

Trial Sails – Archon comments

We used the new sails on Archon 10 days ago for 3 races on the Saturday and Sunday. I thought I would report back.

The wind was 4 to 12 knots on the Sat. 10 to 16 knots on the Sunday.

The sails were overall excellent. They both fitted my current set-up without modification: I was able to move the jib lead as required and otherwise both sails fitted halyards, boom, etc.

Together the sails looked good: clean and modern.

They are clearly faster under the conditions pertaining. We felt turbo-charged: pointing 5* higher and going a little faster. It made climbing through the fleet a pleasure rather than a grind!

There was no feeling of being over-powered, or of a greater tendency to heel, but we did not have strong winds to test this further. This will need to be assessed.

The main was more sensitive to adjustment than the traditional one. Small adjustments to the halyard and/or outhaul made significant changes to the shape. I liked feel of the material.

All in all I thought the new sails were a significant improvement and would like to see them introduced.