

2024 60th PLYC Regatta July 27th & 28th

The 60th Pelican Lake Regatta began with a bang with stiff winds and frequent gusts that sent several boats over during the three races on Saturday. A few of the boats ended up with mud on their mast tops as well, but the chase crew was able to get everyone back racing in short order. The day featured 23 registered sailors spread across evenly among the four racing classes: 5 boats in the high DPN class; 6 boats in the low DPN class; 5 MC scows, and 7 boats representing the sailing school with 6 420's and 1 RS Quest.

The 14 sailing school students represented the largest group of its kind in regatta history. As the sailing school continues to grow, we hope to expect more of the same in years to come. It should also be said that the students were unfazed by the high winds and gusts. They occasionally were knocked down, but they came back up again to race the whole day.

Despite the high winds, or maybe because of it, the Saturday races were enjoyed by all. Crucial to the day's success was the fine and dedicated work of the committee boat and the chase boats that executed the three Saturday races amidst multiple knockdowns. Speeds were high and boats and their sailors performed admirably with only one collision that resulted in no damage. Everyone got through the day safe and great racing was had by all due in no small measure to the work of those on the committee boat and the chase boats.

At the end of the day, sailors went home to clean up for the social hour later that afternoon. Everyone was treated to an impressive display of great food and desserts. The social event was well attended with over 40 people in attendance. Many thanks were given to the many cooks who contributed to the potluck organized by Anne Peltier and Teri Lantz. Sailors and their colleagues stayed on into the evening recounting the days' adventures.

Sunday's day of racing was met with lower winds and gave the sailors an opportunity to test their skills under such conditions. Winds picked up some for the second race as racers tested their abilities in moderate conditions. Both races came off without any complications and racers headed to shore by noon to prepare for the award ceremony.

The award ceremony that wraps up the festivities was held by tradition again at the yacht club. As this was the 60th annual event, Jeff Peltier gave a brief rundown of the event's history and his participation in 50 of the 60 races. Evan Furr MC'd the award ceremonies acknowledging the over 30 sailors who manned the various boats. First and second places were recognized with trophy cups as well as the traveling MC trophy and the Open Fleet award. Congratulations to all skippers and crew for making this a great year! This event required considerable planning. Thanks to the PLYC board of directors: Evan Furr (Commodore), Tom Frei (Vice Commodore), Jeff Peltier, Paul Horstmann, Dick Chadinha, Bob Leonard, Teri Lantz, Ryan Grindeland, Dan Sprouls, and David Schlossman, and also to the numerous volunteers that helped with set up and clean up after the event.

Rhonda Loberg provided a great breakfast and organized lunches from Fair Hills for all the competitors. Thanks to the spectacular judging team who were meticulous at setting the courses and making sure they were set true to the wind at the start of every race! Special thanks to our race official Gary Ostbye and assistant race judges Teri Lantz and Liz Deardorff, as well as Roger Stadum, Lara Larson, and Mark Deardorff in chase boats. Excellent photography was provided by Darcy Leonard, Rhonda Wilson, and Anne Peltier. Thanks again to all our generous sponsors that support the regatta and play a large part in making this event possible!