

MASTERS MATTERS

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President's Message

Hello Canadian Masters Windsurfing Association!

Hope everyone is doing well and finding ways to get on the water (or at least outside). I have found it hard this year to get out on my board and have been biking instead (trying to bike 1000 kms in July and August to raise money for sick kids). Beaches are opening up a little however and I am noticing more and more people on the water which is great.

It looks like the Mammoth Marathon will be happening this year with a slightly different format. It is exciting that we are finding ways to make these events safe for everyone.

I hope you are all staying safe and healthy. Let us know how you are getting on the water. If you have private beach access in a windy spot don't hesitate to email me, I would love to hear about how I can use it!!

Hope everyone is doing well and to see you all on the water soon!

Ian Matthews

What We Did - a Covid-19 Story

By Stephanie Todd

We may have missed our Bonaire trip but new ones are planned for 2020 and 2021 so that gives us hope or the future.

The Spring Get-Together was postponed then had to be cancelled so we are hoping that the fall will bring us better news for getting to the Burgess Enclave with perhaps a smaller group. The Burgess Family have rented the White Cottage out for 4 months. Though we won't have access to that cottage they will give us a reduced rate for the Green cottage and boat houses. However, that being said, they will wait to see what the provincial guidelines and the Public Health are recommending by August 31st before we get the go ahead for use. Still we can only hope for the best results. I will keep you up to date on the fall social event.

Meanwhile, I have gone sailing at one of our old member's property up on Lake Scugog which was a godsend! It is amazing how much we miss the camaraderie of windsurfing with other like minded people. Being with both Joyce Bishop and Maja at Denise's was fun and I hope if we get more wind soon to be able to take advantage of her hospitality. Had offers from elsewhere but turns out they offered to too many others and often have more people up there then they expected/felt comfortable with so I am sure that could end up with beach access on private property closed to windsurfers. I certainly respect them for offering but as a person with compromised health I cannot be around too many people so I have to be picky on where I sail thus why I am not going to TWC.

The Provincial Parks opened this week but I am sure they were packed and the cost isn't cheap. Many of the community beaches are either closed or closed except for resident use only. This is a sad state of affairs that they feel the need to limit access to the public because of many who display wonton disrespect for others and property.

Lauri and I have been golfing twice a week and walking the courses to stay in shape though drinking beer after means we have to still do our regular workouts. I have hauled my bike out as well to keep me out of the fridge on these hot days! My neighbours' pool has also given me an opportunity to swim and do some self distancing socialization. Nick Cox joined us for an overnight stay. Was the first person who has come in close contact since COVID started. We still maintained good social distancing and were like clean freaks! You sure come to appreciate what we had before and miss it but it is important to protect each other.



My granddaughters from Calgary will be arriving for a month stay, so I have rented the Executive Boat House at the Burgess Enclave for a week for my family. We are looking forward to that just to be on the water. whether it is windsurfing, paddling or just swimming.

I will travel back to Calgary with the girls for 3 weeks of hiking and golf. That will keep me busy and healthy till the fall!

Let us hope that we all stay healthy and safe till we meet again.



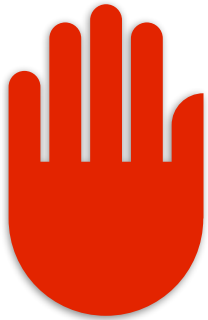
Kona News

The next Kona Worlds is scheduled to take place in Sarasota, Florida from November 17 to 22, 2020. Will it be cancelled or not? We will wait for news from the organizers. UPDATE - the event is now **CANCELLED** and rescheduled for 2021 at the same venue.



Fall Wrap-up 2020

By Stephanie Todd



Please note that this event has been **CANCELLED**.

This summer has been a bust for some of us because of COVID-19. We are still being very cautious about any social activities. The Burgess's have given us the go ahead to have our Wrap-Up **September 11-13**. There will only be the **Green Cottage** and the **Executive Boat House** available as the White Cottage has been rented for 4 months this summer. Therefore, we have set the limit to **11 participants**.

There will be some restrictions in place:

Bringing your masks.

Bring your own sanitizers.

Maintain social distancing and when that is not possible you must have a mask on.

A health check form will be sent to the participants and must be returned to me by **September 9th**. If this is not sent to me then you will be denied access to the property. Both the form and the registration will be available online.

My hope is that we will finally be able to see a few more of our windsurfing friends and do some socializing using physical distancing or masks.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 289-231-2080.

My Covid-19 Story

By Suzanne Roberge

What was I up to when everything was put on hold? For the past couple years I have been spinning twice a week and doing another exercise class at the gym. In January I had decided it was time to work on loosing weight, yet again! So by March 14th I was well on my way to loosing and in shape for my upcoming ski trip to Austria starting March 20th. On March 13th my suitcase was well underway (I'm an early packer!) when I learned that the hotels and ski resorts were closing in Austria. Needless to say I never left the country. Thought I would keep skiing here but that did not happen either. Oh well...

So to keep some resemblance to my regular schedule, I put my bicycle on a trainer, downloaded a spin class video and kept spinning twice a week in our basement. I also started walking again with a neighbour almost every day. That helped pass the time! And like a lot of people in the beginning, I cleaned! But I did not bake nor drink. In fact, I did not drink any alcohol for about 3 months (not that I am a heavy drinker anyway!!) and still not drinking much.

I also dusted my sewing machine and found some fabric to make some masks for ourselves and for a few friends. Now I am making scrunchies, sometimes with matching mask!!

As of writing this article I have lost 14 pounds since January and will try to stay on track during the summer!!

On the sailing side, my club, Britannia Yacht Club, is only partially open still. We can't go into the club except to the washrooms and they only offer take-out food that we have to eat outside while trying to social distance. Our sailboat is in the water and we can sail but there is no racing happening. I have windsurfed only once so far and paddle boarded twice. Like a few people I spoke to, I was looking forward to a relaxed summer just sailing on our boat and not rushing 3 nights a week to go racing. Mind you, I love racing but sometimes I do too much of it!! Then the heat wave hit and we did not want to go out of the house!!

So let's hope the rest of the summer is not as hot, that Covid-19 slowly makes an exit and fair winds for sailing!

Another Covid Story

By Mike Tindall

I hope you all had a great winter. In November we returned to Bonaire for 3 weeks. We stay at a spot on the west coast not far from the airport and 15 minutes drive to Jibe City. You can dive or swim right off our unit which is great. Chris Hope joined us for a week which was good. He continues to be an Ironman - 2 dives in the morning and windsurf in the afternoon at Jibe City. I windsurfed most days but only dived 3 times with Chris. November is great for diving as it is much quieter and less wind allowing for dives in spots that are too windy at other times of the year. Chris brought a friend who had not done much windsurfing or diving. She managed to get diving and windsurfing instruction, and had a ball.

Simon joined us later but unfortunately we almost had no wind for 2 weeks (very unusual as November is a low wind month but not this low). Fortunately Simon is qualified in scuba so we dived most days which was great. We had a few boat dives but most of the time did shore dives. I cannot do shore dives without someone like Simon to help me get in as the shore is rocky. I would get in the water and Simon would bring me my gear. It was awesome to dive together and much cheaper as we just had to rent gear and air. We did do the odd day at Jibe City and Simon did freestyle. I rented a longboard.

I am proud of the 5 masters who attended the Kona worlds in Italy last August as discussed by Andrée in the last newsletter. The fastest Italian was Toronto's own Giancarlo. Hard to believe the only Italian too!! And the event was in Italy. Most of the locals just sail shortboards due to the high winds.

In February 2020 we headed to Fort Pierce in Florida about 3 hours south of Daytona. Then in March Covid-19 hit. It felt safe in Florida as we were outside at the pool, beach or windsurfing. However, when Justin said we should come home we did. We have good healthcare but not sure how long the coverage would last once Canada said come home. Once home we did the 14 days isolation and our daughter dropped off food. Once the 14 days was over we started to look after our 4 year old grandson to allow the parents to work from home. Jane was a school teacher and principle so she did the online teaching with our grandson. I did the fun stuff like Lego (thank goodness for Amazon) every 2 weeks I would get a new Lego just to keep the interest up. He is really good at Lego now and often rebuilds stuff. We had to cancel all our travel plans. Transatlantic cruise, trip to UK, trip to Australia and a Europe river cruise. Getting older we had decided to have a big year! Never mind we have not been sick and got most of our money back and some credits. We even got back some of our rent on our Florida condo which was nice. We will return one day.

As the weather warmed up we were allowed to go to the Toronto Windsurfing Club which has a lovely beach so we have enjoyed that most days with our grandson. We also got to take him out on his scooter with me on my bike to keep up with him. We also spent 3 weeks at a friend's cottage at Stony Lake which was nice. Our next trip is on a houseboat on the Trent which should be fun.

Making the most of a challenging time I hope your are too. We are getting good with Zoom now!



Mike underwater and below, Simon, Jane and Mike.



Simon in the News

Simon Rickard, one of our newest masters, was faced with two men with chain saws at Cherry Beach Toronto Windsurfing Club. The men were looking for someone that they had had a fight with earlier. It was Sunday morning and Simon was teaching windsurfing on the club grounds. No one was injured and police arrested the two men. Simon was later interviewed by CP24 and the interview was aired that day. We have had a number of issues at the club with large crowds and raves on the beach. The police have closed access roads on weekends at night but we still get lots of campers and party issues. It has been a deal challenge at the club.

https://www.cp24.com/video?clipId=2011421&fbclid=IwAR2GpJNrU_N_6fNThMy6_WQ0TLBrdhlJ5eue_NQRZD498zC3TnZq6cabgMc

The Beginner Files

By Keli Schmidt

I struggled to stay in shape over the winter, anyone else do any unintentional “bulking”?

At the end of February I dropped a 10lb plate directly on to my big toe (yep, broken) and I got accustomed to sitting on my ass for a few weeks. I was worried about it healing in time for my first trip to Hatteras buuuut... never mind! When quarantine hit and we couldn't do any early spring windsurfing I needed to change up my workouts or risk going full “couch potato” so I ventured in to HIIT territory and no one was more surprised than me that I actually enjoy pushing my body to the limit. Also it's nice to have it be OVER in under 30 minutes, ha!

My first spring sessions were mid-May at Minet's Point in Barrie which has been one of my go-to spots since I started. It's closer to me than the eastern Simcoe launches and super safe for beginners - no matter how far downwind I drift the walk back is easy and safe. Because Beaverton and Keswick were closed all the Simcoe sailors came to Minet's and the water was packed. It was a fun festive atmosphere with so many extra sailors. My first day out was about 18-28 knots (Barrie is very gusty). I think I got in a solid 20 first-rate catapults, I felt like I forgot how to windsurf!!

Things came together with a beautiful flat-water blasting session on the Bay of Quinte at the end of June when I successfully fast-tacked my 91L board six times. Of course I have not yet succeeded in repeating this feat, windsurfing is very frustrating! Most beginners want to learn to gybe but I am obsessed with tacking. I think the safety factor of this “go-up-wind” move appeals to me. Also it's really bloody hard and I like the challenge.

At the beginning of July my new raceboard sail finally arrived and I scored a few daggerboard-up-masttrack-back Equipe II blasting sessions at TWC. On one run on a gusty NW I actually got the raceboard tail-walking, I ended up stuck under the sail with my foot stuck in the strap (which is thankfully old and soft!!), took a bit of wiggling to get out of that one!

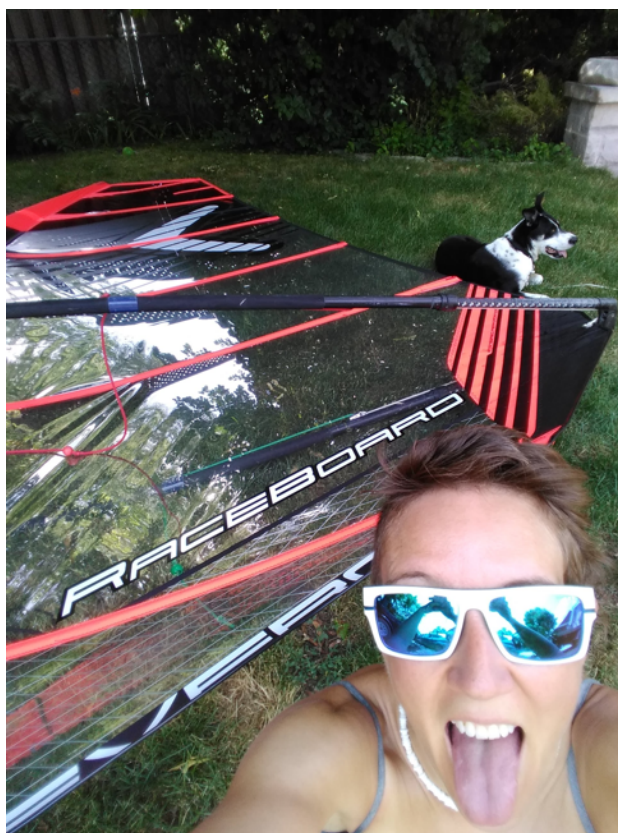
Recently I have started to learn “big lake” sailing, getting in a few small-gear sessions on Lake Erie and learning to handle the waves and how to get some air. As I write one of my fingers is swollen to bursting, I jammed it pretty hard on a gybe attempt yesterday with 4.2 and 91L – another whoopsie. But as one of the guys said, if you don't have a few scrapes, bruises and maybe a busted finger or toe, you're not doing it right!

It was so great to participate in my first CMWA Championship last summer at TWC, hopefully we will see each other again next year!



And the proof is in the picture! Keli shredding on her shortboard!

Below, Keli showing off her new sail!



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Past President – Mike Tindall

Upcoming Events 2020

June 12-14 – **CMWA Spring Windsurfing Weekend**, Port Bolster, Ont., Stephanie Todd,
surfit@sympatico.ca. Registration form to come – www.windsurf.ca/events **CANCELLED**

July 11-12 – **CMWA Championship** and National Capital Regatta, Britannia Yacht Club, Ottawa,
Suzanne Roberge, roberge811@sympatico.ca or www.byc.ca **CANCELLED**

September 11-13 – **CMWA Fall Windsurfing Weekend**, Port Bolster, Ont., Stephanie Todd,
surfit@sympatico.ca. Registration form to come – www.windsurf.ca/events **CANCELLED**

2021

July 10-11 - **CMWA Championship** and National Capital Regatta, Britannia Yacht Club, Ottawa,
Suzanne Roberge, roberge811@sympatico.ca or www.byc.ca

The next newsletter should be published in the Fall 2020. We welcome all contributions. Please e-mail your articles and pertinent pictures to roberge811@sympatico.ca.

Sponsors



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