

## Club History

Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club traces its history back to 1849 when the first club was formed in Hong Kong to cater to the interest of sailors. Over time, various iterations of clubs came and went depending on interest in certain types of craft, and in 1890 the Hong Kong Corinthian Yacht Club was formed which became the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club in 1894. The Club has around 15,000 members. Each year the Club organises over 450 sailing races with 800 start sequences, has over 23,000 competitors in Club organised events, has over 600 individuals deliver over 1,000 days of volunteering across its sport and runs over 100,000 hours of training in sailing, rowing and paddling. The club also hosts two offshore races per year including the Rolex China Sea Race and the Hong Kong to Vietnam Race, both held biennially. Members can be seen competing overseas in events such as the NYYC Invitational, Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, the Olympics, SailGP (Waszp) and the 52 Super Series to name a few and has played host to several World Championship events for Etchells, Flying Fifteens, 29ers, etc and will be hosting a few more such World Champs coming up in the next few years.

## Invitational Cup History

The 2023 Invitational Cup will be Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club's seventh time competing. The RHKYC has been a stalwart competitor. Only the COVID pandemic could keep this team from competing in 2021. The best finish was in 2017 when RHKYC placed sixth. This year's crew was selected based on skills and experience in international regattas and in the previous NYYC invitational cups. In order for the crew to be best prepared, they will train in Cape 31s in Hong Kong.

## Crew

Leading RHKYC's team will be helmsman Peter Backe, who competed in the 29er Worlds back in 2018 and the Etchell Worlds in 2015. Most recently Backe placed first at the 2023 HK Match Racing as helmsman. Doing the tactics for this year's team will be Duncan Gregor, with just 11 years of racing in his career, Gregor has shown tremendous potential. He competed in the 420 Worlds where he placed 17th and the 29er Worlds where he placed 20th. Also as a tactician, Gregor placed second at the HK Round Island Race.

## RHKYC CREW

Helmsperson - Peter Backe (Hong Kong, CHN)

Tactician - Duncan Gregor (Hong Kong, CHN)

Ka Ming Yip (Hong Kong, CHN)

Elizabeth Wai (Hong Kong, CHN)

Andrew Taylor (Hong Kong, CHN)

Samuel Stitt (Hong Kong, CHN)

Marcus Schmitt (Hong Kong, CNH)

Matthew Curthoys (Hong Kong, CHN)

Nicholas Burns (Hong Kong, CHN)

Alternate - Maureen Mueller (Hong Kong, CHN)

