 25	58 ,, 0 ,,



Mr. A. Macraes M.L. "Tewa" on Lake Naivasha.