

DB week: Findings from survey to members

Key findings:

- 63 people responded to the survey.
- 47 had attended DB weeks in the last ten years whilst 16 people had not (although 10 of these said they were interested in attending in the future).
- Weymouth emerged as the most popular venue, closely followed by Fishguard, Torquay and Poole.¹
- In terms of mooring options, the vast majority preferred walk ashore pontoons.
- The vast majority felt the length of the week should be kept as it is.
- The vast majority said they would attend Dayboat Week if it were held outside school holidays and nearly-two thirds said they would prefer Dayboat Week to be held outside school holidays. However some people strongly disagreed with this.
- Over half felt no change was needed to the number of races. However, over a third felt there should be more races.
- The majority felt the races should be kept the length they are although nearly a quarter felt they should be shorter.
- The majority were in favour of keeping the Long Distance race.
- The vast majority People enjoy the social content of Dayboat Week.

¹ Unfortunately, Salcombe was omitted from the list provided in the survey so has not been rated.

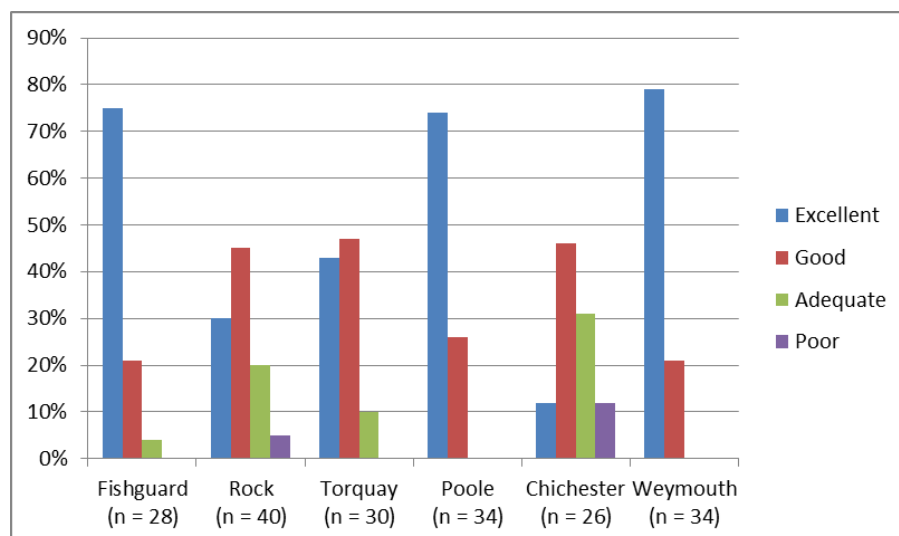
Introduction

- 63 people responded to the survey (90% of their responses were complete, 10% partial).
- 47 people (75%) had attended DB week in the last ten years, 16 (25%) had not been to DB week within the last ten years.

Sailing venues

The people who had been to DB week were asked to rate various sailing venues for the quality of the sailing they provided. As shown below, Weymouth, Poole and Fishguard emerged as most popular in terms of the sailing. Torquay was also popular (90% rated it as excellent or good), compared to Rock (75%) and Chichester (58%).²

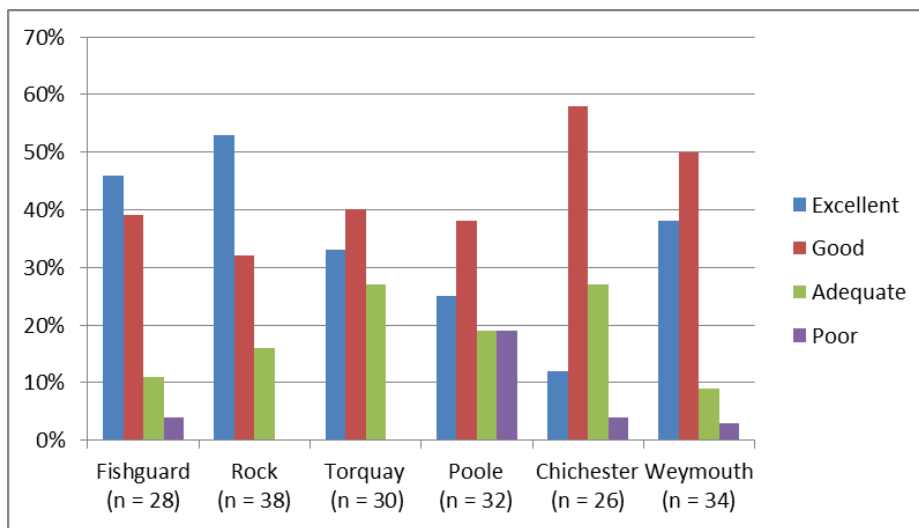
Chart 1: Venues by sailing quality



In terms of their quality as a holiday venue, Rock, Fishguard and Weymouth emerged as the most popular (see chart 2 below) although Torquay and Chichester were also popular (73% and 70% respectively rated them excellent or good). Least popular was Poole with a rating of 63%.

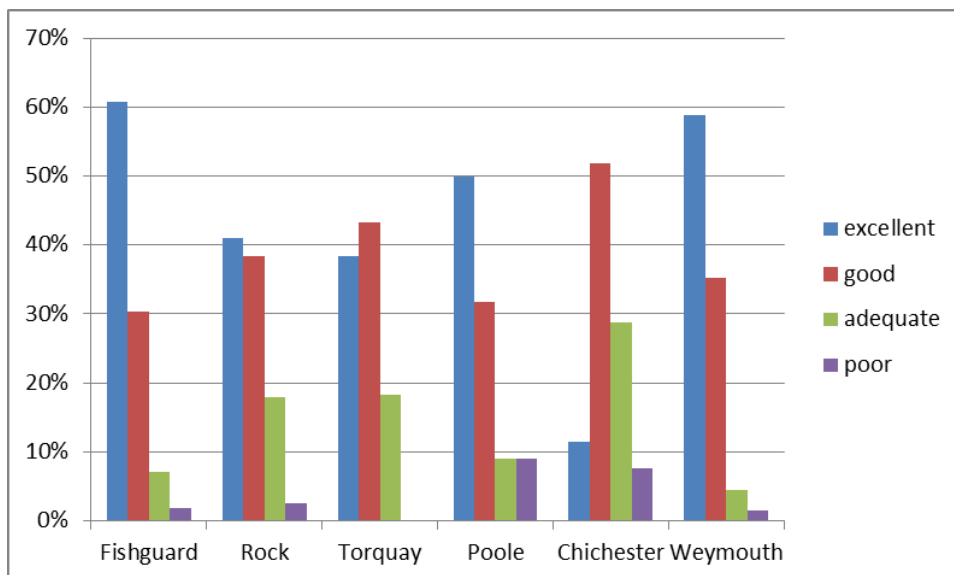
² See above.

Chart 2: Venues by holiday quality



Overall, combining their ratings revealed that Weymouth emerged as the most popular (91% rated it excellent or good), closely followed by Fishguard (91%), Torquay and Poole (both on 82%). Chichester fared least well (63%).

Chart 3: Venues by combined rating



People were given the opportunity to add their own comments about venues which have been grouped by theme:

Poole:

- *“Poole offers by far the fairest racing, is free of interference from other classes and offers good pontoon berthing. Social side good but not as intimate as some others.”*

Type of venue:

- *“Venues that are not governed by the tide make for better options as sailing times can be fixed at the same time every day. This is preferable to being dictated to by the tide.”*
- *“Open water for triangles makes for better racing than estuaries and rivers.”*
- *“As I have commented earlier, personally I think DB weeks should be more in open waters rather than tidal estuaries - in my opinion the best sailing has been at Fishguard, Weymouth and Torquay.”*
- *“As much as sailing, distance to the sailing area is important.”*
- *“Sailing is the priority, with a friendly shore facility that can cater efficiently for everyone in one place, ideally in an attractive location.”*

Somewhere different:

- *“Always enjoyable but perhaps we could try somewhere different e.g. area around Shotley? Great for racing and for sailing adventures!”*
- *“Appreciate the committee’s efforts to find new venues and would like to see this continue.”*

Torquay:

- *“The racing in Torquay was let down by an indifferent race team.”*
- *“The wider sailing area in Torquay could have been used which would have improved the rating to excellent.”*

Weymouth:

- *“Weymouth was excellent in all respects, shame it is not available for a future event.”*

Other:

- *“Detailing places of interest may add to unpopular venues.”*
- *“Prefer out of school holidays.”*
- *“Want camping within cycling distance... Guess who!”*
- *“Loved them all!”*
- *“We are happy at the work of the committee and we will attend weeks if it is the type of sailing we enjoy.”*

People were also asked if there were any venues that they would definitely not attend:

Chichester (5)

- *“Very restricted, highly tide orientated sailing waters. “*
- *“Chichester too tidal.”*
- *“Chichester as the racing water is not good and local knowledge of water doesn’t make it fair game.”*
- *“Chichester. The people at the club were most unfriendly the last time we visited them and were unhelpful also. I would not like to go there again.”*

Fishguard (4)

- *“Fishguard is too far away for me.”*
- *“Less likely to attend Fishguard than the others as it's a long drive with young children and there is little activities to do outside of sailing.”*
- *“Fishguard too far.”*
- *“Fishguard: The length of the journey puts me off.”*

Rock (2)

- *“Rock as the racing water is not good and local knowledge of water doesn’t make it fair game.”*

Poole (2)

- *“Poole, not made to feel welcome by non db members.”*

- *“No, but we don’t think Poole whilst offering excellent sailing would be as good as a holiday location and difficult for accommodation close to the club.”*

Torquay (1)

- *“I would not go back to the Royal Torbay YC again. I felt it to be the most unfriendly club I have ever visited. Although Torbay is an excellent venue, and should be considered again, just using a different host club, Brixham YC possibly.”*

Salcombe (1)

- *“Salcombe as the racing water is not good and local knowledge of water doesn’t make it fair game.”*

General (2)

- *“No. Only limitation would be distance from home base.”*
- *“Any that are more than a couple of hours drive from Poole.”*

People were also asked to suggest new venues they would like to be considered:

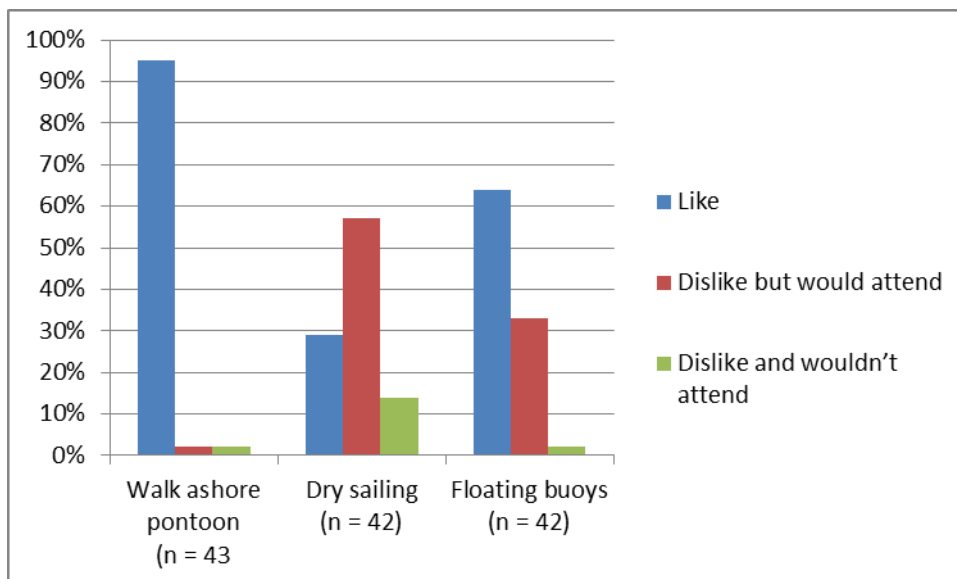
- *“Poole Park Lake!!”*
- *“Near Shotley - there was a great sailing club up the creek that flows from the west and quite a few areas to explore!”*
- *“Anywhere with good open water for a decent beat and triangle.”*
- *“Royal Western or any suitable Tamar/Saltash clubs.”*
- *“Try Milford Haven?”*
- *“Falmouth”*
- *“Plymouth, Brightlingsea, Bala Lake”*
- *“One less in the South of England”*
- *“Exmouth Dartmouth/Kingswear Brixham Falmouth Tamar”*
- *“Plymouth”*
- *“Not that we know of, perhaps Falmouth or Plymouth”*
- *“Other clubs in Torbay, East coast.”*
- *“Falmouth Dartmouth Exmouth”*

- *“I hear Brixham could be a possibility? Many people have said to me they think Bosham could do it. I wonder if we might approach Itchenor. The Bosham 18s came back full of enthusiasm for Abersoch. ... but six hours drive is about the maximum for most people.”*
- *“Rutland Water”*
- *“Tenby? Exe? Haven't researched availability of moorings etc. but harbour/estuary location might be suitable.”*
- *“Salcombe is always a good venue together with clubs already listed above.”*
- *“Falmouth?”*
- *“There are several excellent areas in Wales which I think should be looked at. Let's not be put off because it's in Wales!”*

Mooring options

As Chart 4 shows, the vast majority (95%) prefer walk ashore pontoons. Floating buoys were also acceptable (64% liked this option) but dry sailing was not popular (although 57% said they would still attend).

Chart 4: Views on mooring options



People were given the opportunity to add their own comments about location which have been grouped by theme:

Importance of accommodation:

- *“Venues with as many options for accommodation and with a big as possible range of prices for the accommodation are preferable to those with limited options on both.”*
- *“Prefer locations where self-catering accommodation is plentiful and, if possible, within walking distance of the club.”*
- *“Availability of accommodation is important. Important to feel like we are important to the club rather than just *another* fleet.”*
- *“For us it is very much a holiday and therefore it needs to be a nice location with a good choice of accommodation within walking distance of the club.”*

Recovering boats:

- *“Not sure I would be able to launch and recover for every race.”*
- *“Key to a successful week is a good sailing area (not too tidally orientated) organised by a members run club in an area which offers a wide range of accommodation options.”*
- *“Reason for not liking launch and recover is not having a combi trailer makes this difficult.”*

Location:

- *“Prefer more rural to urban centres.”*
- *“Poole has great facilities and plenty of space in the bar/lounge areas which are easily subdivided for class functions. Poole quay offers great tourism opportunities: harbour tours, fishing, museum, shopping, great selection of restaurants and bars. Poole Park is a short and easy level walk from the Quay. There is also horse-riding and golf etc. nearby. Beaches: Sandbanks, Studland, Bournemouth beach. There is plenty of accommodation between Rockley and Poole Quay at various cost levels: camping and caravans, holiday lets, B&B, guest houses and hotels etc. Many local Dayboat families may also be able to offer accommodation to visiting entrants to Dayboat Week.”*
- *“I think a good variety of venues, but always like going somewhere new.”*

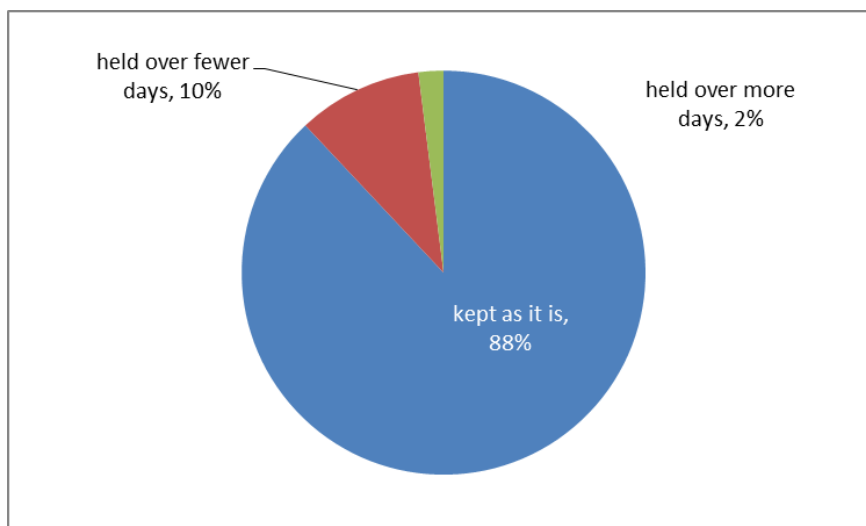
Other:

- *“I will not be attending any more DB nationals away.”*
- *“It is always difficult to find new venues but still try to find new places to visit. Would always attend existing venues but not keen on Chichester.”*

Length of the week

Next, people were asked their views on the length of the week. As Chart 5 shows, the vast majority (88%) felt it should be kept as it is.

Chart 5: Views on the length of the week

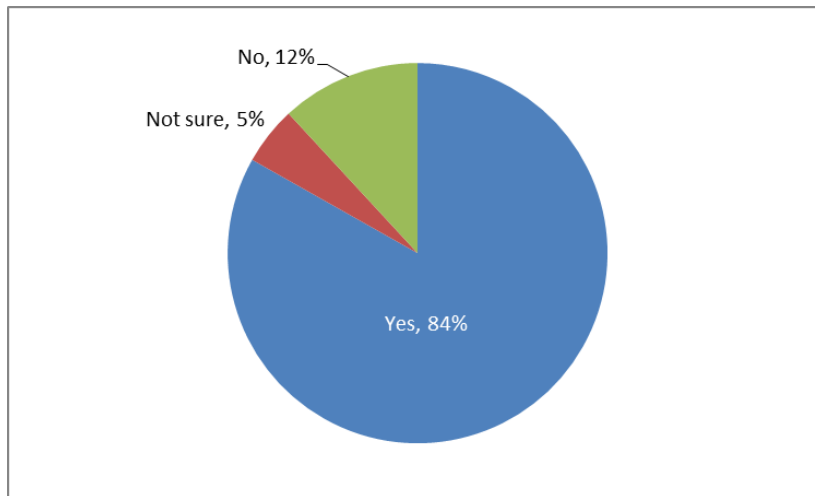


The four people who felt it should be held over fewer days all suggested 4 days (one person said 3 – 4 days). The one person who felt it should be longer suggested a week.

People were then asked if they would attend Dayboat Week if it were held outside school holidays.

As Chart 6 shows, the vast majority (84%) said they would attend Dayboat Week if it were held outside school holidays.

Chart 6: Views on the timing of the week



Moreover, nearly-two thirds (61%) of respondents said they would prefer Dayboat Week to be held outside school holidays. A quarter (25%) were not sure and 14% said no.

In terms of their preferences for when Dayboat Week should be held, the majority (77%) said they did not mind. Equal numbers (12%) said they would prefer early in the sailing season or late in the sailing season.

Finally, the majority (91%) said they had enough notice to make arrangements to attend. Of the four people who said they did not have enough notice:

- one suggested a rolling three-year programme
- one suggested two years
- one said they would hope for at least a year ahead
- one said the longer the better.

People were given the opportunity to add their own comments about the length of the week which have been grouped by theme:

Length/format:

- *“The length of the week works well. Personally I would prefer more races/day.”*
- *“It would be impossible to please every person, if the week is treated as a holiday with sailing and social events it works, to make it shorter just makes it in to an open event there are 3/5 of these at the moment enough for any competitive sailor.”*

- *“Sunday start works well for getting there and getting rigged plus also works for rented accommodation.”*
- *“More races.”*
- *“In some venues it would be possible to hold the number of races in a shorter time period, but in others there are server tidal constraints.”*

Timing:

- *“Ref the timing, it is good that it varies from year to year. Number of days might depend on how far away it is. The trouble with this survey is the closed questions rather than open ones.”*
- *“Some of us have grandchildren we would like to be able to join in the week. If it is held outside school holidays this is impossible.”*
- *“The present variation in times when the week is held is good. We are outside the school holidays this year but this should only be an occasional arrangement. We still have members, and will have in the future, members who are tied to the school holidays.”*
- *“It's not an easy problem to solve as there are so many factors across the fleets, crews and families.”*
- *“Alternate Spring / Summer has worked well for me.”*
- *“Personally, we are tied to sailing away during school holidays ONLY - for the next 3 summers. This reason applies to anyone with school age children (unless it is held in Poole) as it is now against the law to take children out of school so this means NO children can take part either. By holding Dayboat Week in Term time this completely disqualifies families from even entering. It must be in the interest of the class as a whole to encourage people of school age to take part in Dayboat Week which therefore must help encourage younger people and young families to maintain an interest in Dayboats.”*
- *“Conflicts with exam marking in early June.”*
- *“It is extremely disappointing that 2015 Dayboat Week is being held outside of school holiday time. The Committee have made it quite clear that they would like to attract younger sailors and families into the Dayboat fleet - then it is decided to hold the ANNUAL EVENT during school term time. This totally excludes youngsters and their families from attending as it is against the law to take children out of school during term*

time. It also excludes teachers from attending. Basically anyone associated with education is being excluded! It has been suggested that accommodation is more expensive during school holiday periods but cheaper accommodation is always available further away from the water's edge or even camping etc. Rock was held in School Holiday Time and it was commented upon how 'well supported' it was. Rock is not known for cheap accommodation! Where to stay is a 'choice', however if Dayboat Week is to be held in Term Time there is no 'choice' - youngsters, teachers etc simply cannot attend. The timing of future Dayboat Weeks should be a matter for discussion at the class AGM. The fact that those who cannot attend the Dayboat Week cannot therefore attend the AGM means that opinions of the whole class cannot be heard at the AGM - this is essentially wrong."

- *"I have also commented on this before. Having DB week during school holidays substantially increases the cost. You penny pinch on the sailing costs but then ignore the much higher accommodation costs. Also timing has to fit round the sailing calendars of the 3 main clubs, so whether it's early or late will depend available slots. However, given a free choice, I would prefer later in the season."*

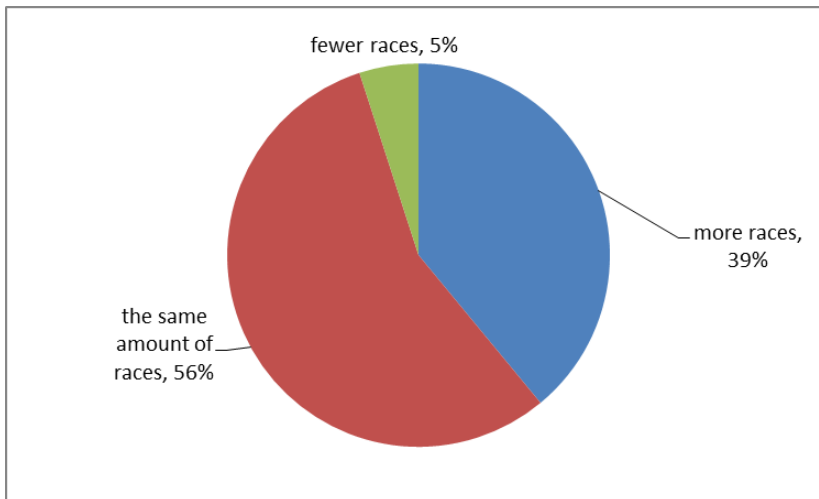
Other:

- *"Perhaps do a day of sailing exploration (e.g. if you go near Shotley if weather is okay people could take a picnic and sail down to Walton back waters. Those who want to race there can but it's more exploratory?)"*
- *"Would be useful to have more notice of venues if possible."*
- *"I congratulate you on this questionnaire. But will wave you all good sailing in the future."*
- *"For "Not sure" above, please read "don't mind"."*
- *"To me and my helm it is not a problem when we go but we do appreciate it can be difficult for everyone to attend all the time."*
- *"From our limited experience of two Nationals, you've got the format pretty well optimised."*

Racing

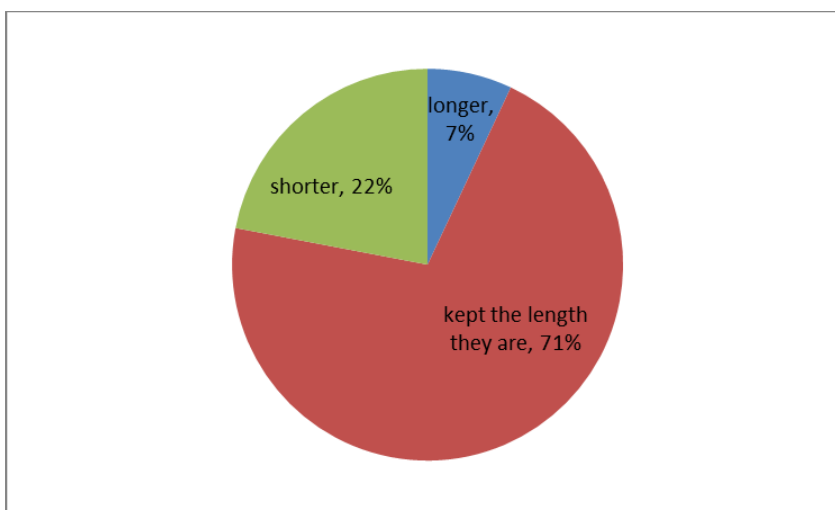
People were also asked how many races they felt should be run during the week. As Chart 7 shows, over half (56%) felt no change was needed to the number of races. However, over a third (39%) felt there should be more races.

Chart 7: Preferences for number of races



People were also asked about their views on the length of races. As Chart 8 shows, the majority (71%) felt these should be kept as they are although nearly a quarter (22%) felt they should be shorter.

Chart 8: Preferences for length of races



People were given the opportunity to describe what format of racing they would prefer:

Keep as is:

- *“Keep to the same, no need for change.”*
- *“Happy as is.”*
- *“Happy with the way they are so no suggestions. Wouldn’t be adverse to a change though!”*
- *“As it is depending on the wind and sea state 1 and half hours would be ideal per day, 1 hour races if back to back.”*
- *“The race format for Dayboat week should be maintained sailing time dependant on conditions.”*
- *“Races should have definite windward legs and of at least an hour and a half long. Number of races ok as at present.”*
- *“I quite like the present format. We are often limited by the venues. There may be the chance to add an extra Opportunity Race to make it a two race series.”*
- *“Points races of about 1 1/2 hours would be ideal. Definitely not more shorter races as this usually means too much hanging around between races and therefore too much time on the water and not racing. One long race adds variety and not being compulsory (i.e. not in points series) lets people out if they choose not to do the long race.”*
- *“The format is fine for Dayboats. Of course it is weather dependant at the time.”*
- *“As current races as it suits the boat, rather than a sprint.”*
- *“Like the current format.”*
- *“Maintain the regime we have now but we could add one more race to the list.”*

Shorter:

- *“I would prefer to have more races, of a shorter duration if necessary.”*
- *“Could have more shorter races but time on the water should not be much longer.”*
- *“My preference would be 7 points races of 45-60 min duration with 2 races on 3 days, 1 race on another (plus opportunity race) and the long distance race on the 5th day.”*
- *“Personally I think more slightly shorter races, but I really don't mind. That will not be a factor on my attendance.”*
- *“More, shorter points races.”*

- *“For points racing, two shorter races per day each lasting 45mins.”*
- *“45mins and some traditional buoyed courses.”*
- *“More races but shorter. Why not try two points races each day of say 45 minutes. After the first 30 minutes most of the positions have been set.”*
- *“Sometimes the longer races can end up being a bit of a procession, I would like to see more shorter races where there is a chance for positions to change. I'm not advocating spending any more time racing.”*
- *“Shorter races preferred.”*

Other:

- *“The venue may dictate what can be arranged. Additional costs would have to be considered. One main race a day allows free time for exploring area etc.”*
- *“We do not like back to back races.”*
- *“Nice to have a mix or 1, 2 and 3 races of varying lengths. 2 medium; 3/4 short; 1 long; 2 medium + 1 short; 2 short +1 medium.”*
- *“1 1/2 to 2 hours per day is enough sailing for me. If that was broken down into more races, then that would be fine too.”*
- *“As it is now, or more shorter courses, but not longer ones.”*

People were also asked if they thought that we should continue to hold the Long Distance Race. The majority (60%) said yes although over a quarter (29%) were not sure and 12% said no.

In addition, they were asked if they would be interested in having time on the water for other sailing activities. Views here were quite divided with 41% saying no, 34% saying not sure and 24% saying yes. Suggestions for activities were:

- *“As mentioned exploratory time! A 'fun' race which may involve beaching or playing boat polo or perhaps tuning/teaching. Opportunities for those who aren't as skilled on the water?”*
- *“Love the pursuit race and would be happy to see more races like this.”*
- *“A day cruise with Tim could be fun.”*

- *“Tuition, advice and tips.”*
- *“Fun sailing activities or opportunities to improve sailing skills.”*
- *“Team races.”*
- *“Any type of fun based race, for example relay race or rowing race.”*

Finally, people were asked if they would be interested in a cruising rally. Again, views here were quite divided with 37% saying no, 34% saying yes and 29% saying not sure.

People were given the opportunity to add their own comments about the sailing content of the week which have been grouped by theme:

Mix of races:

- *“Dayboat week is the national championships for the class. As such it should be treated as such. I believe that there should be 2 races a day, back to back, 10 in total with discards to suit. If necessary the duration of each race could be shortened to give 3/4 hours on the water each day. The long distance race should be dropped unless it was made part of the overall points. The all-comers race could be retained, but would need to be done on a lay day or after the main points races, with enough time for crew changes to happen.”*
- *“I personally don’t agree with more than one points race per day.”*

Opportunity race:

- *“I don't see the point of the Opportunity Race. So I would make Dayboat Week a series run over 5 days.”*
- *“Also crews ladies and singlehanded in one combined race has never appealed to me.”*

Cruising rally:

- *“We might attract some 'cruising' members to some venues if we supported this, but depending on venue and type of moorings it might be a bit complicated (could need Club support for access to moorings etc.) so maybe not practicable. Not particularly interested personally - races are enough!”*

- *“A sociable group sail is a good idea but maybe not for Dayboat Week unless it replaced the long distance race.”*

Long distance race:

- *“Perhaps there could be a plan B for occasions when a long distance race cannot be held?”*
- *“The success of the Long Distance Race is dependent on the venue - and the weather. A cruising rally may provide something for non-racing members. Poole would be the ideal venue as a starter. This would be completely separate from DB Week. Regarding free time on the water - I regard DB Week as a holiday, not just a sailing event.”*
- *“The long distance race usually is not well supported, possibly because it looks boring or members want a rest. But DB week is about racing and that's what we should concentrate on!”*
- *“Consider something different?”*

Change is good:

- *“The current format is becoming a bit stale. A touch less completion and a tiny bit more holiday sailing might attract dayboaters who are not wedded to racing.”*
- *“Current format works.....But sometimes change is good.”*

Happy as is:

- *“It works well if the conditions are acceptable to all. After all it is the conditions we sail in that make us happy and want more not sailing time or content.”*
- *“All good fun and experience.”*
- *“It is fine.”*
- *“We don't think that there is time within Dayboat week to add in any more sailing activities or cruising as people like to have time to explore the area and socialise.”*
- *“I enjoy the regime as it is.”*

Social content

People were asked if they enjoyed the social content of Dayboat Week; the vast majority (98%) said they did. Only one person said they didn't, explaining that they didn't like "the same old things year after year and free evenings on a short break is also not necessary. If you are going to freshen things up, start from a blank sheet of paper."

Asked what they enjoyed, people talked about:

Mixing with others:

- *"Eating and drinking with friends."*
- *"Enjoy the opportunity to mix socially with DB sailors from other clubs."*
- *"Meals/ babes"*
- *"Meeting other clubs sailors."*
- *"Our friends whether they race or not."*
- *"Just general get togethers, seeing old friends and making new ones."*
- *"Eating, drinking and meeting up with old friends and meeting new ones."*
- *"After race chats.....meeting the teams."*
- *"Meeting old and new DB owners."*
- *"Meals together."*
- *"Chatting to other people."*
- *"Mixing with other dayboaters."*
- *"Meeting up with friends from other clubs."*
- *"The social aspect."*
- *"Nice people!"*
- *"Just meeting at the bar for a chat is great too."*
- *"The craic."*
- *"Meeting other Dayboaters over nice meal."*
- *"The chance to meet up in an informal atmosphere after a shared endeavour."*
- *"Spending time with and getting to know other competitors."*
- *"Meals and quizzes are a good way to meet and chat."*

Variety:

- *“All of the social events are usually good. The different clubs have different ways of doing things so there is always a certain amount of variety, which is all that is needed really.”*
- *“General variety and relaxed nature.”*
- *“All of it. The choice of going to all or some of social events.”*
- *“Sufficient and varied events. A real strong point to the week.”*

Informal events

- *“Informal events (BBQ etc.) rather than sit-down dinners. Might prefer one prize-giving dinner rather than 2.”*
- *“I enjoy the informal supper and quiz. Final prize giving dinner is always fun. Could dispense with the midweek prize giving dinner.”*
- *“The relaxed atmosphere fun, not formal even prize giving, due to all the hard work done by com members please tweak only no major changes.”*

Games:

- *“Social, not games.”*
- *“After sailing meals are great but functions a long time after sailing finishes are less convenient if we've all gone home first. Also enjoy more organised evenings like quiz night etc.”*
- *“Quizzes are always great fun. Treasure hunts, when we did them, were good too!”*
- *“Quiz night.”*
- *“The quiz.”*
- *“Keeping all members together is my prime objective for the week. Quiz evenings are always good and any other type of event.”*

All of it:

- *“All the events were great, well planned and really enjoyed them. (Rock)”*
- *“Everything!”*
- *“The current format is just fine.”*

Other:

- *“Walks, eating.”*
- *“Fish and chip supper. Curry night. Prize giving dinner.”*
- *“Opportunity to discuss the finer point of racing and life in general.”*

People were then asked if they would like to see more free evenings. The majority (52%) said not, whilst 31% weren't sure. Seven people said they would like more free evening.

Additional comments about the social content:

It's fine:

- *“It has improved over the years and is now excellent.”*
- *“Not worried about more free evenings as it's not obligatory to attend them all so sometimes we do have an 'extra' evening off!”*
- *“All evenings are 'free' and voluntary so people can suit themselves. Suggest there is something available every evening, if possible, even if informal.”*
- *“Can't stand quizzes. Current format very acceptable.”*
- *“Seated meal is fine, maybe an evening of buffet.”*
- *“Looking for a good balance. For this reason morning races preferred so you have the rest of the day for social outings etc.”*
- *“All the events were great, well planned and really enjoyed them. (Rock) A good variety of events.”*
- *“It was great so no need to alter.”*
- *“I think the general format is fine. Depending on the venue, a group outing would be nice - for example, the trip to the RNLi Centre when we were at Poole was memorable. Or perhaps take over a pub one evening.”*

Needs to be more child-friendly:

- *“Mix of kid friendly vs not kid friendly good.”*

Mix clubs up:

- *“Trying to get clubs more mixed - maybe pick boat names from a hat for table plans whenever there is a sit down meal.”*

Other:

- *“To work socially you need a club of the right size and suitable facilities to provide the right atmosphere.”*

Any other comments about Dayboat Week:

Generally happy:

- *“We must not be tempted to do the same as other classes. The Dayboat is successful because it meets a specific demand, it's not broke so don't try and fix it. Trying out of school hols is good and should be cheaper.”*
- *“Basically happy with it.”*
- *“Don't change it too much - I think the current formula is successful - But useful to know about what the majority want inn terms of timing (school hols or not) and number/length of races.”*
- *“In summary I believe the current 5 day format works well, but personally I would prefer more, shorter races to make the effort of attending the Week more worthwhile.”*
- *“It works as it is, more details about the area locale events places of interest may sway some to go sailing/social/holiday DB week. Thank you all your hard work on our behalf.”*
- *“Keep the overall format as it is.”*
- *“Overall, I like the fact it is for one week. I would like more points races which last slightly shorter. I enjoy sailing in different venues as it offers new challenges.”*
- *“Dayboat Week is a good concept to meet sailors from other Clubs and form new friendships.”*
- *“Due to the broad spectrum of competitors it will inevitably be a challenge to provide a good mixed programme to suit all but from the one week that we have done we think that the format works well.”*

- *“Have attended all Dayboat Weeks except one when could not have time off work. Have always enjoyed the layout of the week and don't want to see too many changes. We could add another race on if required but enjoy it as it is.”*

Racing v family event:

- *“I believe the class has to decide whether DB week is a race week or a family week. Currently it is neither in my opinion. It would be better if it was acknowledged that it is a race week and the racing would take priority. If necessary a second week or a weekend could be organised for a more family based event. I appreciate that many of the sailors will have family with them and as such locations should be chosen with that in mind. Also choosing locations where the tide does not dictate the timing of the racing would allow the racing to take place in the morning/early afternoon, leaving the afternoons/evenings available for family time. Setting up the week so that there is a lay day mid event would help with keeping non sailing family members happy.”*
- *“DB week is a big financial and time investment for a family. It is important that there is quality time for non-sailing members of the party, therefore the current format of most races in the morning leaving the afternoons free for all the family to do something together is ideal. Afternoon only racing is unsatisfactory for a family.”*
- *“If Dayboat Week was to be in Poole and during Term Time we would definitely attend. Very disappointed having committed to expense of a new boat, supported the class as much as we could, that we are excluded from attending this summer's Dayboat Week because it is being held in Term Time. We hope that in future Dayboat Week can be held at a time that all Dayboat owners (including families with children at school) have an equal opportunity to attend and support the class.”*
- *“To sum up, I think Dayboat Week MUST be held during school holiday times so that EVERYONE has the opportunity to attend and compete. The Dayboat Class says it wants to encourage younger families and youngsters, so to hold the ONE ANNUAL EVENT at a time which specifically EXCLUDES families/youngsters/teachers has to be wrong. We should be holding the Annual Event during school holiday times where families and youngsters and teachers can see what great fun these Dayboat's are!!”*

Other:

- *“I suggest we try harder to find a fleet to share with.”*
- *“Good luck with your decision making, and thanks for organising the questionnaire!”*

Views of the people who had not attended a DB week in last 10 years

16 people had not attended DB weeks in the last ten years.

Reasons given for not attending:

Lack of a (sailworthy) boat:

- *“Do not have a DB.”*
- *“Me and the DB are a bit past it!”*
- *“My Dayboat “Merganser” DB 136 is in a state of serious disrepair.”*
- *“Cos I didn’t have a dayboat!”*
- *“My boat is an old Gunter rig so therefore probably not that quick compared to the more modern rigs.”*

Not my thing/my partner’s thing:

- *“Often away at the same time and am not a “racing person”. Prefer the isolation of a Scottish Loch!”*
- *“Wife doesn't crew - so not such an obvious holiday to take.”*
- *“My wife sails but doesn't race so doesn't crew. So although several Bosham friends to the Week it's not an obvious weeks holiday for me/us.”*
- *“Usually away in Scotland in June.”*

Location of events:

- *“I've owned my Dayboat for only a few months. I would probably not attend “Dayboat weeks” as I assume they will be held in the south of England & I live up north.”*
- *“Our DB lives in Scotland and events are in South.”*

Work/family commitments:

- *“Busy work load.”*
- *“It always falls in half term when my son is home.”*
- *“Other commitments and limited holiday means that using up a week of annual leave for a sailing event is not possible.”*

New:

- *“New to Dayboats - not raced so far.”*

These people were asked if they would consider attending a Dayboat week in the future;

Two-thirds (10 people) said they would and one third (5 people) said they would not.

They were asked if there were any venues they would definitely not attend:

- *“Happy with any, but Devon and Cornwall preferred.”*
- *“None more than 100 miles from Scottish border.”*
- *“Would consider any area.”*
- *“West coast of Wales, Cornwall, Scotland - just too far away!”*

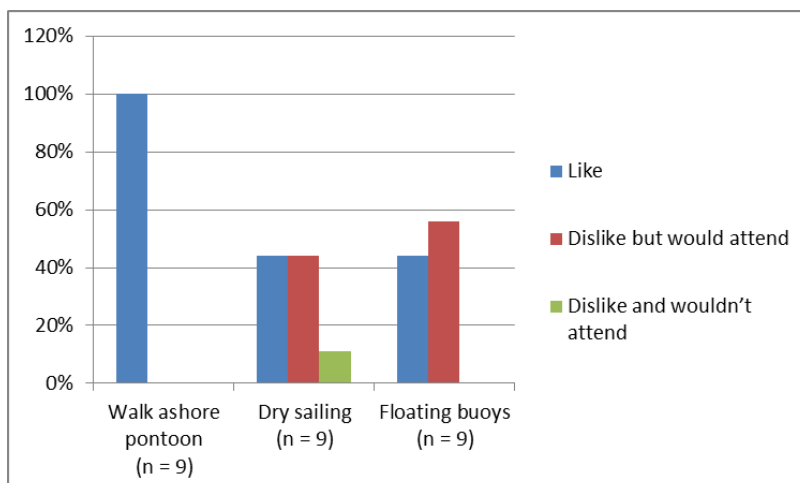
They were also asked if there were any venues you would like to be considered for

Dayboat Week:

- *“yes lots to many to mention”*
- *“Solway YC in Kippford”*
- *“Bosham, Poole - anywhere along the south coast...”*
- *“Poole YC”*

Next they were asked which method of mooring they would prefer. As Chart 9 shows, again walk ashore pontoons were most popular.

Chart 9: Views on mooring options



Further comments about the location:

- *“Our DB is elderly and slow so would be more social than competitive. We do travel to National 12 events.”*
- *“An attractive area with good sailing.”*

In terms of the length of the week, the majority (six people) felt it should be kept as it is whilst four people felt it should be held over fewer days. In addition, the majority (9 people) said they would you attend Dayboat Week if it were held outside school holidays; one person said they were not sure.

Most people (8) said they did not mind when Dayboat Week is held. One person said they would prefer early in the sailing season and one person said they would prefer late in the sailing season.

Most people (9) said they had enough notice to make arrangements to attend. One person said they did not have enough notice.

Further comments about the length or timing of Dayboat Week:

- *“Long weekend preferred.”*
- *“I will not attend during school holidays.”*

Most people (8) felt the number of races should not be changed. However, one person felt there should be more races.

Similarly, most people (7) felt they should be kept the length they are whilst one person felt they should be shorter.

Two people commented on the format of racing would you prefer:

- *“More/shorter races.”*
- *“The current race format sounds good. However if any changes were made I would favour shorter races.”*

Over half (5 people) felt we should continue to hold the Long Distance Race whilst 4 people felt we should not. Similarly, 5 people said they would you be interested in having time on the water for other sailing activities whilst 2 people were not sure and 2 people said they would not.

Over three-quarters (7 people) said they would be interested in a cruising rally whilst two people said they would not. One person commented that “some kind of cruise could provide an additional on water activity.”

In terms of the social content of Dayboat Week, three people said they enjoyed it whilst seven people were not sure. 5 people said they did not want to have more free evenings whilst the other 5 were not sure.

Finally, some added further comments about Dayboat Week:

- *“How about amalgamating with another class say the Osprey fleet same age as us bigger party time?”*
- *“I am looking forward to my first DB Week (but it will only be possible if I get the boat seaworthy (and certified).”*
- *“In 2018, my school holiday constraints will no longer be an issue.”*
- *“I have left a lot blank as I have never been to one. Hope to do one before too long!”*

Those who have not attended and are not interested in attending

3 of the 5 who people said they had not attended any DB weeks in the last ten years and were not interested in attending any in the future gave their reasons:

- *“Same reason, sadly not sailed the DB for over 10 years.”*
- *“Rarely South of the border in June but we like sailing in splendid isolation.”*
- *“My wife sails but doesn't race so doesn't crew. So although several Bosham friends to the Week it's not an obvious.”*

Asked if there were anything that would encourage them to attend a Dayboat Week in the future, they explained:

- *“20 years younger and someone to finish the DB hull repairs.”*
- *“No”*
- *“If my wife decided to race!”*

Finally, asked if they had any other feedback about Dayboat Week that they would like to give us, they said:

- *“Not really. Read about them and think you do a great job. Only been to two some years ago but not recently due to personal and DB circumstances.”*
- *“No.”*