



## West Hawk Lake Sailing Centre 2023 summer report

It was a fantastic summer of sold out Learn to Sail classes and semi-private lessons, which is a good and bad problem. Great that we have so many sailors but bad 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 instructor 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 5 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 as well as our adult classes. Thanks to Shaun & Jeannette Harbottle for housing our instructors last minute when we needed!

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 (large blue sail) two-person adult sailboat, generously donated years ago by the Seniuk family made an appearance again this summer.

Congratulations to Tom Saunders and his group of local Albacore sailors. After years finding and refurbishing many a boat 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, the start this year was near Big Bertha. 13 sailboats and 20 sailors in 5 Albacores, 6 Lasers, a Tasar and Kolibri hit the line! 1<sup>st</sup> place - Ken Coopland (Laser), 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Scott Whyte & Bruce Samson (Tasar) and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> overall at the Canadian ILCA (Laser) Championships in a fleet of over 100+ boats!

The club has recently been the recipient of 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, adding a porta potty and electricity at the clubhouse. With the deck completion 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, 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 along with the provincial team coaches Aug.19-20 at Falcon, attended by 17 racers. Congrats to those youth sailors that 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 <https://southwhiteshellwomenssailingleague.ca/>

please check out our website, call or email us at [info@whlyc.ca](mailto:info@whlyc.ca), 204-479-7100 or [www.whlyc.ca](http://www.whlyc.ca).

See you all next summer!