



West Hawk Lake Sailing Club 2023 mid-summer report

It has been a cold and windy start to the summer sailing season. All our Learn to Sail classes and semi-private lessons have been sold out since the start of July which is a good and bad problem. Great that we have so many sailors but bad because we are short of qualified instructors to add more weeks of classes. Sail Manitoba is working diligently to get more of our older youth sailors instructor certified so next summer we can fill more weeks of lessons. Hopefully that will include a couple of local sailors who want to teach in the South Whiteshell.

A big welcome to Aidan Lawton from the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club as our main instructor this summer. He will be ably assisted a few weeks by local Laser sailor Susanna Weatherill.

The Optis, Lasers and Tumbleweed sailboats have had a busy summer with 44 kids rolling through the program in July. Semi-private and adult lessons in August are also full. Sorry to those looking to try sailing this summer we will hopefully have more weeks open next summer. Some summer sailing pictures have been loaded onto our website for 2023 but expect to see many more.

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! The afternoon of Sunday August 6 will be the inaugural Albacore Sailing Races at West Hawk Lake near Big Island.

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 to the club more accessible, adding a porta potty and electricity at the clubhouse. Watch for the work party email in early August to help us finish the decking!

West Hawk Lake Sailing Club and the Falcon Sailing Club have been coordinating some local races for newer Opti & Laser sailors, July 29 & Aug.5, 9 am – noon at Falcon SC.

The provincial Optimist Championships and Manitoba Summer Games qualifiers for Lasers & Optis are being run by our local sailing official Paul Krestanowich and are the weekend of Aug.19-20 at the Falcon Sailing Club, stop by to watch some of our local racers try to win their spots at the 2024 Manitoba Summer Games at Clear Lake. West Hawk Lake has had local sailors compete at the last three summer games. Who will be next!

Thank you to all who ordered their West Hawk Lake Sailing Centre gear in June, we expect delivery from Home Run Sports sometime near the end of August.

If you have any questions about sailing, sailboats or any of our programs please check out our website, call or email us at info@whlyc.ca, 204-479-7100 or www.whlyc.ca.

See you all on the water soon!