

Buffalo Canoe Club Youth International
Buffalo Canoe Club - Fleet 12
Point Abino, Ontario, Canada
August 4-5, 2007

Pos	Sail#	Skipper	Crew	Club	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	Total
1	14416	Conner Godfry	Adam MacDonald, Larry MacDonald	BCC	(11)	5	3	1	2	2	3	9	25
2	15125	TJ Wright	Eddie Knibole, Jodie Swanson	BCC	2	4	2	(13)	1	9	4	3	25
3	15298	Lauren Jones	Jeffrey Markarian, Ian Jones	BCC	6	(11)	1	9	6	5	2	1	30
4	14050	Peter Hazelett	Connor Aswad, Bretton Gardner	MBBC	4	(OCS)	8	10	3	4	5	2	36
5	15015	Tim Werley	Ryan Ruhlman, Tristan Jackson	Pymatuning YC	8	(9)	5	7	5	7	1	7	40
6	15000	Katie Werley	Meagan Ruhlman, Samantha Maras	Pymatuning YC	5	2	4	8	9	10	(13)	4	42
7	15272	Kayleigh Godfry	Austin Sanders, Mark Grinder	BCC	3	7	6	5	7	(12)	10	5	43
8	15279	Peter Murphy	Kyle Crandall, Bob King, Peter Murphy	NYC	7	1	7	(14)	4	14	12	6	51
9	14371	Christine Maloney	Atley Sanders, Brian Starck	BCC	(15)	3	15	6	10	1	6	13	54
10	14849	Andrew Smith	AJ Murphy, Tom Shaw	Willowbank	13	8	12	3	(14)	6	9	8	59
11	14948	Tim Scanlon	Natalie Bates, Candy Neville	Chatauqua YC	10	(OCS)	13	2	11	3	11	12	62
12	15248	Kayla Oak	Abby Robinson, Kevin Robinson	BCC	1	10	16	(DNS)	12	11	16	11	77
13	15251	Abbie Probst	Allie Jones, Debbie Probst	BCC	(17)	6	14	4	16	8	15	17	80
14	14174	Lindsay Wright	Henry Ring, Dan Sprague	BCC	14	13	10	11	(17)	13	8	14	83
15	15246	Joy MacDonald	Maddie Waldron, Kathryn Maloney	BCC	12	12	11	12	15	15	7	(16)	84
16	14744	Rick Galbo	Julianne MacDonald, Rob Ruhlman	Pymatuning/BCC	9	15	9	15	8	(17)	14	15	85
17	14479	Ainsley Thompson	Linne Thompson, Merritt Moran	Rochester YC	16	14	17	16	13	(18)	17	18	111
18	14519	Avery Steadman	Madison Murphy, Josh Murphy	BCC	(18)	16	18	17	18	16	18	10	113

This past weekend, August 4-5, the Buffalo Canoe Club once again showed its tremendous support for the future of our class when they hosted the first, of what will hopefully be many, annual BCC Youth Invitational. The guidelines are simple; show up with a team consisting of at least 2 junior sailors, one of which must skipper. We had a phenomenal turnout for the first time around with a total of 18 boats on the starting line! Some teams consisted of all juniors, gearing up for the Junior NAs, while other teams had 2 juniors and an adult as the third crew member. For many, it was their first time driving a Lightning, and for some it was their first time ever even being in a Lightning, with the youngest skipper being about 10 years old! The members did a great job getting their own kids out there, as well as publicizing the event to get teams from many different states and clubs, including as far as Vermont!

To make the experience as fun and as valuable as possible, we sailed ½ mile windward-leeward courses, finishing downwind, getting in 8 races in two days! Furthermore, David Stark, just returning from the Pan-American Games, was a great asset as the on the water coach for the event. David went around to all the different boats and helped them with sail trim, boat set up, and any and all questions they may have had before and in between all of the races. He also held a very helpful chalk talk Saturday after racing, touching on a few of the basic ideas and strategies most important out there, including clean starts, being prepared for mark roundings, and communication on the boat to make sure everyone is on the same page and the team is doing what they think is the best thing at the time. The chalk talk was very informative, without being overwhelming for the younger ones, and David did a great job of being positive and very encouraging for all of the teams. He was very easy going and open, as were all the other adult experts, so that everyone felt comfortable asking questions and getting advice or support. The racing itself was great fun and it seemed that each race got more and more competitive as the teams became more comfortable with their team work, the conditions, and the boat itself. We definitely saw some great improvement throughout the weekend, and most importantly, everyone had a great time! Off the water was just as fun with a dinner and boys vs. girls tug of war game on Saturday night—in which the girls were the clear winners I'm proud to report—followed by a DJ and dancing that was set up for a club party, but that we were all able to enjoy. Sunday the race committee did a wonderful job yet again, getting in 3 races before 1:00 PM so that we could all get packed up, have lunch and trophies, and be on our way by 3pm, though as my Dad said, "no one ever really wants to leave the Canoe Club!"

All in all it was an absolutely fantastic weekend and one of the coolest events I've been able to participate in! I couldn't think of a better way to end my summer than to be at a Lightning event, surrounded by great friends, and seeing 30-40 junior sailors truly get excited about sailing the Lightning! It was an incredible event because it brought together the young and the young at heart for a phenomenal learning experience that promoted sailing, friendship, and fun, which is in and of itself the very essence of our class. A huge congratulations and thanks goes out to Larry McDonald for putting this whole event together and really making it happen! Of course, he couldn't have pulled it off alone, so I would also like to thank David Stark, Bob Robinson and Peter Godfrey and all the others who helped them on race committee, Joe and Bob Stark as mark boats, and all the participants who were able to make this regatta such a success! I only hope that next year we can make it even more successful by getting even more juniors out there. They are the future of our class, so mark your calendars for the first weekend in August, bring a boat or two from your club, and let's get 30-40 boats out there next year and then send them off from there to the Junior NAs!