

Catamarans

Introduction

Welcome to the fleet with three essential ingredients; Speed, Power and two hulls!

Catamarans are amongst the fastest sailing craft on the water, capable of speeds up to 20 knots in the right conditions but also incredibly stable, making them suitable for sailors from a wide range of age, weight and ability.

Space limitations mean the catamarans that can be sailed at Draycote is restricted to Sprint 15's and Dart 18's **only**.

Sailing and racing catamarans can be exhilarating but be careful! It is also addictive! Read on for further details of this exciting sport.



A Dart 18 powers across Draycote Water

Photo by David Hope DWSC.

Frequently asked questions

What makes catamarans so fast?

With two hulls a catamarans platform is very stable allowing large sail areas to be carried whilst still being easy to handle. A catamaran's hulls are pencil thin, perfect for slicing through the water at high speeds. Upwind sailing and reaching in strong winds are a catamaran's strong point. As the boat heels over the windward hull starts to fly across the water, acting merely as a counterbalance and offering no resistance to forward motion.

What catamarans can I sail at Draycote?

Dart 18 and Sprint 15 are the only classes now allowed at Draycote.

See Tech Specs below for details on these boats.

Why should I sail my catamaran at Draycote?

Draycote Water is a large reservoir covering 650 acres. Its elevation above the surrounding countryside means the prevailing south-westerly winds give an action packed reach nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long – perfect for catamarans!

A tight reach is a particular strong point for cats – prepare to fly!



Would I be able to right a Catamaran after a capsize?

Yes. Catamarans have fully sealed and buoyant masts and with the right technique they are easy to right after a capsize.

Can I race my catamaran at Draycote?

Yes. Racing takes place every Sunday and Wednesday evenings in the summer.

Could I test sail a catamaran at Draycote?

Yes! Contact the Catamaran Fleet Captain at Draycote Water for a test sail (details below). Alternatively, contact The Laser Centre (Darts)-See links below

DWSC Catamaran fleet captain:

Peter Slater

Tel: 01926 512129

Links

Click here for useful catamaran websites including class associations

The Laser Centre; www.lasersailing.com

Dart18 class association; www.dart18.com

Sprint15 class association; www.dart15.com