

Canadian 2.4mR Class Association

President's Report

March 2024

Canadian News:

This report is well overdue. We are having unseasonably warm weather in eastern Canada with very little snow in Toronto & Ottawa. Hopefully our season will get off to an early start.

Future Regattas: The highlights of our sailing season will be the Canadian 2.4mR Championships hosted by The National Yacht Club in Toronto, September 21-23 and the North American Championships at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club in Hamilton, Ontario September 25-28.

On the west coast Royal Victoria Yacht Club in Victoria BC will be hosting the 2.4mR Pacific Coast Championships September 6-8. The Victoria fleet will also be hosting their Fleet championships June 1-2 and monthly training camps in July and August.

In the United States the final two events of the 2023-2024 CAN AM winter series will be held March 25 – 26 and March 27-30 at Charlotte Harbour Yacht Club in Port Charlotte Florida.

The Tred Avon Yacht Club at Oxford MD, on the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay will be hosting its Spring Invitational Regatta for 2.4mRs April 26 – 28. This is a fun regatta and should appeal to boat owners bringing their boats north after the final CAN AM regatta.

Also of note is the C Thomas Clagett Jr Memorial Regatta and clinic June 25- 30 at Fort Adams, Newport RI. This regatta brings together top coaches and race management teams for both able bodied and physically disabled 2.4mR sailors.

The Boston area sailors will be hosting the Rockport Invitational Regatta at Sandy Bay Yacht Club July 12 – 14 in Rockport MA. This fleet is growing and now has 8 boat owners.

The 2.4mR World Championships will be held July 29 – August 3rd at Kiel Germany. A number of North American 2,4mR sailors have expressed interest in participating. Plans are in the works for sending a container of boats from the US east coast to Germany.

Back on the Lake Ontario, The National Yacht Club in Toronto will be hosting three additional 2.4mR events this summer. The CAN AM Regatta June 9th, The National Cup Regatta July 13 & 14th and the 2.4mR Great Lakes Championships August 17 & 18th. I hope to see you at one or more of these regattas.

Growing the class

There are a few issues hindering class growth in Canada. One of course is the availability of good used boats. This is aggravated by the availability of new boats with slow delivery from the current principal

builder. We are expecting news from the International Class that soon there will be a new certified builder in the United Kingdom and a second builder in Germany.

The second issue hindering class growth is our reluctance to promote the boat to potential boat owners. In my mind the target sailors are either a person who is 40 years old or older who previously or currently sailed a physically demanding One Design dinghy such as a ILCA 6 (Laser) or who sailed a One Design Keelboat and is tired of chasing crew for weekend regattas (J-24, E 22, Sharks, T-Birds etc.).

We need to let them sail our boats. In my mind there are three ways of doing this.

- One is to organize a “try the boat” day where sailors can come to the club and sail the boat for 60 minutes or so.
- The second approach is to persuade owners who cannot participate in a race or a weekend competition, because of other commitments, to lend their boats to sailors who meet our target market.
- The third approach is to organize a regatta and invite the best sailors from other fleets to sail in our 2.4mR's. This has been successfully done by our members at Royal Victoria Yacht Club who annual host a fleet challenge. The best sailors from other one design and handicap fleets are invited to race against each other with the winners receiving bragging rights.

International News

The big news from the International Class AGM is that the Member National Class Associations approved a new constitution at the AGM held in January. The new constitution confirms that the class will manage both the open 2.4mR class and the Norlin Mark 3 One Design rules. The other major news is that the international class association dues have been lowered to 10 Euros per member of a national class Association from 12 euros. The election of officers saw Heiko Kroger continue as International Class President. Bruce Millar (CAN) and Niko Salomna (FIN) were elected to serve on the Executive Committee. Bruce also sits on the Class Technical Committee. John Seepe (USA) continues as international class secretary (two year term with his election at the next AGM).

Final Thoughts

Let's get out on the water and enjoy our boats.

Peter Wood