

Sunfish Sailing

By Juli Haig

The new Club "Super Sunfish" is ready for sailing! The new rig has been installed and Bruce Plasch and other members of the Sailing Committee are enthused about prospects of members sailing and surfing the new craft.

"This is a better Sunfish than the old," says Bruce, "in that it points higher into the wind and hence sails faster and more efficiently than the others."

It has a 'high aspect' sail with a regular Marconi rig. This design element calls for a tall mast and a short boom, with a smaller sail area. The new, short boom does not drag and control and speed are maximized.

In good wind conditions and on a nice reach off Diamond Head buoy, Bruce says the Sunfish can often beat even the fast surf cats, sometimes jumping their wake.

He feels, too, that the new "Super Sunfish" is a better craft for learning to sail. And in regular sailing it has advantages over the Hobie Cat, as well. In heavy wind conditions, for example, the Sunfish boasts an ease of control and superior speed to most cats.

Sailing as a sport is exciting with the Sunfish as height and weight are an asset here, figuring importantly in



Bruce Plasch surfing a Sunfish in seas off Diamond Head.

control of the smaller craft. The Sunfish is also easier to rig and saves beach time for sailing time.

Bruce knows that our OCC channel is intimidating, with winds changing direction frequently, but with a little practice sailors will find the challenge well worth it. The sailing is great once beyond the reef! Bruce encourages

members to contact the Sailing Committee for more information.

Tired of the

HASSLE