



## Winter Newsletter

Chester, Nova Scotia

January 2022



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### End-of-Year MESSAGES from:

COMMODORE—David Creighton

REAR COMMODORE—Sean Pearce

FLEET CAPTAIN & SAILING COMMITTEE CHAIR—Dave Tzagarakis

VICE COMMODORE—Jennifer Chandler

DIRECTOR OF SAIL TRAINING—Christine Santimaw

CHESTER RACE WEEK —Pat Nelder & Kim Johnson

CHESTER BLUENOSE FLEET—Nicholas Lewin, President Bluenose Class Assn

CHESTER CLASSICS—TOPHER WURTS, Chester Classic Fleet Rep

CLUB MANAGER—Kim Johnson



## CYC Commodore

With the Christmas and New Year break upon us, I wanted to take this opportunity to wish you, your families, friends and everyone associated with the Club a very happy Christmas and healthy New Year.

As we flip the calendar to 2022 we reflect on the challenges and successes of the past year. The success is largely due to the flexibility and engagement of both Club staff, volunteers and membership. Planning and operating in an environment that has been shifting and is unpredictable, requires an appreciation of these challenges. I think by all accounts, we've done extremely well.

The 2021 Race Calendar was full with some exceptional highlights worth noting: the Bluenose class celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fleet, with the much larger Bluenose anchored in the middle of the racecourse during their Championships. This presented both a navigational challenge and a tremendous reminder of the deep history that we enjoy along our coast. The Championships had 21 boats on the course and I understand they may be closer to 30 next year.

Race week, managed by the unflappable Pat Nelder, cautiously came together after being cancelled in 2020. Hopes were to see registrations of around 85 boats; we ended up with 107. Limitations on gathering and regular visits from inspectors, gave Kim an extra level of oversight which she managed professionally and with full consideration of how easily we could have been shut down. Again, all involved recognized the need for flexibility.

One-design racing continues to grow and will feature more prominently in 2022. In addition, double-handed racing has taken off in various parts of the world and is being considered for Race Week.

The Junior Program continues to be a great success with Christine's tireless ambition to create a world-class platform for young sailors. Next year will have an added level activity with the Opti Nationals that we're co-hosting with the Lunenburg Yacht Club.

With all this reference to racing, I'm reminded of our club's Objectives, as written in the original constituting documents in 1902. The primary driver is the concept of "boat-handling... seamanship and navigation". In addition to the great pride we have for the many Olympians and regatta champions who have begun their journey at our club, let's not forget that we also have a number of passionate world-class blue-water cruisers. As we enter our 120<sup>th</sup> year, let's consider the *Wind in the Willows* comment between Ratty and Mole: "...there is nothing – absolutely nothing – half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats". Let's get out there and have some fun!

All the best wishes to you and your families.

**David Creighton, Commodore CYC**



*Sailing expedition to Antarctica in '99*

## CYC Rear Commodore

For some it may be hard to reflect on all that was positive from 2021, especially given the newest wave of the covid pandemic. For a minute it was almost as if we were back to normal throughout the summer, seeing our friends and family converging on CYC from across Canada, the US and abroad, sailing and sharing a cocktail on the bricks.

**Chester Race Week:** After postponing CRW in 2020, we didn't really know what to expect for 2021. The early registration was overwhelming, and on the first day of the event with over 100 boats participating, the entire team felt very accomplished. Running events of any kind during a pandemic has its fair share of challenges. The volunteers, staff and patrons were understanding, cooperative and very supportive, ultimately making CRW 2021 as successful as we could hope; possibly as it has been in years. The success we saw was not without many challenges and steep learning curves, so I wholeheartedly thank our:

On water chair: Patricia Nelder  
On Land chair: Kim Johnson  
Co-sponsorship chairs- Kim Johnson & Jennifer Chandler  
PRO- Daniel Conrad  
**And every volunteer!**

**Club Racing:** As our fleets continue to grow, we see new faces, old friends on new boats, new faces on new boats—the list goes on, engaging in club activities as well as being active on the start line.

The International One Design Fleet, championed by Shawn Mulrone, finds itself for the first time in Chester with a dedicated start time.

The Bluenose Fleet continues to grow with boats coming out of the mold, and others changing hands to new ownership. This year the fleet celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in conjunction with the centennial of Nova Scotia's flagship, The Bluenose II.

Finally, the backbone of CYC club racing, our fleet racers. Thank you for your continued participation and support. Let us continue to encourage new members, friends and family to get out and enjoy this incredible pastime, and the beautiful waters of the Mahone Bay.

We welcomed in October a new member to the sailing committee. Acting as Sailing Committee Chair, Dave Tzagarakis has a FULL sailing calendar ready for us with lots of exciting new events. Stay Tuned.

I encourage you to reach out to your respective fleet captains should you have anything you would like to table for the sailing committee to discuss.

**CYC Junior Sailing:** Without fail our Learn to Sail team delivered another successful summer season of sail training. Always dynamic, I expect the program will see some incredible changes offering our junior sailors lots of opportunity to follow in the footsteps of local sailors, Olympic competitors and Olympic hopefuls. We are hopeful we will be able to offer a full program, with opportunities to participate in accelerated programs for racing teams.

For more information on what's to come, please reach out to our Director of Sail Training.

P.S WELCOME BACK MR. CHRIS TULLY

**CYC Infrastructure:** While the same old wear and tear continues to antagonize our aging network of floats and wharf, we continue to do our best to keep it safe and functional for our members and their guests. There are a couple floats up for replacement, starting on the west side with the "key" linking the network together.

A big thank you to Warren Barkhouse for all he has done to help maintain our floats and mooring field this past summer.

A thank you to all those members who use the floating docks to store their personal tender boats for being cooperative and observing the tender policy as written by CYC.

### **Best wishes for 2022**

A final Thank You to everyone; members, friends, family, guests, patrons, fellow executive and staff.

Let's be careful, not carefree.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sean Pearce CYC Rear Commodore**

# CYC Fleet Captain—Sailing Committee Chair

Hi Everyone,

I am sure the entire membership of the Chester Yacht Club would agree that we are all very grateful for the team that was responsible for putting together a terrific sailing season for 2021. I am excited to be welcomed to the CYC Organizing Committee as Sailing Committee Fleet Captain to work alongside Rear Commodore, Sean Pearce. The good news in this update is that we plan to continue to deliver and expand our programs at CYC in 2022.

I am proud to announce that Patricia Finlay will return as the Primary Race Officer for the CYC club Race Management team. Dawson Baker will return as an experienced CYC RO. I am excited to also add Henry Lockyear to the RM team with his experience and passion for the RO role. And last and certainly not least, Chris Tully will join the RM team to provide his experience and support. I am looking forward to working with this RM team as we are well positioned to deliver an exceptional experience for all of our competitors.

CYC will offer a full racing calendar for the 2022 sailing season. I expect that it will be finalized and published by the end of January. There will be a Rules seminar added to the Sailing Calendar this year.

The Rules seminar will be open to all CYC members with an in-person session available to limited capacity which will also be virtually simulcast.

In addition, there will be a fun race added to the schedule on June 25th which is open to all levels of sailors where we would encourage everyone to participate in a fun day of sailing. The Portsmouth Yardstick race format will be used to manage this race and this format will allow boats and crew of all shapes and sizes to enjoy a fun day of sailing in friendly competition.

Lastly, I am attempting to add a One-Design weekend on Aug 20th and Aug 21st to provide extra opportunities for one-design skippers, their crew and spectators to enjoy top-notch competition in the spectacular setting of Mahone Bay.

Take care this winter folks and I am looking forward to seeing everyone on the water in June!

**Dave Tzagarakis**

**CYC Sailing Committee Fleet Captain**



## Vice Commodore



Dearest Members;

Another season has come and passed with so many fond memories of a great summer at CYC.

We saw the return of a more regular schedule and a much more relaxed environment. We've seen the return of so many faces who've been missed in the previous year. We've seen the return of Chester Race Week after the 2020 hiatus. All welcomed and contributed to the season's success.

We are all blessed to have a little slice of heaven available to us all as a place to enjoy the fellowship of friends and take advantage of all that the bay has to offer.

I'm pleased with what we were able to accomplish and deliver over the past season considering the many challenges. Kim and the team continue to go over and above on ensuring that value is delivered to all the members in so many ways.

Our social committee has worked hard to offer a few unique events highlighted by our Sunday afternoon tea's as well as continuing the off-season program of socials each month as possible.

I thank all who quietly contribute to making the club an outstanding place to both relax, socialize, as well as enjoy the water and our racing calendar. I'd also like to thank all of the organizations and sponsors that contribute to the various significant events that are held at the club throughout the year. Many of these events would not be possible without your support.

It's easy to take the club for granted. CYC success depends on our entire membership to survive and prosper. I welcome any and all suggestions on how to improve what is offered. I also welcome any and all offers to assist in any way you can.

With 2021 behind us I'm looking forward to all that 2022 has in store. To our local members please enjoy the off-season schedule of Potlucks as the opportunity permits. To our members near and far I look forward to seeing you as the coming spring and summer unfolds.

Be Well Everyone and Happy New Year!

Cheers... Jennifer

CYC Vice Commodore

# Helly Hansen Chester Race Week 2021

Despite missing a year and despite COVID-19 we had such a great Race Week! Planning and executing Helly Hansen Chester Race Week during the pandemic was an achievement carried on the shoulders of Chester Yacht Club's excellent volunteers and staff. 107 keel boats registered for the racing and as all crew members were registered for possible contact tracing, the organizers know that we had 900 competitors and race committee members on beautiful Mahone Bay throughout the four days. Although the Chester Yacht Club clubhouse was closed to the public, the licensed grounds were open to 250 individuals, and moored boats could also enjoy the live music which took place each evening on the deck. The addition of Nova Scotia's *Bluenose 11* and the Canadian Navy's *Oriole* sailing through the fleets on Day One of the event was very special.

Sponsors of the event got into the fun of delivering sponsor items and sponsor prizes to boats and their crews as they returned to Chester after the races daily.

Pat N: As on-water Chair of the event I am thankful that we 'pulled it off'. Our committee learned a lot about virtual events, as the majority of our prize-giving and opening, awards and prize ceremonies as well as our protest committee sessions were virtual. We have learned that the competitors can do most of their entrance paperwork and find out what is happening on-line and attend virtual skipper's meetings. All seemed thrilled to be back in Chester live and competing in some the sometimes foggy but always fun conditions. I would like to thank everyone for their patience and good humour during all four days. I guess it's time to think about next year!

Kim J: As on-land Chair of the event I'm thankful to all of you who came and enjoyed the live music-filled evenings. It was a challenge to plan our outdoor event with the covid protocols. Thank you for your patience, understanding and support while the staff worked so hard following all the public health restrictions to keep everyone safe. Our CYC staff were amazing!

For 2021 it is important to thank all the volunteers on shore and on water that helped to create the success of the event! Some great folks were called at the last minute and were able to go above and beyond to make sure there were enough course boats and anchors! We also would like to thank all of our USA folks that were waiting at the Canadian border which opened only a couple of days before the 2021 event!

We don't know what 2022 will bring but we are thrilled to announce that Helly Hansen will continue as the Chester Race Week title sponsor for the next three years. We will build on the successes and the (very few) not so successful elements of 2021 to bring you another great event.

Happy New Year! May the coming year be full of grand adventures, sailing and joy!

Pat Nelder: Chair On-water

Kim Johnson: Chair On-land



# 2021 Sail Training Overview—New Years Review

Coming off a wacky COVID-driven 2020 sail training season, we didn't know what to expect in 2021 but to say we had a busy and successful season is an understatement! Thank you to everyone who sees value in having sailing programs at Chester YC. Our sail training program is fundamental to the future success of our yacht club and is an extremely valuable introduction to our club values and community.

For our junior program, 2021 was a year of growth, both in numbers and in the evolution of our training. We ran waitlists once again and saw new-to-sailing and new-to CYC families joining the program. For the club, a number of these resulted in Senior Family club memberships, a win-win all around.

We also celebrated the success of CYC athletes in reaching some significant international goals: **Olivia Lee** will represent Chester YC and Team Canada at the 2022 Optimist North American Championship in the Bahamas; **Kate Kanallekos** will represent Chester YC and Team Canada at the 2022 Optimist South American Championship in Rio de Janeiro; **Logan Mraz** finished an outstanding 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall at the 2021 Optimist South American Championship in Argentina; **Ryan Santimaw**, **Alex Graham** and **Silas Conlin-Morse** were named to the Nova Scotia Sailing Team in the double-handed 29er skiff, a goal we had set for our program this time last year; **Jacob Chaplin-Saunders** and **Oliver Bone** represented Canada in the 470 at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games; and last but certainly not least, **Georgia** and **Antonia Lewin-LaFrance** are currently sixth *in the world* in the 49er FX!



## Summer 2022

This summer, we will implement significant improvements to our Sail Training program. For one, we will be increasing the number of coaches to support a restructuring of our program which includes welcoming Chris Tully back to our team. As you will see at 2022 registration, (with thorough descriptions and guidance as to which program your sailor would be best suited) our new classes will be:

- Wet Feet (full day)
- Opti Intro (CAN 1/2)
- Opti Learn to Race (CAN 2/3)
- Opti Race Team (CAN 3/4/5/6)
- 420 Intro (CAN 1/2)
- 420 Learn to Race (CAN 2/3)
- 420 Race Team (CAN 3/4/5/6)
- Laser - Dependent on interest

This restructuring is to allow for (1) recreational sailors to continue to develop a lifelong love for the sport and (2) to drive a competitive racing culture for sailors interested in pursuing a competitive pathway, during the summer and throughout the year.

We will do this through staffing and programming. We have added one of the country's top Opti Race coaches to the team: Spencer Dalzell will be taking over Jeremy Fraser's legacy as the Opti Race Coach. Jeremy will now lead our Opti Learn to Race team, helping us develop younger sailors at a higher level, sooner, thereby creating a strong future Race Team. Jeremy's success this past Fall coaching the Princeton Sailing Team will hugely benefit our younger sailors, Opti and 420 alike.

We will be pouring a significant amount of energy into developing our 420 sailors. Successful 420 sailors can receive scholarships to top Canadian and US universities, a pathway we haven't previously or formally explored at CYC. We will be investing in 420 gear and committing four coaches to this group (from 420 Intro to 420 Race Team) in 2022.

## 2021 Sail Training Overview, *continued*

### **STAR (South Shore Sail Training + Racing)**

Another significant development is the launch of STAR (South Shore Sail Training + Racing). Founded by myself and Mike Todd from St. Margaret Sailing Club, STAR is a shoulder season program created to complement local youth sail training programs like CYC's by (1) providing opportunity for increased time on water (shoulder season and travel opportunities which means 16 to 20+ additional weeks on the water per year); (2) facilitating coach development (the only sail training program in the region focused equally on coach development as well as sailor development); (3) and fostering a team environment that supports learning, positive relationships + local, national and international competition.

STAR's goal is to lead by example and uphold the long-standing reputation of Bay and South Shore sailors as the most highly skilled, hardest working and respected sailors both on and off the water. To learn more, please visit [www.starsailsfaster.com](http://www.starsailsfaster.com). Registration will open this month. Thanks to Chester Yacht Club and St Margaret Sailing Club for your support!

### **Volunteer Roles + Fundraising**

Our Sail Training program is a big engine. It has many mandates and many goals, importantly one of facilitating a lifelong love of and participation in our sport. This requires lots of help, far beyond what I am capable of. I am seeking parent volunteers NOW to kick off special event and fundraising efforts which could include operating an online junior merchandise shop (for visors, t-shirts, rash guards, etc.) or 50/50s at Thursday BBQs. Please contact me as soon as possible to get us rolling into 2022 STRONG. Every parent, grandparent, guardian or family member with a sailor in the program plays a roll in our success. So whether you are new to Chester YC or have been around for a while, let's get at this together.

On a similar note, thank you to everyone who

has donated to our Sustainability Fund to date. In addition to a significant amount of gear, we require two used centre console coach boats. Please contact me if you have any available for donation or purchase. The link to donate to our Sustainability Fund is <https://gofund.me/cb6ecdbe> Alternatively, please contact me if you would like to donate outside of the online Fund.

Finally, Chester YC is host of the 2022 Optimist Dinghy National Championships! We have decided to host in partnership with our friends at Lunenburg YC. Please mark the week of August 20 to 26 on your calendar to volunteer and participate!

All credit for getting us here is spread amongst a mighty group including, of course, Kim Johnson (your patience is unmatched) and our spectacular 2021 coaches, led by Hannah Carling and including Audrey Bowen, Elizabeth Waye, Greyson Corbett-Lumb, Julie Mosher, Henry Bowen, Luca Graham, Bailey Fenton and Jeremy Fraser.

An immense thank you to Joanne Corbett, mum of CYC coach Greyson Corbett-Lumb, who has worked tirelessly to complete a number of grant applications on our behalf. Joanne, you are so appreciated! Thank you as well to everyone in our junior community - including sailors' families, our general membership, the executive - we are so grateful for your support.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions whatsoever. Please reach out to me with any questions or comments at all. Thank you all for your continued support of our program. We couldn't do it without you.

Happy New Year and happy sailing,

**Christine Cragg Santimaw**  
**Director of Sail Training**  
+1 902 401 8239  
[christine@santimaw.ca](mailto:christine@santimaw.ca)

# Chester Bluenose Fleet Report



The Bluenose fleet has toughed a second covid year, featuring great participation and stiff competition with a healthy mix of winners.

We are keen to have our foreign boats back next year as well as a good number of new boat owners.

Although we had to tone down our 75th celebrations, having the big Bluenose as a centerpiece, with the fleet circling, was an iconic moment.



We are saddened as Sandy Morash is very ill, and in deference to her giving spirit and Bluenose supporting role, the Bluenose Association has made a small contribution to her battle.

The perpetual discussion of boat tuning and standardization was given quite a kick this year with Eric Siegel so prevailing in his McVay. It seems the old nostrum is key, that it is primarily the skipper with a regular crew that drives these boats quick.

It is so great to see the younger contingent cottoning onto the happening scene of a great one design fleet, mocking their elders at the start line with wolf howls.

Thanks to all who set the scene for our active racing class,

**Nicholas Lewin,**

**President, Bluenose Class Association**



## Chester Classics Fleet



2021 was another year off for the lovely ladies many of whom are now ticking past their first centenarian decade. However, a lovely new R boat arrived in town and did get to sail some this past season. With the border closed to many classics owners until August with an announcement late in July, sadly the logistics were too much to overcome for many.

It's hard to imagine with yet another wave of the virus sweeping through the world (how many more variants before Christmas?) but we're hopeful that this summer brings fresh breezes and sparkling sunshine and classics venturing out of their sheds. Working closely with the CYC Rear Commodore and sailing committee, we're hopeful for a revival of the pursuit format racing and an opportunity for all to get out and sail with our lovely ladies in 2022!

For some, this time has brought an opportunity to explore nautical traditions that are sometimes lost in the flurry of actually going sailing. Repairs, restorations,

catching up on brightwork, the whipping of loose line ends, the exploration of knotwork for practical and gifting purposes, some yacht related reading...there has been ample time for some of the simple joys for the classic sailing aficionado. Maybe even the possibility of some new sails from savings garnered from a couple years off!

Look dear, I ordered you pearls and a lovely cashmere sweater but they must have mixed up orders because we got new sails for the boat instead!

As we enter 2022, let's not do so with a brash or noisy swagger or declarations of resolutions and such... Everyone, please slip into '22 quietly, look around, don't touch anything and maybe we can get things off to a better start!

**Topher Wurts, CYC Classics Rep**

## Club Manager



Please review **CYC's Health & Safety protocols** on CYC website as we update often following NS Public Health restrictions & guidance. In accordance with the Province of Nova Scotia's "Proof of Vaccination" mandate to access and participate in non-essential services, as well as the continued use of masks indoors, CYC has updated our Health & Safety protocols for our members and guests during this time: <https://chesteryachtclub.ca/covid-19-prevention-plan/>

A Huge Thank You to our CYC club staff for adapting to new ways of working for the past two seasons. Many THANKS for all of your hard work Carlee Mulrooney, Jacqueline Nauss, Livia Dunn, Olivia Eisnor, Greg Otto, Charlie McInnes, Taylor Morris, Jack Natolino, Wyatt Carling, Trish Finlay and Dawson Baker.

**Membership Dues:** You will receive your Annual Membership dues notice in the mail later this month. Annual dues are payable on March 1, 2022. A late payment charge of \$150.00 will be added to the fee if membership is not paid by July 1, 2022.

**Bar Accounts:** CYC Bar Accounts are available to Senior members in good-standing. A Visa or MasterCard **MUST** be provided at the beginning of the 2022 season to activate your bar account. If there is an outstanding balance at the end of any month, it will be charged to your credit card on file. If children are allowed to charge to your account please leave a permission note with the bar staff naming your children or grandchildren.

**Seasonal Moorings:** Preference will be given to returning renters; 2021 holders of seasonal moorings will be invoiced with your 2022 membership dues. Your Signed mooring agreement & payment must be completed & received by CYC no later than April 15, 2022 or the mooring will be rented to the next member on the wait list and you will be placed on the bottom of the waiting list. Seasonal Moorings are **ONLY** available to Senior members in good-standing.

**Crane:** Crane is for the use of CYC Senior members in good-standing (with the exception of Race Week participants). Fee for usage & signed waiver is to be provided **BEFORE** access is granted. Crane is available by appointment only. Crane fee is \$150 (+HST) per season per boat.

**Tender Dinghy at Floating Docks:** Senior members can apply to keep one (1) personal tender boat at floating dock. Seasonal fee of \$100 + hst. To minimize unnecessary damage tender/Dinghy **MUST** be only up to be 12 feet or less in length, have name clearly displayed; outboard motor **MUST** be left down when docked at CYC dinghy dock so it does not interact/damage another boat.

**Kayak Storage:** CYC has limited kayak storage capacity and is available on first come – first served basis for members. There is an annual fee of \$125 + HST for kayak rack storage located in designated areas on Club property. Members must provide their own securing and locking devices. Kayaks will have to be removed for large events; such as Chester Race Week or other significant events hosted by CYC.

**Guest Reminder for Members:** Your guests are very welcome to come with you to CYC & we encourage you to invite your guests to join you for sailing & to socialize at the club. If your guest enjoys the club, please urge them to become a member of CYC. Remember that they must be signed into the CYC Guest Book at the Bar. In order for the club to comply with NS Liquor Laws please ensure that your guests are only signed in a maximum of 3 times per year.

**Club Rentals:** If you are interested in renting the club for a function; a meeting, wedding, birthday party, etc. please contact CYC at email below.

Wishing you a Happy, Healthy & Amazing 2022!

Kim Johnson [cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca](mailto:cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca)