

WABAMUN  
SAILING CLUB



## Commodore's Message

### PORTRAIT OF A PRAIRIE SAILOR

The handsome young fellow in this photo is my father, Harry Stoppel. This photo was taken in 1962, when he was 29 years old. The photo appeared in the Calgary Herald under a headline that read "Prairie Sailor". The civic government in Calgary had very recently approved recreational boating at Glenmore Lake in southwestern Calgary.

That boat is a Scorpion class dinghy which he built himself. I was six years old but I still remember the beautiful varnished mahogany decks, the white side decks, and the navy blue hull. The Scorpion is a fine little boat, a sort of a hard-chined version of a 420. They are still a keen racing class in Great Britain. In the 1960's you could not buy a racing sailboat in Western Canada. You sent overseas for paper plans. Then you went to the lumber yard for marine plywood, timber, fastenings and paint. The spars were carved out of Sitka spruce. On this boat my father splurged (for the first time I think) on professionally sewn sails from the UK. Then we went racing. My contribution was to sit on the leeward side in light weather and drag my hands in the water because it felt so good..until my father caught me. Over the years our family and our neighbours the Swain family built a Tern (plans from Popular Mechanics), two Scorpions, and three Fireball dinghies.

Almost sixty years later, people are still deriving great pleasure from racing neat little sailboats. Dad passed his love of sailing down to various members of my family. I hope that members of our club will also put a special effort into steering our children gently into this marvelous sport.

My father passed away on May 28 2021 at the age of 88. Now he is on the other side, undoubtedly scrounging for marine plywood, timber, fastenings and paint. I am sure he is going to put a little boat together and take my mother for a sail.

Rick Stoppel  
Commodore



## Fleet Update

Last weekend, we put the docks and boats in. Thanks to everyone who came out to help. If you were unable to make it, please do your best to make it to cleanup weekend in the fall.

### Thursday Night Sailing

Thursday night fun sailing with Fred and Keith starts this Thursday. Races start at 7. Sorry, once again, Fred is not cooking this year due to COVID.

### Safety Day & Summer Solstice

Next Saturday is the safety training day. We will start at 1:00 and will go over the GPS units for race management, OD duties as well as motor boat safety and handling. Come prepared to stay for the Solstice Regatta that evening.

### Volunteer Form

The [volunteer form](#) is out for all active and crewing members. Please let us know what weekends you are not able to work - due date is Thursday. Once the dates are assigned, if you are unable to make the date assigned, please find another member to switch with. Email addresses and phone numbers are available on the website under the members section and in the yearbook.

Tim  
Fleet Captain

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## 2021 WSC Racing Calendar

### June Events

Thursday June 17 - Thursday Fun Racing  
Saturday June 19 - Safety Training Day, Solstice Regatta (Evening)  
Sunday June 20 - Sunday Series  
Thursday June 24 - Thursday Fun Racing  
Saturday June 26 - Saturday Series/Laser Series,  
Sunday June 27 - Sunday Series

### July Events

Thursday July 1 - Canada Day Thursday Night Racing  
Saturday July 3 - Dick Harper Junior & Ancient Mariners Regatta  
Sunday July 4 - Sunday Series  
Thursday July 8 - Thursday Night Racing  
Saturday July 10 - Saturday Series (Dick Harper backup)  
Sunday July 11 - Sunday Series  
Thursday July 15 - Thursday Night Racing  
Saturday July 17 - Saturday Series/Laser Series,  
Sunday July 18 - Sunday Series  
July 19-23 - Sailweek  
Saturday/Sunday July 24/25 - Sailweek Regatta  
Thursday July 29 - Thursday Night Racing



## Vice-Commodore's Message

Welcome back!

As I write this, Covid regulations are being relaxed, which will allow us to get our docks and boats into the water. (Editor's note: They are in!) Please check the WSC website for the latest WSC Covid Protocol which we want to follow to protect everybody and make sure our club stays open.

One of the aspects of the role of Vice-Commodore is a focus on new members. And one of the regular activities related to new members that the Vice-Commodore looks after is the Open House, should we choose to hold one. (We do not yet know if we will be doing one this year due to Covid)

But more than the Open House, I've been bringing to the executive ideas related to recruitment/retainment of members that we might pursue this year. Some of these ideas were inspired by some great reports done by several of our club members over the last few years, and available on the member side of our website:

[WSC Strategic Plan 2017-2022](#)

[Volunteer and Youth report 2019](#)

[Future of Sailing presentation to ASA 2020](#)

Some of the thoughts inspired by the above reports are:

Contact Kayak/Canoe/Kitesurf/SUP people to see if our club would be of interest

Contact the cottage owner/neighbours of the club

Consider refreshing the playground (might make club more appealing for new members with young kids)

Think of things we could offer non-sailing partners of sailing spouses (Might make it easier for a couple with one non-sailing partner to join....or stay...)

I'll be pursuing some aspects of each of these this year.

But if you think of something that should be considered and you could help with, please by all means let me know, so I can follow up on it.

Happy sailing!

Frank Grell  
Vice Commodore

## Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>

was clean-up day at the club, and while I was not there to witness the dock being put in, I was there with the chili after the fact. I owe a huge thanks to Wanda Bornn and Corinne Brown for their organization and help with serving. They certainly made things run so smoothly in the kitchen. It was nice to see everyone and I look forward to seeing more of all of you this summer.

Ciao for now,

Lori Jones, your new Club Manager



# WSC Sailing School

The goal of our newly formed sailing program is to encourage and support safe, fun, and lifelong enjoyment of sport within our community and club members. Below is a brief outline of our program. We look forward to seeing everyone on the water.

## Youth Group Programing

WSC Sailing School will work directly with organizations to put together a program perfect for each group's specific needs.

## Adult lessons

These lessons will be taught on weekends either as private one on one sessions or group lessons depending on interest. Lessons will run in half-day sessions. We will also offer one 5-day session this season. This session will include 5 consecutive half-day lessons geared towards obtaining CANSail certification. This will be offered Aug 23-27th.

Participants would be 18 years of age or older. No experience needed.

Cost for these lessons: Half-day sessions cost \$60 for a 3-hour lesson or \$120.00 for a full day lesson.

Our weeklong program will run half days at a cost of \$350 for the week.

Club members will receive a 20% discount.

## Junior Sailing Program

Our Junior training program will include 5 half day sailing lessons following the Sail Canada CANSail standards of training. This program will be a progression program where students work towards obtaining Sail Canada certification.

The cost for this course would be \$170.00 per week. Minimum 2 weeks of lessons are required to obtain CANSail certification.

Club members will receive a 20% discount.

Dates this will be offered include:

July 5-9      August 9-13

July 12-16    August 16-20

July 19-23

July 26-30

## Did You Know?

The International Laser Association has rebranded. Due to the outcome of an extended lawsuit with Laser Performance, the class legal Laser sailboats are now known as the following:

Laser Standard is now called ILCA 7

Laser Radial is now called ILCA 6

Laser 4.7 is now called ILCA 4



## Update on Club Manager Activities

Three of the five programs, dealing with the tasks identified at the last AGM (*The Vital Few*) have been developed, approved and are entering into their implementation stage. They are the Communication program, the New Member Orientation program, and the Boat Loan Program. The Website Utilization program is in the hands of the executive and is awaiting approval at the next executive meeting, later this month. The final initiative of Interfacing with Sail Canada representatives and the ASA representatives is predominately an administrative function that will be finalized once the representatives for both groups are identified.

### Communication Initiative

The results of this study indicated that the two best utilized formats for information to the members are the Mainsheet and the Yearbook. The Bulletin Boards rank high as well but it was felt the presentation could be improved and more effort be made to keep it current. Email of information, to and from, the members was considered satisfactory. Several new uses of email have been designed that we feel will make communication more effective. Facebook, Instagram and Twitter were acknowledged as communication areas which could benefit by improvement, which will be looked into further throughout the summer. Fortunately, we have some members that have the expertise to help out here or, failing that, know of those who do.

### Communication Action Plans

**Ask Lori:** this is a new program designed to allow you instant communication with the Club Manager. An email address called Ask Lori is being established that you can use to request any information on club matter which will be responded to within twenty-four hours. Examples of requests for information could range from; when the next pot luck is, who is on duty this coming week, or when is Sailweek. If you have any questions, from now on simply Ask Lori!

**Email Blasts:** A program that will allow members to request to be in specific groups that will receive email communication pertinent to that interest. This is intended for such things as notification when the next coaching or training session is being held, social event updates, volunteer requirements and so on.

**How to Sessions:** A program designed to collect those with a common interest in learning how to accomplish club tasks or accessing club information. It will be used as a training opportunity for members. To start with, we will consider offering such programs as:

A walk through the Website

How to sign up for attendance at the club using I volunteer

Officer of the Day duties

These training sessions would utilize a program like Zoom for training of a classroom nature but may expand into on-site practical courses as needed.

**Suggestion Box,** An email address identified as the WSC suggestion box will be established where members can make any suggestions they feel would be beneficial to the club. These will be reviewed by the manager and directed to the appropriate area. The disposition of all suggestions will be communicated back to those making them.

The goal of these programs is to communicate with members, provide assistance and allow members to be connected personally with the club.

### Boat Loan Initiative

The purpose of the boat loan program is to expand the experience of sailing to members by providing a program that allows for those who do not own or have access to a boat, to be able to go sailing on occasion. This program comprises Optis, 420s, Laser II, Lasers, and a Laser Pico. The basic loan out procedures have been developed and approved. Sailor certification program, defining which boats an individual is qualified to borrow, has to receive approval and the Sailor Loan Orientation program has to be finalized. It is intended that anyone wishing to borrow a boat will have been certified and have completed the orientation program.

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## Membership Orientation Initiative

One of the greatest resources we have is new members. The goal of this program is to ensure the new member immediately feels both welcome and valued. This is a primary responsibility of our club manager. The manager, once informed of the new member by the membership chairman, will contact the family and establish that she is their contact person who will be pleased to assist them in getting involved with the club.

The Club Manager has been an integral part in the development of these initiatives and fully understands all that is expected in the management of them. Lori, your Club Manager, is likely the most excited person to see the COVID restrictions being relaxed, allowing for her to get fully engaged with you in these activities. You can contact Lori any time but will find her on site most mornings and evenings of each weekend.

Once we are allowed to gather in larger groups we will look into communication sessions where Lori can go into more detail on our programs.

Regards  
Fred  
Rear-Commodore

## Welcome to our new members!

We have some new members this spring and I urge all of us “old members” to greet and welcome the new members.

Please welcome:

- ◆ Sudhakar Sivapalan, his wife Debra Meakins and daughter Emma
- ◆ Allen Wilde and his wife Natalie Marcotte
- ◆ Terry Peacock, his wife Susan and children Morgan and Haley

There were also a lot of new members last year that you may not recognize so please say hello and ask if they need any assistance or information.

Judy  
Membership Director

## ivolunteer Reminder

Please sign up at [ivolunteer](#) when you are planning to visit the club. Tracking who attends our site is an AHS requirement for a facility such as ours.



Mother's Day. A delicious early morning brunch with my precious family cohort then straight to WSC. Fortunately, Russel Krause and Heidi Veluw arrived at the club before me, since I couldn't find my key to unlock the chain blocking the WSC entrance.

To drive in and walk around the empty club felt like a strange world from so long ago. All winter, my environment was so different. I needed a bit of time in this setting to feel normal.

Frank Kortbeek and Judy Townsend arrived. "Yeah!", I thought, "More people to sail." I had emailed a few club sailors the past week, hoping they would be joining my early season sail. John Henock responded, "Thanks, but I will wait until summer."

Usually, on this Mother's Day weekend, without COVID, I would be in Calgary for the Alberta Sailing Association training and where I would have team support to encourage my "bravado" for the cold sailing conditions. Of course, at WSC, according to current COVID rules, there could not be an organised sail.

To my surprise, Frank and Judy hooked their trailer to their truck for a covid safe Alberta vacation and left. Later that afternoon Frank and Jean Grell did the same. And Rob Legate was nowhere to be seen in his neighboring lake cottage yard to convince him to join the sail. Oh well! There were still a few sailors left.

I untied my Laser sail boat from the club's 4 tier metal boat rack and removed the boat's layers of winter covers. With the help of Russ, I lowered my Laser on the trolley. Then I pulled my long-time boat/companion, to the same boat stall it rests every summer.

Now, add the rigging. Do I remember how it all connects? Sorta. Eventually, I figured most things out.

There was little sun, and it was a cool 11C. Heidi didn't want to sail. "After the cold of winter, I am waiting for warmth", she quietly commented. Now we were only two sailors.

Russ quickly rigged his boat then patiently waited for me – slow as usual. Then he approached. "You know it will be much warmer next weekend"

[Read more at this link](#)



*This newsletter has been published for the Wabamun Sailing Club by Bruce Barss.*

