



# THE MAINSHEET

## M S C N E W S L E T T E R

### Committee News & Reports

*Find out all the latest goings on around the club. Starting on...*

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### A NOTE FROM THE COMMODORE

Let's  
go



*Commodore Mark Taylor, and wife Denise at Sailpast, 2008.*



# Sailing!!



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## Membership Report

*Michael Clayton*

Well, things are starting to roll. We have signed on four new members so far this season – welcome Keith Mosley, Roy Greenwood, Bob Brown and Glen Storey, all Senior members. Jason and Julie Phillips are in the wings all ready to pay! This is always a good time of year when the sun and warmer temperatures start rolling in and the water is calling.

For new members and those who are possibly interested in joining but just want to ‘kick the tires’ a bit, please come and join us at the club for the MSC Sailpast / New Members Day / Family Day! We hope to have everyone out (friends and family members welcome) There will even be entertainment for the kids. This is your chance to meet the rest of the club and to be able to speak to any member you want to and to get the low down from anyone about anything. We have nothing to hide! We are all there for the same reason ... to sail and have fun. For those who want to get out in a boat for maybe the first time ever this day is the perfect day for that. So ... make a note in your calendar to keep June 7 free from anything else ... it is Mississauga Sailing Clubs Sailpast and Family Day.

For those of you who are wandering how you are going to complete your 20 work hours I have an idea that may help you and the club. Canada Day always sees the club with a booth in the centre of Mississauga extolling it's virtues to the world. The celebrations go from about midday until 10 pm and we need anyone who likes to spend time outside

bragging about the MSC and all her virtues to anyone who shows an interest. Please let me know if you are interested. I will really welcome the support.

Thanks again all and here's to a fantastic 2008,  
Ciao for Niao,

## Facilities Report

*Norm Rippon*

This has been a busy time for the facilities team! A dedicated crew repaired the docks over two weeks and put them in on the weekend of May 3. We replaced several face boards, reinforced the fastenings on the deck boards of the new docks, and added new signage. Aluminum rods were threaded through the dock stripping and then screwed to the docks to reinforce the gripping power of the dock stripping.

A minimum number of cleats were fastened to the docks to allow easy tie up. The number of cleats on the docks is a contentious, hotly debated issue, with some members wanting many more and some wanting absolutely none. The number of cleats used is a compromise that leaves no-one completely happy, the best solution to the debate at present.

Placing the docks was difficult this year as the water is very high and is continuing to rise! Even the City had to adjust their docks twice as the high water level was causing the North dock's pins to jump their fastenings.

The BBQs have been repaired or upgraded with new grills and in the case of the big BBQ; a new cover was also purchased. Please use the new cover as it will save on costly repairs next year!

### MSC Executive Members

#### *Commodore*

Mark Taylor

#### *Past Commodore*

Rob Wierdsma

#### *Secretary*

Darren Brash

#### *Treasurer*

Ron Williams

#### *Membership*

Michael Clayton

#### *Race Officer*

Martin Boeykens

#### *Facilities*

Norm Rippon

#### *Social*

Cheryl Hughes

#### *Newsletter*

Bjug Borgundvaag

#### *Club House*

905 891 1941

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The barbeques take a lot of abuse, so Dave Matthew has volunteered to keep them maintained and cleaned for maximum performance.

We are steadily replacing the worn folding tables with tables of a new design. Members will be pleased to know that the new tables are lighter and have carrying handles. We purchased two beautifully constructed new canopies at a “fire-sale” price for use on the rooftop and at special events.

Barry Conroy is repairing the folding chairs that are in the showers. Roy

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Greenwood is preparing a fire-plan for the building. The plan will eventually be placed in a special box, allowing easy access by fire-fighters.

We have plans to improve the lighting in the boat park to allow members to work on their boats after dusk and increase security.

There will be a new re-cycling bin on the top deck this year. It has a firm snap-on lid. Please use it to recycle cans, paper, Styrofoam, plastic, and glass. We are not yet ready to re-cycle food waste, but are working on it! Thanks to Bjug's children for acting as our re-cycling advocates!

Beth Ruch is adding more flower planters to the front of the building, in part to act as a parking barrier in front of the swinging gates. She'll also be asking the City for an extra picnic bench for the side of the building. You may notice, this summer, that there is a rather conspicuous wasp's nest under the stairs. This is an artificial nest and should not be removed. Apparently, wasps are not very bright but are very territorial. They will not form a new colony in the presence of another nest. Hopefully, this will reduce the wasp population this summer. Thanks, Beth, for this green idea!

Brad Nordien is working hard to create our new weather station. We are investing in a new computer and plan to link-up with PCYC's weather station. A dedicated monitor will hang in the downstairs hallway. The monitor will show, in detail, the immediate weather conditions on the lake. A whiteboard will be hung on the wall beneath the

monitor, displaying important and timely messages to members.

Ron Divall will be heading up a line painting team for the boat park. The lines and numbers in the boat slots need rejuvenating. Due to the scope of the project, work will probably last well into the summer. A compound re-organisation may be necessary to make maximum use of our space.

The boat park looks great! Jeff Cox made a sweep of the compound a few weeks ago and carted away a wagon load of old wood, plastic, bricks, concrete, and odd bits of metal. The facilities team then swept the compound and removed bags and bags of leaves. We have a few requests to help increase security and safety:

- Please clean up and maintain your section of the boat park. If each member cleans up his or her own parking space, then the compound will appear to clean itself. Get rid of old concrete blocks, unused trailer chocks, and odd bits of rope. Place unwieldy material behind the external garage. Use the City garbage bins for soft material such as rope, tarps, etc. Store ladders and dock boxes away from the fence to discourage intruders.

- If you don't have a burglar alarm code for the building, or have lost it, please contact Mike Clayton (Membership Director.) If you are not sure how to use the alarm, ask another member for a quick lesson. When you accidentally set off the alarm and cannot turn it off, Corporate Security phones me and I "have

some 'splainin' to do!"

- When unlocking the combination padlocks, spin the combination dial so that the code to the boat parks and garage are no longer showing.

- And finally, please try to tarp your boat in order to prevent water from accumulating. If you do not wish to use a tarp, make sure your boat is angled to allow drainage from the cockpit. Stagnant water attracts mosquitoes with the concomitant risk of West Nile Virus.

Thank you to each and every member of the Facilities Team for your hard work in keeping our Club attractive, safe, and fully functional

## Social Report

*Cheryl Hughes*

We held our Spring Fling White party on April 19, 2008. Although there was only a modest turnout of eighteen adults and three children, everyone that did attend had a wonderful time! After toasting the 2008 sailing season everyone participated in a fun "ice breaker" game, which was followed by a scrumptious buffet consisting of a smorgasbord of foods prepared by our members.

A special thanks goes out to all of the Social Committee members who helped to organize, decorate and otherwise ensured the success of yet another wonderful MSC event: Roselyn Meissner, her children Liesel and Nicola, and her friend Becca, Bonnie Planchart, Sue Divall, Sue Robertson, and Scott Caple.

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## UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

TBA	Drive In Movie Night
Saturday October 25	Halloween Bash

I would also like to thank the phone committee headed by Beth Ruch.

We had our annual family day/open house on Saturday June 7th. It was a sweltering hot morning with gusty winds threatening to prevent sailpast, but the winds moderated by mid afternoon allowing the event to proceed as planned. We had an excellent turnout!

Even though a low turnout increases the chances for the lucky attendees to win a prize, our goal is always to encourage as much participation as possible, with new members coming out and experiencing our fun-filled parties and events and all that the Mississauga Sailing Club has to offer. To reach this goal I would like to survey the membership. Please consider taking a moment of your time to answer the following ques-

tions; e-mail your responses to [cheryl-hughes@hotmail.com](mailto:cheryl-hughes@hotmail.com)

1. What types of parties or events would you like to see planned at the MSC throughout the year (not just during the sailing season)?

2. Would you prefer the food to be potluck or would you prefer something catered at a subsidized cost to each member attending?

3. Do you enjoy themed parties with interactive games or do you prefer more of a social gathering atmosphere with talking and music?

4. Do you enjoy a party with dancing?

5. Would you prefer adult only parties (Not what you are thinking, I only mean no children)?

6. Would you be more inclined to attend a party that allowed liquor?

(Remember there is a cost to obtaining

a liquor license and liability insurance.)

7. An alternative to #6 is having a party or event off site such as our sister club across the street, the Port Credit Yacht Club, that has a liquor license but there will still be a subsidized cost passed on to members attending. How do you feel about this alternative?

8. Any other comments or suggestions would be greatly appreciated!

9. Our goal is to meet the needs of every single MSC member, so please take the time to complete this short questionnaire, highlighted results of which will appear in the next newsletter. And for those responding to and completing all eight questions before July 1 will be entered into a draw for a prize!

Thanks so much for your time. Together, we'll ensure that the MSC is the most well rounded club on the entire lake, getting better and better year after year!



### *Sailors Gatherings wrap up for another year*



*Dave Daniel was the final guest speaker in the 2008 Sailors Gatherings series. Dave was discussing sail trim, and there was an excellent turnout despite the weather.*

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*Ron Bianchi giving his presentation at MSC*

## Sailors Gathering Report

*Beth Ruch*

On Saturday, Mar 29<sup>th</sup> we were privileged to have Ron Bianchi, a meteorologist & also an experienced sailor, talk to us about his science & obviously also his passion. His talk was given with flare & humour & was extremely interesting.

Ron Bianchi is currently Director of Meteorology - Worldwide Operations with Golder Associates. Most recently he was the VP of Meteorology for Weather Network / Me-teoMedia and Senior Manager for Environment Canada Storm Prediction Centre in Ontario. Ron was also a CYA Sailing and Power Instructor from 1982 to 2000, and has managed several sailing school programs throughout the GTA. Ron has over 20 years experience in applied Meteorology and forecasting. He is a meteorologist, sailor, lecturer, and genuine believer in mind-opening encounters with the science of Meteorology and how to use it to your advantage

Ron gave a basic outline of how the high & low pressure systems create the weather that is experienced all over the world. He described the various cloud formations & how to look for certain signs that the weather is brewing something which we would want to take notice of in our sailing environment. One comment that struck me was that our atmosphere is as thin as the skin on an apple compared to the troposphere & stratosphere above it and we can't afford to mess around with our atmosphere the way we have been doing to this point or there will be nothing left.

He passed around a weather station in a thin white cardboard box (about 6" long by 4" wide x 2" thick) which is sent aloft via a weather balloon. Thousands of these are released twice a day all over the world & their findings are transmitted by wireless. This information & more from other sources are gathered together & used to provide weather forecasts.

On lightning he mentioned the 30/30 rule. Once you see the lightning count how many seconds until you hear the thunder. If it is 30 seconds or less take immediate cover. After the lightning stops take notice of the time & wait 30 minutes until you go back outside as it is not safe until that amount of time passes due to the chance of lightning that can come from the back of the passing storm.

He showed us lightning alarms, from a \$400. unit suitable for race committees which sound an alarm when a storm is approaching & also a \$80. pager size suitable for camping, hiking, golfing, etc. He also mentioned that modern weather radios can now be zoned in on local areas, instead of the previous radios that sounded an alarm about bad weather in Windsor but woke everybody up in the Toronto area.

Ron showed us a few weather websites that an amateur can use efficiently & the different types of reports available from them. An email recently went out to club members with his document listing books & websites of interest.

I would like to thank Gary McIlroy for finding our guest speakers. Gary is doing a great job providing interesting speakers for our Sailors' Gatherings & if you haven't been able to attend you are missing a great opportunity.



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*And they're off!...the 08 racing season got underway last week*

## The Racing Report

*Martin Boeykens*

It was just a few years ago that my wife Meghan and I bought our first boat. At that time our knowledge of sailing was rather limited.

On several occasions we heard that one of the best boats to learn to sail was a Laser, sure enough we learned that there was one looking for a new owner and before we know it, it was ours. We went sailing a few times and it didn't take long to confirm that the boat was a great one to learn the ropes. Although most of the times it ended up being a "wet" experience it was always a fun one. One of the recommendations that came from the more experienced members at the club was to start racing, assuring that it will improve our sailing ability exponentially. Meg wasn't too keen on the idea; her concept of sailing was different altogether: laying on the deck under the sun ...

It proved to be not only an excellent mean to quickly improve our sailing skills but it also revealed a whole different dimension of sailing.

We both found that one of the things that didn't make it any easier to start racing was all the unknowns, unknowns that once you learn them, they aren't all that big of a deal, but at the time, they were! For this purpose various members of the club have arranged some of the information that you will need to start racing:

1. Club Racing Rules: it outlines basic information as well as details of our club racing, things like the starting sequence, the course layout, etc. Located on the website: "Racing and Cruising" menu, "MSC Racing Rules".
2. Canadian Yacht association Simplified Racing Rules: a simplified version of the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing

(RRS). Basic rules for Sailors who are starting to race. Located on the website: "Racing and Cruising" menu, "MSC Racing Rules", look for the second last link at the bottom of the page.

3. Ten racing commandments for beginners by Al Schonborn. Also located on the website: "Racing and Cruising" menu, "MSC Racing Rules", look for the last link at the bottom of the page.
4. More resources on the menu "Sailing tips" of the club's website include animated knots and other topics. Note this section is under development. (and help for these or any other racing related activities will be appreciated).

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me [racing@mississaugasailingclub.com](mailto:racing@mississaugasailingclub.com)



## Mark Your Calendars!

Remember that in response to popular demand, MSC will be hosting a series of new 1 day regattas this season. Several members expressed frustration at having only one crack at a race course/set of conditions on any given day. In response, your race committee has scheduled a series of 3 one day regattas, where we hope that we can have 3 or 4 back to back races.

The first in this series, the "MSC Icebreaker" was on Saturday, May 24th. The "Summer Solstice" and "Mid-Summer" regattas are coming up and will be held on Saturday June 28th and August 9th respectively. These events will be low overhead races, to be contested for bragging rights, with no plaques, lunches etc provided, but also also no registration fees. They are an excellent way to get some experience on the race course.

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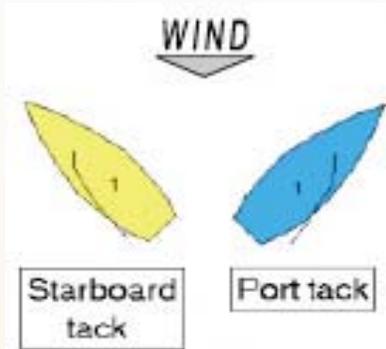


*To learn who has the right of way at the start, read Al Schonborn's abridged racing rules below.*

## The 10 Commandments of Racing for Beginners

Al Schonborn

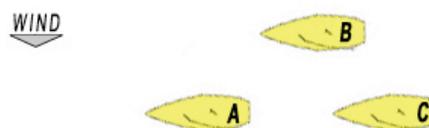
**1. PORT/STARBOARD:** When boats on opposite tacks meet, i.e. their booms are on opposite sides of the boat, the port tack boat must keep clear. The tack is named according to the windward side of the boat, i.e. the side opposite the boom. If, as you face forward, the right side of the boat is windward, you are on starboard tack. If not, you are on port (*in these diagrams, right-of-way = yellow*)



**2. WINDWARD/LEEWARD:** When boats are on the same tack, i.e. booms on the same side, two rules apply:

- windward boat keep clear
- overtaking boat keep clear

*A is to Leeward of B and clear ahead of C. If C overtakes A, she must keep clear of A.*



**3. CHANGING TACK:** While you are tacking or gybing, you must keep clear of other boats which are not doing so. If you acquire the right-of-way over a boat near-by with a tack or gybe, you must give that boat reasonable room and time to react.

**4. AVOIDING COLLISIONS:** Even when you have the right of way, you must try hard to avoid any collision. In any case, hitting another boat is **slow!!**

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**5. BUOY ROOM:** When rounding or passing a mark **other than a starting mark**, you must give room to round to any boat that has an inside overlap on you as you get near the mark.

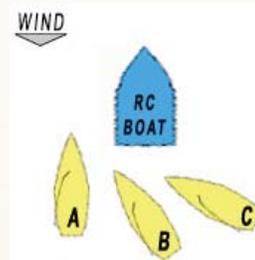
You should also avoid tacking within two boat lengths of a windward mark if any other boats are near you on the other tack.

Although the BLUE boat is to leeward and would usually have right of way. The overlapping YELLOW boat is entitled to enough room to make a seaman like rounding of the mark.



**6. BARGING:** "Buoy room" rule does not apply at the start line. **Do not barge** there by trying to squeeze between a boat to leeward of you and a mark. Note that a committee boat that marks an end of the start (or finish!) line is considered a mark.

A is entitled to sit as high as head to wind to prevent both B and C from going between her and the RC boat which is the start mark. In the absence of A, boat B would be entitled to cut off boat C. All must avoid a collision that could cause damage. If A or B are forced to give room to avoid a collision, they should protest, and the infringing boat should do a 720.



**7. OVER EARLY:** If any part of your boat or equipment is across the start line when the start signal is made, you must re-start. While returning to the start line to re-start, you must keep clear of any boats that are not returning. Often the best approach in a crowd is to let your sails luff and slow down until you can return to the line without fouling anyone.

**8. DEFENDING AGAINST OVERTAKING BOATS:** If a boat tries to pass you to windward, you are entitled to defend your wind by luffing up but must do so in such a way as to give a windward boat room to keep clear (*see also item #4*). If a near-by boat tries to pass you to leeward on a reach or run, you are not allowed to make life even tougher for that boat by sailing below the course to the next mark.

**9. TOUCHING A MARK:** If you touch a mark, you may continue to race only after getting out of the way of other boats and sailing one circle.

**10. RULE INFRINGEMENT:** You are officially racing (and therefore subject to penalty) from your Prep Signal (usually the 4-minute 'gun') until you have cleared the finish line. If you break a rule, the racing rules and good sportsmanship require that you do a two-circle turn. As in item #9, you may continue to race only after getting out of the way of other boats and, in this case, sailing two consecutive circles in the same direction.

If there is a foul, the rules (usually) require that there be a protest or penalty turns, *In W's, we have a "live and let live" attitude and minor fouls are often forgiven. For example, let's say a starboard boat has to bear off a couple of inches to avoid a port tacker crossing in front. Halfway up the beat, that may be no big deal and require nothing more than: "You owe us one!" Near the mark or the finish, however, such a foul looms much larger and the offending boat should do the turns without even having to be asked.*

If you are fouled and you intend to protest, you must immediately yell (*the actual word*) "**Protest!**" (Note: A boat 6 metres or longer must also display a red protest flag on the starboard shroud.)

If the offending party does immediate penalty turns, you can forget the matter. Otherwise, you inform the RC of your protest by following the procedure indicated in your Sailing Instructions. When you reach shore, you fill in a protest form and attend a hearing that will decide the protest.



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*The Wayfarer Fleet in Action, Callander Bay, 2005*

## Sailing News Outside MSC

*Bjug Borgundvaag*

### North Bay Wayfarer Weekend 27 June to 1 July 2008

#### Schedule of Events (preliminary as of 18 April)

There are five events scheduled. Each event will stand on its own with the exception of the combined Saturday/Sunday Canadian Wayfarer National series event. The Saturday/Sunday races will actually be two events in one. For those who may not be able to race both days, the first day of the series races will be the Don Rumble Memorial series. Saturday results will be carried over to Sunday for the national championship. Registration for events will commence Thursday evening. Note that registration for any particular CWA event closes 1/2 hour prior to the skipper's meeting. Registration for the NBYC Canada Day Race takes place just prior to the Skipper's meeting at 12:00 noon.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT DAVE OR CAROL HANSMAN

[dc.hansman@sympatico.ca](mailto:dc.hansman@sympatico.ca) telephone 705 495 4094

## Olympic Send-Off Party

*The following letter was sent to Commodore Mark Taylor:*

Dear Fellow Commodores:

We are planning a send-off party for Canada's Olympic Sailing Team. The members of the Team come from across Canada. The event is being planned in cooperation with the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Club. You, your Flag Officers and all your members are invited. The party will be a buffet supper to be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2008 at the RCYC Island clubhouse. It will be a great opportunity for us all to show our support for our Olympic athletes.

Could please inform your members of this party. If you have newsletters going out to your members, perhaps you could add this as an early notice. Perhaps you could also put up a notice on your notice board. We will be inviting a number of dignitaries including City politicians and we will be planning an intensive media campaign. It will be an opportunity to showcase our sport to some of the invited guests who may not know too much about sailing.

More information regarding times, cost, etc. will follow as event details fall into place.

Best wishes,

Commodore Rodney Smith,  
The Royal Canadian Yacht Club "

