

SAILING NEWS FOR MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST ONTARIO

PORTHOLE



FALL 2023



COME TO PLAY

Dauphin, MB | 2024



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President's Message

BY RYAN VAN BERKEL

Reflecting back on my tenure as a member of the Sail Manitoba Executive Committee, this past year stands out as being both unusual and a reason for optimism. In 2023 we found ourselves one year removed from the excitement of the 2022 Canada Summer Games cycle and eagerly anticipating the 2024 Manitoba Summer Games in Dauphin. For the first time in recent memory, our athlete pipeline that begins at the sailing clubs, and in lesson programs saw a clear gap between outgoing sailors and developing sailors. This challenge and opportunity was met head-on by our staff and coaches, organizing development camps and regional qualifiers throughout the province. The end result is a healthy roster of new competitive sailors, looking forward to the challenge of the Manitoba Games next season, followed by the Canada Games in St. John's, Newfoundland in 2025.

In addition to athlete development, our organization has been hard at work supporting our recreational membership and partner clubs. While many may not be aware, Sail Manitoba's support largely comes in the form of good governance, and leadership training.



This past year, our executive endeavored to update our By-laws and implement key policies. I would like to thank our secretary, Penny Kelly, and Vice-President Eric Turner for their massive contribution to the reviewing and revamping of our by-laws. In addition to our by-laws, Sail Manitoba has been working with our partners at Sail Canada and Sport Manitoba to learn about and promote newly developed Safe Sport Policies and Practices. I would like to thank our committees and staff for their commitment to navigating this process as it evolves.

In 2023 Sail Manitoba and its staff prioritized the establishment of a culture that aligns with the youth athletes and sport environment of today. This began in the spring with a new initiative tied to our annual coach development clinics. Led by our Executive Director, Sheila Bellido, our new and returning coaches and instructors participated in a full day of education and team building.

The theme of this exercise and the season to follow was "Best Day Ever". The purpose of the theme was to ensure our coaches, program participants, and athletes had a great experience, whether it be a training day, lessons program, or regatta. The energy behind the theme and our staff at the office was our technical leadership group. We have been extremely fortunate to have a group of young adults with significant coaching and high-performance athlete experience working to support our initiatives this past season and ensuring we deliver a valuable and positive experience for all. I would like to acknowledge the fantastic team we had in Anton Tsyhanok, Kendra Penner, Olivia Thompson, and Sebastian Wright.

As I slide into the (hopefully) cushy role of Past President, I am proud and encouraged by the state of the organization. We have an unbelievably dedicated executive committee and board of directors, who care for their clubs and our community. Our staff continues to do an incredible job supporting the hectic sailing season that is the equivalent of a year packed into four months, and our partnerships and the support that comes with them from Sail Canada and Sport Manitoba are solid. Most importantly, our membership continues to support sailing at all levels.

One final acknowledgement, to outgoing Past-President Phil Burns. Phil's contribution over the past almost 10 years as a committee member cannot be understated. Phil has been in key roles supporting Sail Manitoba through significant staff transitions and the challenges of the pandemic. We have been extremely fortunate to have Phil as a leader and sounding board during his term, and we look forward to his continued involvement as a key stakeholder in the community. And if he really wants, can remain as Past President as I slip out the back door.

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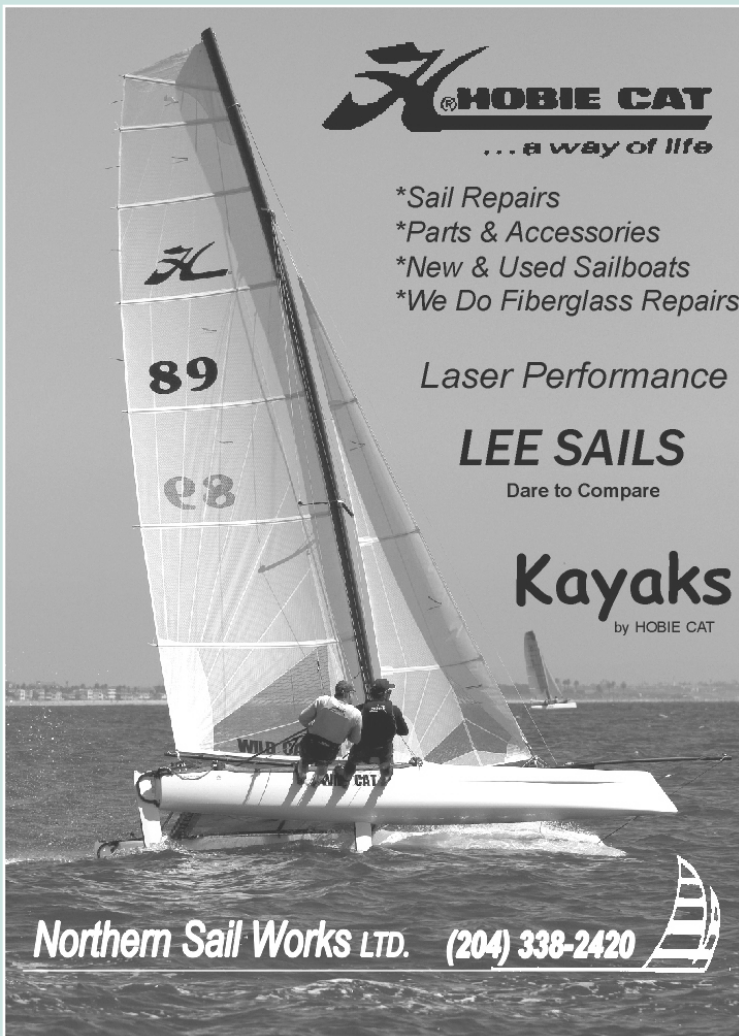
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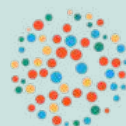
Together We Stand Against Racism

Anti-Racism in Sport Campaign

Did you know that 40% of our population identify as First Nations, Métis, Inuit, Black, or Racialized? While that diversity and multiculturalism has built a strong and resilient city, many Winnipeggers continue to face racism and discrimination in all aspects of their lives, including their participation in sport. The Anti-Racism in Sport Campaign seeks to address, disrupt and eliminate racism and discrimination in sport experienced by First Nations, Métis, Inuit, Black, Racialized, and religious minority communities in Winnipeg.

Winnipeg's Anti-Racism in Sport Campaign is a city-wide anti-racism campaign that will run from April 2021 until March 2022. Funded by the Canadian Heritage, the campaign seeks to disrupt all levels of racism, from micro-aggressions to and systemic racism, through a multifaceted approach.

Together with the Government of Canada, City of Winnipeg, Sport Manitoba and Sail Manitoba, we will support to dissolve racism and discrimination, and promote inclusion and multiculturalism.



Immigration
Partnership
Winnipeg



Note from the Editor

BY SHEILA BELLIDO

Greetings, Sail Manitoba Community!

Our season started with a Dev Day to empower coaches to bring their BEST to their everyday! We had a panel of high-performance coaches and athletes, celebrities, business entrepreneurs, national athletes, and philanthropists sharing their stories of victories and challenges. With over 20 coaches in the room, in addition to the power of impact, we provided additional information about our organization, Safe Sport, and an opportunity to network.

Sail Manitoba hired Olivia Thompson, a Development Coach, Sebastian Wright, a High-Performance Coach, and a High-Performance Athlete/Coach Kendra Penner, under the mentorship and guidance of Anton Tsyhanok, a High-Performance Coach and Learning Facilitator, spent this summer delivering Development and Race Training camps to strengthen the athlete pathway and recruit athletes to the Development and High-Performance Team.



In preparation for our 2024 Manitoba Games, Sail Manitoba and Clubs hosted five qualifiers in multiple regions of our province to select the 2024 Manitoba Games Team, with the success of 10 – 25 athletes coming out to compete in each regional qualifier.

Clubs continued to provide Learn-to-Sail Programs, hosted weekly races, and continued community and environmental support by hosting fundraising events to support specific causes.

Sail Manitoba congratulated Jim Fogg, Keith Holm, Paul Gormori, Dale Kilimnik, and Ross Johnstone for competing at the 2023 Sonar North American Championships held this September in Minnesota.

Thank you to the Sail Manitoba Staff, the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, Members, and Volunteers for your dedication and commitment to our organization. You continue to play a pivotal role in our success, and we are incredibly grateful for your ongoing support.

Forward-thinking, in 2025, Sail Manitoba will be celebrating our 60th Anniversary. We are looking for volunteers to serve on a committee to bring together articles and photos of history and to plan a host of events. For more information, please email sailing@sportmanitoba.ca

We hope you enjoy the read; if you have a story to share or you want to advertise with us, please submit by March 1, 2024, to sailing@sportmanitoba.ca

Best wishes to you, and may the cold winter months keep you thinking about the warm summer breeze,

Sheila Bellido, Executive Director

Provincial Coach Update

BY OLIVIA THOMPSON

Sail Manitoba Host of Development Camps and Manitoba Games Qualifiers

This summer, Sail Manitoba went on an exciting journey of skill-building and friendship with our highly successful development camps.

Our development camps served as a platform for sailors of all levels, from beginners to experienced racers, to immerse themselves in the art of sailing. The camps were designed to provide comprehensive training in both theory and practice, covering everything from rigging a sailboat to mastering advanced techniques.

These development camps were hosted in Fort Whyte, Pelican, West Hawk, Royal Lake of the Woods, Falcon, and Gimli. In each region, we hosted our qualifying events for the Manitoba Games taking place next summer, and we had a great turnout of athletes with solid competition.

We are immensely proud of the progress our camp participants made, from mastering the basics to fine-tuning their racing strategies. These young sailors showed exceptional dedication and enthusiasm throughout the summer. It was amazing to compare our sailors from the first camp to the last race at Gimli!

Sail Manitoba's commitment to the next generation of sailors remains strong. We are already looking forward to next summer's development camps, where we'll continue to provide a dynamic and enriching experience for all young sailors eager to explore the world of sailing. With each passing season, we're excited to witness these young sailors set sail toward their dreams and achieve new heights on the water.





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2023 **Sail** Manitoba Award Recipients





OPTI AWARD OF MERIT

Liam Cox, Felix Driedger, Zoey Bostick (missing), Jace Garabed



ILCA AWARD OF MERIT

Gavin Garabed, Fankie Appelmans, Charlie Burns



MOST IMPROVED SAILORS

Ella Froese, Opti, Quinn Haines ILCA



CHARLES FLEMMING AWARD

Gavin Garabed



SUSAN MEZAROS TROPHY

father Mr. Maramott for Gael Maramott



SAILOR OF THE YEAR

Evan Owen



INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

John Nicolls



PRESIDENTS AWARD

Dennis Collingwood



HONOURARY MEMBER AWARD

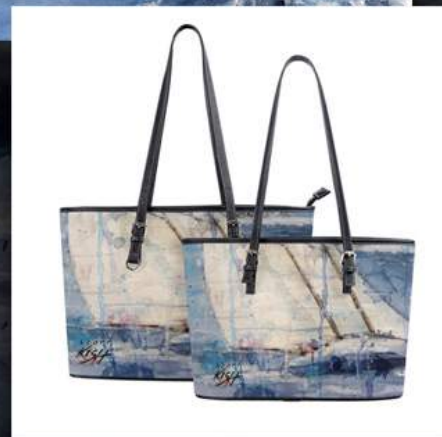
Collete Pellerin for Steven Pellerin



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James Russell Flood

May 2, 1943 - September 26, 2023

After a valiant four-year battle with throat and stomach cancer, Jim passed away peacefully the afternoon of September 26, surrounded by his family.

Jim is missed by his wife of almost 32 years, Sharon, his son Kelly (Sherri) of Toronto, his daughter Kerri (Michael) of Toronto, niece Lee (Ian) of Winnipeg, nephew Neil (Caroline) of Minnesota and sister Mona (Jacques) of Moose Jaw. Also missing him greatly are his two pups, Gale and Breeze. Jim was predeceased by his parents, Bert and Marnie Flood and brother Ted.

Jim was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and was a lifelong Roughriders fan. He graduated from St. Paul's high school in Winnipeg and continued studies in economics and mathematics at U of M all the while working on the Canadian Ski Patrol in the Rockies, playing football and basketball. Summers were spent as a fishing and hunting guide at Great Bear Lake and others.

He began his career in management at The Bay. It was after sailing with this brother Ted, that Jim found his true calling. He founded Bowline Yachts Ltd in 1979, where he found great happiness in introducing people to sailing and finding the boat of their dreams. He continued to run Bowline right up to his passing.

Jim was one of the founding Directors of the Mid-Canada Marine Dealers Association in 1986 and a member of the Hall of Fame for the MMPDA. He sat on the Board of Directors for 27 years. During this time, he chaired various committees including the Boat Show, Finance and Governance. Jim produced and managed a very successful Mid-Canada Boat Show for 20 years, stepping down in 2013. He loved the challenge of trade show co-ordination and expanded to include the RV Show and various other shows at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

He was the recipient of the Sail Manitoba Honorary Member Award in 2021, in recognition of his volunteerism in the promotion of the sport of Sailing.

He loved Northern Harbour and sailing on Lake of the Woods, and especially loved racing in the LOWISA regatta, which he was Commodore for in 1997 (LOWISA 32).

There are so many health professionals to thank. The nursing staff in SICU at Health Sciences Centre were phenomenal. Jim was so grateful for their care. The physicians that guided him through his cancer battle include Dr. Marni Wiseman, Dr. Paul Kerr, Dr. J. Butler, Dr. Lipschitz, Dr. Vallerie Gordon, Dr. E. Beshara, and Dr. Edward Buchel. Their care and skills were outstanding.

Memorial donations may be made to CancerCare Manitoba, Riverview Health Centre, plant a tree in honour of his memory or give the gift of life with a blood donation.

Respecting Jim's wishes, there will be no formal service. A private family memorial will be held at a later date.



Franck Bernard Roger Pellerin

August 30, 1937 - September 26, 2023

It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to our long-time friend Franck Pellerin who passed away at the age of 86 this past September. Franck was a great friend of sailing, a gentleman, a passionate sailor and an important sailing colleague. His contribution to sailing as a volunteer, racer, a club builder, a race manager, and a judge is second to none.

Franck was born in prewar France where he grew up near the town of Vendee on the west coast of France. After doing his military service he met Dorothy Harmer an adventurous young Manitoba woman, who was cycling across France. Before he knew it, he fell in love and followed Dorothy to Manitoba where they were married and raised four children (Franck, Steve, Marc & Collette). Franck was a keen Glider Pilot, fisherman, cross country skier and outdoorsman. An amazing story that is well told in his obituary which you can find at the following link. Franck Pellerin Obituary - Kenora, ON (dignitymemorial.com)

I first really got to know Dorothy and Franck in the early 70's when they towed their Fireball to CORK, to go to the Fireball Canadians in Kingston Ontario. Unbelievably, they were accompanied by their young family, living in tents, cooking outdoors, and managing the whole expedition with Anglo determination and French aplomb. Dorothy and Franck loved the adventure, loved the athleticism and loved the outdoors. They were never happier than when they were flying their spinnaker from the trapeze on their Fireball on a windy day. They truly epitomized the free spirit that sailors aspire to, when sailing their boats.

In later years Franck and Dorothy sailed in many Lowisa's on Red Apple with Jim and Tony Wilson. The Pellerin/Wilson combination was a formidable crew. Red Apple was always one of the most competitive boats in the regatta. Always willing to lend a hand Franck helped organise the first Manitoba Keelboat Championship and participated in numerous invited helmsman's regattas and helped run the Canadian Keelboat Championship held in Northern Harbour.

The Pellerin connection with Falcon Lake began with their honeymoon and was the focus of most of their summers after that. The Pellerin's were big supporters of the Falcon Yacht Club and were regular racers every weekend. Indeed, Franck's contribution spans five decades. Whether club racing, building the new club house, fixing docks, running races, being commodore or hosting major events. Franck & Dorothy did it all.

Franck is famous for running Falcon races by himself from his aluminum boat. I can picture him standing in his boat, holding his wind indicator and compass, taking wind readings, giving orders to the mark set boat, ensuring that we had a proper windward first beat. When running a race, he was all business and was a stickler for the rules.



Franck was an avid student of our sport. He became a certified race officer and then a judge. He helped organise numerous seminars run by Sail Canada's Carol Piercy and Leo Reise. At one time we had over 30 certified race managers and judges in the province. Franck went on to become a Nationally recognised Judge and Race Manager attending events all over North America. In 1994 he served on the Jury of the IYRU World Boardsailing Championship in Gimli and in 1999 and he served on the jury of the Pan Am Games.

As Great West Life's chief translator he was naturally a detail person that easily gave him the skills to become a rules expert. Although he was a detail person with a heavy French accent and sometimes serious demeanor there was always a quick smile, a funny story, a glass of wine and a willingness to spend time with anyone to explain the rules of the road.

In the 80's, 90's and 2000's Sail Manitoba hosted, over 25 major National and International regattas in Gimli. Franck was involved in almost every one of them either as a competitor, race manager or judge. He was Manitoba's chief official. Indeed, Franck's love of sailing influenced his son Steve to get involved as well. Not only was Steve an excellent racer but went on to run many large regattas for Sail Manitoba and become involved on the board of Sail Manitoba and Sail Canada as well. To this day both his daughter Collette and his son Franck and Marc are avid sailors carrying on the Pellerin tradition.

Our condolences go out to Collette, Marc and Franck. Your Dad was an amazing guy who was incredibly passionate about sailing. He studied our sport and generously donated his time to it for over 50 years. A true gentleman, a tireless volunteer that I am proud to have known and that the Sailing Community will dearly miss.

Submitted by Charlie Burns, Gimli Yacht Club

FOLLOW THE HERD!

Team Toba is heading to the Canada Summer Games in Niagara this August! Keep up to date on games stories, medal counts, and follow the journeys of Manitoba's top athletes and Canada's future Olympians.



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Black Sturgeon Sailing Club

BY PHIL BURNS

This year was a busy season for our Club, especially on the lesson front. We ran four weeks of lessons this year. Our instructors, Megan Burns and Ben Brown spent a week in Minaki and had a great time working with the sailors despite trying times with abnormally cold and windy weather. Megan and Ben brought 6 Optis to Minaki, a Byte, and some smaller Laser rigs for folks to try out.

Then, they were back at Black Sturgeon for three weeks. Colette Pellerin and Megan ran the Women's classes in week three, which went well again this year. This format seems very much appreciated by the participants, and we will offer it again next season. If there is demand, we could offer it for two weeks.

We had a number of returning students this year. We are now going to have to offer CANSail 3 and 4 for next year as our students are moving up the ranks, and this can be seen in a number of major accomplishments from two notable students – Liam Cox took to the road and competed in some extra training at West Hawk in the Sail Manitoba Team Development Camp held in July and Quinn Haines joined him. Both guys showed they are competitive, and Quinn traveled to Gimli and Liam to Falcon Lake to qualify for the Manitoba Games in Dauphin at Lake Winnipegosis next year. This is a major accomplishment. Liam will sail the Opti, and Quinn will be in the ILCA 6 (Laser Radial). Wish these guys luck next season. But that's not all – Liam is the Opti Champion for the Province this year, and Quinn was awarded Most Improved Sailor. Congratulations guys.

Several other kids on the lake are close on the heels of these guys in terms of their skills, so next summer, we will try and get the guys and gals out for some weekend racing.

Special thanks to our great instructors Megan, Ben, and Colette, and our volunteer Emily Brown. Also, thank you to Rob Mazur and Anne Marie Brown for the use of their docks this year.



Falcon Sailing Club

BY JAN WATTERS

This year's sailing season at the Falcon Sailing Club (FSC) got off to an early start thanks to a warm spring and favorable water levels. Weekend racing started at the beginning of June with members enjoying the breeze and warmth.

This season saw a record number of club races held, which seemed surprising given the number of days with either no wind or too much wind. A strong contingent of racers at the 'top of the fleet' vied for the club championship, with David Telles-Langdon emerging as the winner of the dinghy series. Sharlene Telles-Langdon won the Commodore's Cup in a hotly contested series of races on August 12. Jan Watters, a 'graduate' of the South Whiteshell Women's League (SWWSL) program was 'Most Improved'. This year saw increased participation from newer racers, some completing a race for the first time with some completing multiple races.

Unfortunately, the FSC keel boat sailors faced more weather challenges for their race days with only seven races being completed. Charles Feaver was the winner of the club keel boat series.

An adult LTS weekend, taught by Katie Sauer saw eight participants take part. Sailors had a great first day of sailing in the Sail MB Zests, but unfortunately had no wind on day two.

Two weeks of Youth Learn to Sail lessons saw challenging conditions with either no wind or lots of wind. However, participants all seemed to have fun and learn some basic sailing skills. Fifteen youth took part in the beginner LTS lessons and three participated in the Intermediate LTS lessons. Sail MB instructors, Gael Maramot and Joshua Sturby were assisted by Falcon sailor, Cole Baker. Falcon and the West Hawk Lake Sailing Centre coordinated their classes again this season to provide ample opportunity for participation.

Two Learn to Race Clinics were held this season for those wishing to learn some skills or improve existing skills. The clinics focused on racing skills such as starts and rounding marks. Both clinics were hosted by club members and were well attended with a mixture of younger sailors in Optis and Lasers and some adult sailors as well. Some keen rivalries developed as the Opti sailors tried to beat the Laser sailors off the start line.





South Whiteshell Women's Sailing League (SWWSL) programs continue to be successful at FSC. Three LTS programs were held with excellent instruction by head instructor Sara Telles-Langdon with assistance from Sharlene Telles-Langdon. The coaches were able to provide some instruction from their sailboats, which proved to be an excellent way to facilitate learning.

Four SWWSL Mentorship Mondays were also held with a good number of participants attending, again with limited wind on occasion. Several windless Mondays provided an opportunity for dry land lessons. One such session saw a rigged Laser put on its side on land to explore the effect on sail shape from adjustments to rigging and trim.

A Sail MB talent camp was held at FSC well as the Provincial Opti Championships. These were held in conjunction with the West Hawk Sailing Center. Thanks to Paul for all his hard work on these events.

FSC purchased new marks this season which are more visible and retain their air much better.

Some major projects were tackled by multi-talented club members this summer. Further work on a breakwater along Hamilton creek was completed and some work was done on the road to the upper clubhouse. Painting and screen repair spruced up the upper clubhouse.

Amidst all this activity, members enjoyed friendly competition sailing in weekend races, socializing at evening barbecues, and swapping post-race lies.

Gimli Yacht Club

BY CHAD GOODALL

This is my first year as Commodore of the Gimli Yacht Club (GYC), and overall, it has been a really enjoyable experience. So before I begin, I very much want to offer my thanks to the board of directors and the many volunteers who helped make it so. The club is filled with passionate people, and I am always impressed at how well we do at coming together to organize the myriad of activities we tackle each season.

By far, the highlight of the year for GYC was receiving an acknowledgment from Sail Canada of being named a National Sail Training Centre. This would expand the current model, which has centers in the Atlantic, Central, and Pacific regions, to now potentially include the Prairies. There is still much to do in terms of raising funds to meet the national requirements needed to receive the official designation; however, this is great news for the entire sailing community. Having to travel great distances is cost-prohibitive, so it is hoped that this new potential partnership could help bring higher-level training and racing opportunities to both our local sailors as well as our race management officials and allow people to further their skillsets locally. If anyone is interested in joining a fundraising venture, please contact the Gimli Yacht Club or Sail Manitoba.

This past season, GYC was able to employ three summer students to instruct in our Learn-to-Sail (LTS) Program. Our Club Manager summer student position was also held by an instructor, and he was able to offer GYC Semi-Private and Discovery Sails. We had 80 participants in the LTS program, 22 in private lessons, and another ten who took their first sailing excursion. Outside of instructing, GYC employed two additional summer students, Assistant Manager and Groundskeeper.

Our current fleet of Optimists, Lasers, and Albacores helped us to reach all demographics and skill levels. Still, we want to continue to invest in newer equipment for our students and provide higher-quality boats for more advanced sailors. This past season saw the purchase of a new outboard motor for our previously significantly underpowered Lake Winnipeg Yawl, meaning that we now have four very reliable support boats in four different platforms for our various needs.

Once again, GYC partnered with the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium (LWRC) to offer our very popular, week-long Sailing and Science Day Camp, which includes a half day of sailing taught by GYC and a half day of science taught by the LWRC, all held together with a lunch provided by the Kiwanis Club of Gimli and District. Please register early in 2024 if you want to secure your spot.

Our club was also approached by a Winnipeg-based Ukrainian Scout Troop looking for an outdoor activity while staying at a nearby Ukrainian summer camp. This particular troop included some Ukrainian war refugees, and we were excited to be able to offer them four days of sailing experience during their stay. Many thanks go to the volunteers who helped organize the event and our summer staff, who agreed to extend their work schedules. GYC is proud of our many partnerships, and as has been tradition, we saw Sail Manitoba use our facilities as a home base for much of the spring and fall training season.



Additionally, in August, we were able to host a larger regatta, which was one of the qualifying events for the 2024 Manitoba Summer Games and the ILCA District 4 2023 Championships. The racing was preceded by two days of training offered by Sail MB, and on Sunday, we hosted 13 competitors in the Laser fleet and five in the Optimist fleet for a great day of sailing.

Like Sail MB, sailors from the Manitoba Corps of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets also used our facilities to conduct their sailing instruction programs in spring and fall and filled 180 CANSail slots for youth to experience sailing on Lake Winnipeg. Additionally, they were able to provide instructor development opportunities such as Pleasure Craft Operator Card licensing and practical training, boat rescue training, and basic powerboat driving experience. GYC is always glad to have this very professional group of sailors and instructors share our facilities. Longtime GYC member and former Commodore Wolfe Smythe, continues to operate Prairie Ocean Cruising out of the Gimli Yacht Club and had another busy season teaching new cruisers. He is a wealth of knowledge, a great instructor, and a huge asset to our cruising community.

Recently, the Gimli Yacht Club has been working to rebuild the strong dinghy sailing base of the past. With Sail MB's presence in the spring and fall, young dinghy sailors were provided the opportunity to train with top provincial coaches.

GYC then supplemented this training, offering our own racing instruction sessions in the summer months between the Sail MB seasons. Hopefully, participation in this program continues to grow.

Additionally, GYC has been working to rebuild the keelboat Wednesday Night Racing fleet. COVID-19 was exceptionally hard on this group, as for extended periods of time, crews of mixed family units were restricted from being aboard boats together, and some participants were unable to shuttle boats between locations. This really decimated the program, but we have slowly been gaining participation, and this past summer, we had 6-7 boats out each Wednesday, with nine different boats participating over the season. Reviving pre-race barbeques was a big draw, but our biggest adversary in 2023 was Mother Nature, who caused an unusual number of abandonments. Again, we hope for fairer skies and more boats on the water in 2024.

The Gimli Yacht Club strives to be a good neighbor and community partner. We helped celebrate Canada Day with our float in the Gimli town parade in the morning and then continued the parade on the water with the Commodore's Sail Past parade along the Gimli waterfront in the afternoon. The following day, GYC held an open house, silent auction, information session, and fish fry in conjunction with our annual Save the Lake fundraiser.




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In this event, we partner with the Westshore Community Foundation to raise money in support of research and advocacy for a healthy Lake Winnipeg. This year, GYC donated \$3500 each, to both the Lake Winnipeg Foundation and the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium.

We also maintained our club tradition of hosting the Leukemia Cup pursuit race and fundraiser. This event, which encourages all participants to make a donation to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, is a common practice in many sailing organizations. Tied into this event, Wolfe and Luann Smythe host an event earlier in the season during which they match all funds raised for this cause.

There is a very active social scene at GYC, and the beautiful views from the deck make for a fantastic way to enjoy an evening with fellow sailors. Impromptu and regular Friday Happy Hour gatherings aside, GYC organized several social activities this past season. We started with our Wine & Cheese Icebreaker, celebrated #gosailing day with the Summer Solstice Spaghetti Supper and Sunset Sail, overnighed in Gull Harbour as part of the 2-day Heck n Back pursuit, had an Ice Cream Party following the Victoria Beach Ice Cream Run,

dressed as pirates for the Scallywag pursuit and supper, overnighed again, this time in Hnaua for the Dark n Stormy pursuit, had a dance party following the Gimli Ride to End MS (cycling event), shared a potluck supper on the weekend of the Commodore's keelboat pursuit and dinghy regattas, and wrapped up with a chili cook-off following our fall work party.

The previous list contains just the board-organized events, and of course, there were numerous group adventures to various Lake Winnipeg destinations, the occasional impromptu midday raft-up, countless get-togethers on the deck or in the kitchen (where all parties tend to migrate to), and many dockside and cockpit gatherings.

The Gimli Yacht Club truly consists of a fantastic group of people and countless ways to enjoy the water and wind. So whether you are looking to sail a dinghy or a keelboat, race or cruise, learn new skills or share your knowledge, socialize, or escape from society, we have the people and the location to do it all. Please visit us at <https://gimliyachtclub.com/> or in person at 95- 1st Avenue, Gimli, MB. Looking forward to reconnecting or meeting you for the first time in 2024.





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LOWISA & Northern Yacht Club

BY STEWARD ANDERSON AND QUINN ANDERSON

The Lake of the Woods International Sailing Association (LOWISA) offers a unique freshwater racing experience, as boats of all sizes gather each year and plot their way around just a few of the lake's 14,000+ islands.

This summer we celebrated the 57th annual LOWISA Race Week on the beautiful Lake of the Woods, Ontario. Our co-commodores, Caroline Christie & Maddie Vogan, led 40 boats down the lake, racing against one another as we navigated from Northern Harbour to Crow Rock Lodge. The fleet was excited to try out a new layover destination this year – and Crow Rock did not disappoint. The friendly lodge staff were a highlight of our visit, offering shuttle services within the anchorage, serving an amazing fish fry, and hosting our favourite dance party of the year.

To ensure the fun continues for future generations to come, the LOWISA community is committed to making meaningful contributions towards conservation and protection of the lands and waters that make our regatta possible. LOWISA's planning committee is guided by the Sailors for the Sea (SfS) Clean Regatta Criteria and works each year to improve upon past efforts. LOWISA will be submitting another platinum certification regatta with SfS for the 2023 race week.

With a community that spans both sides of the Canada-US border, LOWISA faced challenges with travel restrictions in recent years. The association has been focused on re-connecting and growing its racing community on both sides of the Canada-US border. In 2022 LOWISA introduced a shorter pursuit-style race to encourage sailors new to racing, or boats just better suited to a shorter course each day. In 2023, however, the pursuit racers demonstrated there is nothing leisurely about this style of racing and generated just as much, if not more, competition as our traditional racing divisions.



Caroline Christie & Maddie Vogan, Co-Commodores of the 57th annual LOWISA Race Week, at Crow Rock Lodge.



Holly Watson & crew (Sponsored Athletes, Thunder Bay Yacht Club) were awarded 1st place in both the L57 Sustainability Competition and the L57 Leisure Pursuit Race Division.

- 2019: Official launch of LOWISA's sustainability program (LOWISA 54)
- 2020: (NOWISA)
- 2021: Gold Level Clean Regattas Certification (LOWISA 55)
- 2022: Platinum Level Clean Regattas Certification (LOWISA 56)
- 2023: Certification Level TBC (LOWISA 57)



LOWISA 57 attracted 10 new boats to LOTW and hosted representatives from a variety of clubs, including Northern Yacht Club, Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club, Zig Zag Yacht Club, Sail Manitoba, Dryden Yacht Club, Duluth Superior Sailing Association, Thunder Bay Yacht Club, Wayzata Yacht Club, and Glenmore Sailing Club.

Meet your incoming Commodore

Paige proudly represents the 3rd generation of LOWISA sailors in her family. LOWISA was Paige's first introduction to racing and fueled her love for the sport throughout years as a dinghy sailor, then instructor and coach.



Paige Nuttall, LOWISA lifer and incoming Commodore of the 58th annual LOWISA Race Week.

"I am honoured to be taking over the commodore role for LOWISA 58. As LOWISA maintains its standard for high-caliber racing, I'm committed to building on the growth and momentum of recent years.

As an annual tradition of mine, LOWISA has been a constant through various phases of my life – and has given me an appreciation for

the familiar. I'm excited to showcase the magic of a 'classic' LOWISA experience at the 2024 race week.

Mark your calendars! LOWISA 58 August 3-10, 2024

Start: Kenora, Ontario

Destination: Clearwater Bay, Ontario (Ash Rapids Lodge)

Accessibility will continue to be a priority theme throughout our planning with the intention of attracting and accommodating new participants and trailer-able boats from the broader sailing community."

We respectfully acknowledge our regatta takes place on the traditional and ancestral territory of the Anishanaabe and Métis peoples of Treaty #3.



LOWISA sailors gathered to fill their cups at the annual Mallin Contracting Rum Party, one of many social events scheduled between races.



The Lee and Vogan families combined efforts to ensure LOWISA continues for generations to come.

Pinawa Sailing Club

BY ERIC BUSCH & MICHAEL KING

This year, the Pinawa Sailing Club welcomed a fresh breeze of enthusiasm and talent, with an influx of a few new sailors joining our close-knit community. Many of our new captains have families, and the Club is thrilled to see more kids exposed to the fun and adventure of sailing. Even children as young as six confidently maneuver Optis, demonstrating that a love for sailing can be nurtured at any age.

The Winnipeg River was much lower this year than last year and more conducive to smooth sailing without being thrown around in the current. As we sail into 2024, the Pinawa Sailing Club sets its sights on exciting new horizons. Our vision encompasses several key objectives:

- **Youth Empowerment:** We aim to reinvigorate our youth programs. These initiatives will instill a love for the water and nurture essential life skills such as teamwork and problem-solving. Keith Reid, our long-time instructor, still finds time to show our youth the fun of Opti sailing, but we are looking to recruit some new instructors to carry our club forward.
- **Social Connections:** We recognize the importance of fostering strong social connections among our members. Sailing is fun for young and old! In the coming year, we plan to host a series of social events, including barbecues, social floats, and exciting races.
- **Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing:** In our pursuit of growth, we seek to collaborate with other sailing clubs. By building relationships and sharing knowledge and experiences, we hope to draw inspiration and wisdom from each other. A rising tide raises all ships, after all.
- **Equipment renewal:** Our past Commodore, Kim Reimer, has been taking on the role of fixing up some of the older boats and trailers in our fleet.

The Pinawa Sailing Club is looking to welcome new sailors to its ranks. If you are a sailor and are thinking about Pinawa, get in touch with us at the club. We'd love to hear from you.



Pelican Yacht Club

BY LEANNE TRELOAR

Pelican Yacht Club has had a very busy year with a harbor full of boats and a waitlist for the 2024 season! Our website provided online membership registrations, slip rental requests, sign up for events and will soon have PYC merchandise available. There is still a lot to set up but we have a great start to getting this website and all the functionality in place over the winter.

This sailing season was filled with great races, fun social events with many new members joining our fabulous club. This summer we had a very successful Poker Derby and we held our first Zumba class. This will become a regular scheduled event!

Our Race chair provided some great races for the season and we thank the great group of volunteers who not only support the racing but all of our projects and the club.

Our most exciting update is that PYC under the guidance of Dennis Collingwood developed a partnership with our local Southwest Community Options program to resurrect our Able Sail program. Our Martin 16's were out on the water offering SWCO options clients their first (but not the last) sailing experience. Our wonderful LTS instructors were instrumental in training the staff at SWCO to companion these individual. This has been a huge success and this will continue to grow as other agencies are wanting to take part in our Able Sail at PYC.

The LTS instructors were also kept busy with lessons throughout the summer and an Opti camp and qualifying races for the 2024 Manitoba Summer games.

PYC also hosted a week of sailing for soldiers from Shilo as part of the week team building experiences. As always, our members enjoy sailing, living aboard their boats, social events with great fun, food and camaraderie.

Infrastructure enhancements included cement access for access to our docks and a robust storage shed. Our club would not be what it is without the amazing group of volunteers. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who assists in numerous ways to support our club.

Cheers to everyone. Have a fabulous winter!



Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club

BY CHRIS RADCLIFFE

The summer of 2023 will be remembered for the great winds that breezed through the weeks followed by dead-calm weekends, spoiling the weekend races for the E Scows and dingy sailors. It was a beautiful summer and one to remember! Here are a few highlights from RLWYC to share:

New Coaches

We were very lucky to have a combination of new coaches join the team which added much needed capacity to our weekly sailing programs. The timing couldn't be better as we had great numbers once again in our junior learn-to-sail classes across both the OPTI Wet Feet and the CANSail classes.

New Classes

In addition to our popular Tennis-Sailing Combo class, we piloted a new "Intro to Sailing" combo class with the Little Lake Adventurers program which gives younger kids, ages 4-7 a chance to get familiar with sailing in a 1hr class each day. Fingers crossed these kids will turn into avid sailors in the years ahead.

New ILCA Boats Arrived

Thanks to the generosity of our sailing community, we raised funds over the winter to purchase 5 new ILCA's hulls in 2023 and replenished our collection of training sails for all sail sizes including: ILCA 5, 6 and 7 sails.

50+ Sailors at the Richardson Regatta!

Our annual Richardson Regatta enjoyed some bigger numbers this year with over 50 sailors attending in E Scows, ILCA 7 and 6's, O'Pen Bics, 29ers and OPTIs. Big thanks to the Sail MB team for coming out to coach at the training camp before hand, along with our out-of-town guests who drove in for the races.

OPTI Provincials and Manitoba Games Qualifiers

We had a few RLWYC sailors attend the Falcon Lake OPTI Provincials and MB Games Qualifiers. Hats off to Ella Radcliffe for finishing 1st Female ILCA sailor and qualifying for the 2024 Manitoba Games in Dauphin and to Joey Feldman for finishing 2nd in the under 10 OPTI category.



Silver Harbour Sailing Club

BY ROY PENNINGTON

We have enjoyed a gorgeous fall and start to winter. Some days it almost feels like we should relaunch our boats and get one last sail in. Sadly, all the boats are now in a state of hibernation as we transition to our winter pastimes. After a slow start to the season, Silver Harbour sailors headed onto the lake with optimism. It was a good season for being on the water, and most weekends saw numerous sailors enjoying a day sail off Drunken Point.

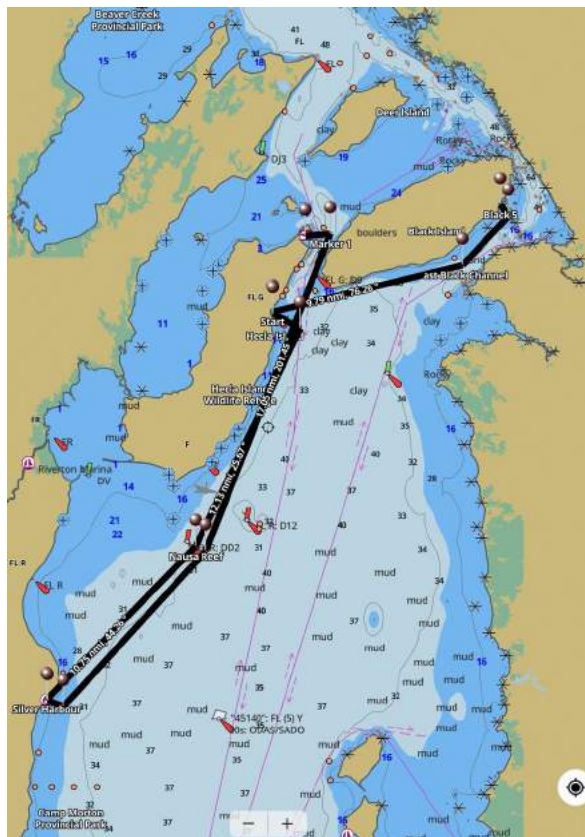
Silver Harbour Sailing Club is primarily a cruising club. This year, for the first time since Covid hit, many of us took part in a week-long cruise organized by Kurt Janzen. We visited Hecla and Black with layovers at Hecla Village, Black Five and Gull Harbour. We were made most welcome by Andrew of Gull Harbour Marina and the members of the Gull Harbour Sailing Club. The cruise was a first-time experience for some members, and I am sure they picked up a few dos and don'ts from those with a little more experience under their belts. Hopefully, a lot of blarney was filtered out of the happy hour chats.

It was wonderful to see people working together, sharing their lore and expertise, as well as helping each other with the plethora of boat maintenance-related issues that arise on these cruises. Incidents were minor, and all returned satisfied with their adventure on Manitoba's "sea lake".

Under the capable direction of Sandy and Dennis Mosalowski, we enjoyed a great social season. The club hosted barbecues and potluck meals all contributed to the Club's reputation for camaraderie. Geoff and Kathy Penner, the marina owners, hosted their annual Pig Roast (with a live band) in July this year. A great feast and lots of fun.

Over the winter months, SHSC members and alumni continue our long-standing tradition of gathering for a monthly breakfast in Winnipeg. If you want to take part, contact our Secretary at:

shsc.mb.secretary@gmail.com



Temple Reef Sailing Club

BY ROSS BAILEY

Light Airls, Heavy Competition, In Thunder Bay

Temple Reef Sailing Club has been blessed with a fine season of one design competition and sunny weather pretty well all summer. Our major events, Loon Lake, Amethyst Harbour and the Districts Part 2 on Lake Superior gave us fun competition with only a few points separating all boats. We also travelled to Green Bay, Sheboygan, Vancouver, LOWISA, New Jersey and Indiana for regattas, one of the benefits of being in the Lightning class. VMaybe the high point of the season was sharing not one, but two grant boats with new sailors in our fleet! One of those crews even participated in LOWISA, doing exceptionally well, and thoroughly enjoyed that event. Congratulations to both new crews who we welcome to our fleet.

Did I mention we are a Lightning fleet? Indeed we are and very lucky to be one. We are warmly welcomed all over the world to events from Worlds competitions, Pan Am Games, Nationals, or area and local regattas with large or small fleets. The boat is a joy to sail for recreation yet demands real dedication to excel on the race course. The Lightning is extremely easy to trailer, rig and sail, but is the perfect learning tool to continuously improve your sailing skills. Sometimes it's a real mystery how another boat eased by, and the wonderful things is that once back on shore, that Lightning is quite happy to explain the fine points that are the difference. Which all means fun, competitive sailing for our fleet and when we travel to points away. One last note for those sailing from the Manitoba area. The Temple Reef sailors at one time travelled to RLWYC, Zig Zag, Falcon Lake, Gimli and even Pelican but have not done so for the last several years. Is there a regatta in the Manitoba end of things that might enjoy 5 or 6 Lightnings joining in? It's a relatively short drive compared to most other events we attend and we'd love to get re-acquainted. And who knows, maybe a few sailors from your end would again also enjoy sailing in our neck of the woods. Please let us know if something like this might work.



Victoria Beach Yacht Club

BY AJ TOOLEY

As the cold winter wind blows in, I'm reminded of an old VBYC yarn about an original founder, having been offered a refreshing glass of water on a hot summer's day, allegedly shaking his head and saying: "water is for sailing in and making ice out of". Well, I guess we're not just talking about ice cubes now as winter sets in and the lake freezes up... So, alas, we've stowed our sails and compiled our annual review.



VBYC's sailing school enjoyed the best participation in recent memory this year with a fully sold-out program as our fantastic Head Instructor Andrew Thompson once again brought the joy of sailing to students of all ages and skill levels. Big ups to our helpers Sarah, Oakley, Helga, and Sophie. These young sailors are the future of coaching and sailing at VBYC. Nice! Our Sailing School is a special part of the Yacht Club and a Victoria Beach institution. Thanks instructors and sailors, Commodore Brad Scott, and of course Ryan Van Berkel for everything you do to keep this program part of our tradition. We were also stoked to host a Sail Manitoba Development Camp for Opti sailors along with the Eastern MB Games Qualifiers both of which were well attended. Junior sailing is alive and well at VBYC.

Our longest standing tradition, Weekend Racing, had fleet sizes unseen in decades. Racing Directors JC DeGagne and Willie Reimer along with their Race Committee really stepped it up. Thanks fellas. Don't call it an inside job but JC along with top notch sailor and VBYC Tech Guy Rick Demetriooff won the Orchid Cup and the overall Sprague Cup this year. Under the direction of the Legendary Chris Aldridge, we also hosted a 2 day, 4 race Keelboat pursuit race, The Goldeye Cup, which was won by Skipper Dan 'Shooter' Schott and featured yours truly on crew! The guy won the Red Eye Regatta in his Hobie18 plus Shooter is our Lead Facilities Director and sneakily does all kinds of things around the Club that keep the place running. What a man!

We were pleased to host our annual fundraiser and favourite social event of the entire VB community calendar – the Yacht Club Dance. It was once again a resounding success in terms of attendance, the enjoyment of patrons, and ultimately fundraising. We are exceptionally appreciative of everyone who joined us as revelers and volunteers. This support is crucial to improving our programming and positions the Yacht Club for the ongoing capital projects that are required to increase accessibility, attract events, and grow our membership. In fact, those accumulated dollars were deployed this year to build a new Junior Sailing Shack and club access ramp. Thank you VBYC Board Members and contractors Jeremy Ritsema and Chris Chipman. In the past few years, we've also added a stereo and blown it, expanded the deck and added a washroom. Holy!

Aside from our regular programming, we had another great summer of recreational sailing, windsurfing, kiting, paddling, and hanging out on Yacht Club Beach with John Beardsley. There's a lot going on at the VBYC and we want everyone to come see what all the excitement is about. Drop by the club any time (probably wait 'til summer) or visit us online at www.vbyc.ca

West Hawk Lake Sailing Club

BY PAUL KRESTANOWICH

It was a fantastic summer of sold-out Learn to Sail classes and semi-private lessons, a good and bad problem. It is great that we have so many sailors, but it isn't good because we are short-qualified instructors to add more weeks of classes. Sorry to those looking to try sailing this year. Hopefully, we will have more weeks open next summer. Sail Manitoba is working diligently to get more of our older youth sailors instructors certified for next summer. Hopefully, that will include a couple of local sailors who want to teach in the South Whiteshell. We've also had many calls/emails for an adult-only female week or weekend at West Hawk, so look for that next summer; it's been over five years since the last group.

A big thank you to Aidan Lawton from the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club as our main instructor this summer; he was ably assisted a few weeks by local Laser sailor Susanna Weatherill. We also welcomed provincial team instructors Gabriel Freider, Sebastian Wright, Kendra Penner, Anton Tyshanok, and Olivia Thompson for our Opti & Laser training weekend and adult classes. Thanks to Shaun & Jeannette Harbottle for housing our instructors at the last minute when we needed it!

The Optis, Lasers, and Tumbleweed sailboats had a busy summer with 60 kids rolling through the program, the largest number in our history! The Enterprise (a large blue sail), a two-person adult sailboat generously donated years ago by the Seniuk family, appeared again this summer. Congratulations to Tom Saunders and his group of local Albacore sailors. After years of finding and refurbishing many boats, our club has officially qualified for Albacore Fleet status with the Canadian Albacore Association! Sunday, August 6, of the long weekend, was our inaugural Round the Lake Race; this year's start was near Big Bertha. 13 sailboats and 20 sailors in 5 Albacores, 6 Lasers, a Tasar, and Kolibri hit the line! 1st place - Ken Coopland (Laser), 2nd place - Scott Whyte & Bruce Samson (Tasar) and 3rd place - Brad & Kristy Hayden (Albacore). Thank you to Tom Saunders for being our Mark Set and Colin & Paul Krestanowich, who ran the RC Boat and start line. Congrats to local racer and coach Evan Owen, who placed 30th overall at the Canadian ILCA (Laser) Championships in a fleet of over 100+ boats!



The club has recently received a Province of Manitoba Sport in the Community Grant to help us finish our capital campaign by completing our deck and railings, making the walkway & stairs to the club more accessible, and adding a porta potty and electricity at the clubhouse. With the deck completed, we had our first yoga class with our amazing local instructor, Stephanie Halprin. Look for the yoga and BOOT Camp schedule online next summer!

The West Hawk Lake Sailing Club and the Falcon Sailing Club coordinated local races for newer Opti & Laser sailors on July 29 & Aug.5 at Falcon. Then the provincial Optimist Championships and Manitoba Summer Games qualifiers for Lasers & Optis were run by local sailing officials Paul Krestanowich & Charles Feaver and the provincial team coaches Aug.19-20 at Falcon, attended by 17 racers. Congratulations to those youth sailors who won their spots at the 2024 Manitoba Games in Dauphin!

Thank you to all who ordered their West Hawk Lake Sailing Centre gear online in June; delivery from Home Run Sports arrived near the end of August. The summer sailing pictures have been loaded onto our website for 2023, so check them out!

If you have any questions about sailing, sailboats, or any of our programs in the South Whiteshell, including the South Whiteshell Women's Sailing League,

Check out our website: <https://southwhiteshellwomenssailingleague.ca/>
Call or email us at: info@whlyc.ca, 204-479-7100 or www.whlyc.ca.

See you all next summer!



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