



Greg Harris, Vice Commodore, White Cap Regatta Director

With COVID, it was a challenge to plan this year's White Cap regatta. Discussions, disagreements, and then agreements with the PYC to hold the event, safety protocol requirements, expected number of participants, food & beverages planning, and entertainment to meet the reputation of a PYC sponsored event. Saturday morning came and game on! It was a challenge trying to manage and get all systems rolling since access to our facilities had been very restricted previously. By mid-afternoon, things settled out with the kegs and tappers secured. We are so fortunate to have people like Pegi Eddy, Meghan Harris, Anna Harris, Allison Harris, Hank Callahan, Pam Matora, Matt & Charlene Warner, Barb Abel, Caleb & Morgan Mathers (Patie patrol), Kayla Matora, Catie Benedict, Ruth Hugo, Carla Diana, Geoff & Sara Nelson (Mojitos), Mark Allen & Team (see Mark's comments). Mark managed all aspects of the racing portion of the weekend including results. Uncle Peter's Pasties from Clarkson were a new experience for Saturday's lunch. My friend Kenny Ibrahim prepared the middle eastern dinner from Princess Grille on Welch road in Commerce. Princess Grille has provided meals to local hospital workers, police, and firefighters who have been on the front lines of the pandemic. The band, Version II, led by Carl Godell performed classic rock, motown, R&B, and pop not only for the White Cap participants but for all the residents in Orchard Lake, Keego Harbor, Sylvan Lake, West Bloomfield, and Waterford including a few spectator boats. We are located on a lake and sound carries long distances! From all the feedback I received including a visual on active dancing, they were very entertaining. You can check out pictures from Sunday at <https://shotkeeper.smugmug.com/Sports/Sailing>

Mark Allen, Principal Race Officer

I'm always nervous running races on Cass Lake because you never know what you're going to get. Maybe the wind won't show up, maybe it'll do really crazy things. I was really happy this year that the wind did show up and that it didn't do a 180 or something else. After a short

postpone on the water my team was able to get 4 races off in 5-7 knots of breeze from the South on Saturday. This year we did the racing with 3 MarkSetBots borrowed from DRYA. Thank you DRYA for lending us your Bots! We showed the amazing flexibility of MarkSetBot by using one Bot as the pin end of the starting line and then after the start moving it up to be the second gate mark. One thing people may not know is that by utilizing MarkSetBot, we have a tablet on Old Blue with a chart of the lake and we can overlay a racecourse on it, choose a leg length, and once I have decided on what wind direction we will race a given race in, the bots will place themselves in the correct location for a square line, square gates, square course. Another super helpful ability is to input the number of boat lengths that I want the start line to be based on number of racing boats and the bots will give me that line length without having to guess. Very accurate! One of the fun things with the bots was to launch them at the club and then just send them on their way out to the race course!

Sunday gave us a solid 10-15 out of the west (well, a little north of west and that forced me into having the starting line in a not ideal location due to shallow spots, but I was hoping it wasn't too bad, it's Cass Lake after all, shallow spots are everywhere. At least I didn't have to worry about putting race marks in too deep of a location. Ryan Flack and I were tickled that we were able to set leg lengths of .75, .85 and then a full 1.0nm for the last race!

It's a very rare occurrence on Cass Lake to get a course to be a full mile long so we grabbed the opportunity. I'm sorry if it got rather squirrely up at the weather mark.

My whole team did a fantastic job as RC, I want to thank them and list them here:

Bill Ziegler – Whaler, Bill Sanders – Kiwi, Paul Nagel – Kiwi, Ryan Flack - MarkSetBot Operator, Jonathon Kish – Flags, Jen Oeffner - Scoring

I had a lot of fun and I really hope I never have to run another regatta without MarkSetBot, it really is a game changer for race management

Tom Klaban, 2020 White Cap regatta champion

Since COVID-19 caused most lightning regattas to be canceled, or scaled down, it was refreshing to see that PYC took out all the stops to host what arguably will be remembered as the best lightning regatta of 2020. With 19 boats in attendants it was certainly the largest event of this COVID-19 season, and while social distancing and safety was the highest priority, PYC outdid itself in hospitality, food, music, raffle and first-class lightning racing. Mother nature cooperated with sunshine and wind, and our PRO Mark Allen provided all the competitors with some of the best racing anywhere, but certainly the best racing on Cass Lake that I can remember over the past 30 years.

Day one started out very light with an increasing south easterly that shifted 30 to 40 degrees during the four races held that day, in 4 to 8 mph breeze. Our team of Beth Groesbeck (my longtime crew or princess as we call her), Julia Matora (our star junior crew) and I practiced most of the summer for this regatta, and coming of a win at the Bayview one-design regatta a couple weeks earlier, we felt ready for the challenge, but even for us locals, the wind shifts were massive and not very predictable. Our goal was consistency and boat speed which proved more difficult than we thought.

The first start took me off guard and we started in the second row which forced us to tack to port and duck five or six transoms before getting clear air. We settled in and found the elusive boat speed that we were working on. We rounded the weather mark in fifth and immediately jibed to what proved to be a better angle to the leeward mark. We rounded in second and chased the

Steve Harris team to the finish but couldn't pass them. Our second start was a little better but we found ourselves on the wrong side of the wind shifts and again rounded fifth or sixth and had to pass boats downwind to get close to the eventual race winner the Post team followed by the Mathers team to the finish in third. We finally nailed our third start and got around the windward mark in first, but the wind gods weren't on our side as the Morin team and last year's White Cap regatta winner past us going downwind to the finish. Our fourth start was right at the pin end and when we tacked the wind shifted in our favor and we fetched the windward mark in first. This time we were able to extend our lead for our only first place finish of the day, but what a day it was with four races and four different race winners.

Day two brought big winds of 14 to 20 mph, white caps and as always wind shifts of 30 plus degrees. Since the line was square to the wind due to the use of the Mark Set Bots provided by DRYA, I decided to start near the committee boat which proved to be the wrong end of the starting line. We used all our local knowledge of the lake to try and catch the leaders but had to concede the victory of race five to team Welch who found the left side of the course to their liking. Race six was very similar with team Welch again hugging the left side of the course and along with team Steve Harris the eventual race six winner getting and staying ahead of us in race six. In race seven the committee boat end finally paid off and even though our PRO increased the length of the first Mark Set Bot to 1 mile, the longest leg ever set on Cass Lake, we took an early lead which we increased to what ended up being a victory lap. All in all, we raced 7 races with 5 different race winners in what I certainly will remember as one of the best regattas I have ever participated in.

Many thanks go out to Greg Harris, our vice commodore and all the PYC volunteers, and a special thanks to Mark Allen our PRO and Ryan Flack for running the Mark Set Bots which proved invaluable in setting great courses in very challenging conditions. The ability to change the course without having to manually move marks was short of miraculous and made for fantastic and fair racing. I believe there were course changes in all but 1 of the 7 races and I encourage every club to investigate the advantage of this fabulous invention for your next regatta.

And of course, our annual raffle hosted by Mike Welch was not only fabulous but provided the Junior program with much needed funds for next season. We hope to see more of you at the 2021 White Cap and hopefully without masks.

# 2020 PYC WHITECAP RESULTS

PLACE	SAIL #	TEAM	R 1	R 2	R 3	R 4	R 5	R 6	R 7	TOTAL
1	14842	T.Klaban/Groesbeck/J.Matora	2	3	2	1	2	3	1	11
2	15531	M.Welch/F.Blackmer/B.Beaudet	10	9	5	2	1	2	6	25
3	14690	N.Harris/R.Ziegler/Alli.Harris	4	8	3	9	5	4	2	26
4	15455	S.Harris/J.Ehrenberg/B.Williams	1	5	10	3	16	1	8	28
5	1553	M.Elliot/I.Dzuiba/L.Schmidt	5	4	4	4	3	10	9	29
6	313	M.Morin/J.McCree/K.Froeschle	14	11	1	5	4	6	4	31
7	15530	J.Mathers/C.Mathers/M.Mathers	11	2	6	18	7	8	3	37
8	14061	E.Villadsen/A.Farr/M.Leopold	3	7	8	7	9	7	7	39
9	15233	T.Post/K.Callahan/L.Hounsell	8	1	9	6	11	9	10	43
10	15048	J.Garrison/R.Lyons/K.Matora	7	16	7	15	6	5	5	45
11	14515	J.Morley/A.Morley/G.Gardner	6	6	12	8	8	20	20	60
12	14860	J.Mueller/W.Vanderhorst/G.Auer	9	12	11	13	10	12	20	67
13	14927	R.Meyer/M.Meyer/B.Liu	19	10	14	10	14	13	11	72
14	14854	S.Briggs/D.Keen/M.Collins	12	13	13	11	13	20	20	82
15	14346	M.Warner/K.Hasbrouck/B.Warner	15	18	17	12	15	11	13	83
16	14767	C.Wilson/H.Wilson/M.Wilson	18	19	15	14	12	14	12	85
17	15230	C.Matora/I.Sendijaric/A.Matora	17	14	16	16	17	16	16	95
18	13862	S.Swartzmiller/Anna.Harris/Bec.Mathers	13	17	18	17	18	17	14	96
19	14477	L.Strickland/R.Baetz/M.Laker	16	15	19	19	19	15	15	99