



# Snapshot

J99 Launched April 2021  
Home Club Howth Yacht Club  
Dublin

# Our Story

- Michael and Richard Evans
- Howth Yacht Club
- Previous yacht – Half tonner – the Big Picture
- Years of modifying....
- 8 years – 4<sup>th</sup> in Half ton cup twice, winner of HYC Autumn League
- Wanted something bigger
- Offshore capability





A close-up photograph of three dragonflies perched on a green, spiky plant. The dragonflies are positioned in a row, with the one on the right being the largest and most prominent. They have large, bulging eyes and segmented bodies. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

# Research the options

J99

J109

Cape 31

Italia 998





J Yachts – J99

Competitive Inshore racing

Offshore capability

Opportunity to cruise

Sturdy, safe, versatile and fun to sail

Sail Displacement ratio

Sail area to waterline length ratio

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Compared well than other IRC

performers

Boat lighter

Price



# Ordering a new Boat

- Attention to detail
- Correct set up
- Involve a professional
- Sail wardrobe
- Finding fit for purpose hardware
- IRC – trial certification





# Sail Configuration

- Higher rating
- Higher aspect sails for performance
- Addition of ballast
- Worked hard on configuration



- New boat – higher rating – team had to sail well
- Strong upwind performance as wind builds
- Higher performance off wind – sail area / displacement ratio



# The right crew!

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- Skillset
  - Balance
  - Fun aspect
  - Commitment
  - Organisation



# Early Season Training

- Practice starting
- Crew work and positioning
- Roll tacks & Gybes
- Mark rounding
- Boat check





# Our First Big Outing – The Soverigns Cup – Kinsale 2021

- So many J109 s
- How can we compete
- Light winds to start...







1<sup>st</sup> in Class and  
Winner of Sovereigns  
Cup



# The Round Ireland Yacht Race

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- Preparation
- Crew Selection
- 6 people
- Food - nutrition
- Watch system
- Last Day in good shape





# The Start

- 2<sup>nd</sup> smallest boat in the fleet
- Two first timers on board
- They said it would take 4 and bit days



- With six of us onboard, we ran shifts of 4 hours on and 2 hours off. The hardest part was getting in and out of wet gear while the boat was heeling at 20 degrees and pitching, sometimes slamming, as we nosed through the swell. Nausea set in for a few of the crew and, with a night of sailing to get through, there was not much time and only limited interest in taking in the views of the scenic Skelligs.
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- A new weather system coming in from the Atlantic offered an advantage in sailing out to the west on starboard for a few hours to meet the new wind and then tacking and coming back into the coast on a port hand lift. Given the conditions, some of us found that a little daunting but we were reassured when our navigator Nick Cherry advised that we were leading after this incredibly tough section of the race.



# The final stretch

Once the West Coast was done we had a pleasant sail down East coast, until Dundalk.....

Races are won and lost here



# Nearly did it

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- Overall –2<sup>nd</sup> (5 minutes)
- 1<sup>st</sup> in Class
- 1<sup>st</sup> Irish Yacht





# Still Talking

- Challenged but happy



# Calves week

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- What a venue
- Adventure
- Relaxed and social
- 1<sup>st</sup> in Class



# Autumn League

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- Needed to win for Boat of the Year
- Contenders Rockabill JPK 10.40 and Samaton Grand Soleil 44
- Variety of conditions
- Round the cans and windward leeward races





# ICRA Boat of the Year 2022



# What's Next

- Scotland
- Howth
- Soverigns week
- DunLaoire
- ICRA
- J Cup
- Autumn League