



ILYA Scowlines

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Summer Summary by Executive Director Berg

Wow, what a ride!

It seemed like a slow crank up the rollercoaster from January until April and then... down I sped. From Lake Beulah to Torch Lake to Lake Harriet to Pewaukee to Nagawicka to Okoboji to Clear Lake and then to Lake Geneva for the Champs, let me tell you, it was non-stop.

My predecessor Jim Smith filled my head to the brim with information about Regatta Network, ILYA trailer inventory, trophy orders, the ILYA Foundation, committee meetings, board meetings, website maintenance, you name it and luckily he was only a phone call away when I needed him to fill in the blanks. Candace Porter and her wealth of institutional knowledge, love of sailing and boundless energy was right around the corner. Chip Mann and the entire RC staff were spectacular and extremely welcoming from authoring SIs to helping me master the art of trailer management.

The Board members, fleet reps and especially the executive committee consisting of our Commodore Steve Schmidt, Vice Commodore David Porter and Treasurer Beth Wyman were of invaluable assistance and ready to advise whenever necessary. Oh, and by the way, we had an Olympic Sailor, Annie Haeger, who never let an opportunity pass to sing the praises of the

Melges Rowe Sailing



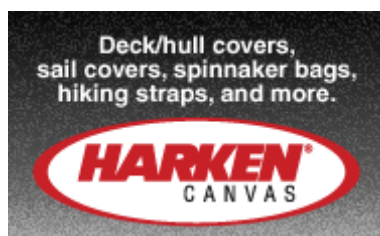
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MELGES



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Join the ILYA

ILYA and how it molded her into the world class sailor that she is. Thank you all very much for all of your support!

...And we had quality sailing with family and friends and, well, really good parties! David Perrigo recognized volunteers at the ILYA Champs who have enhanced the experience for all of us over the years. A huge shout out to them for all of their service! However, at the Champs I realized something. That the ILYA is more than the sum of its parts. The sailors, their families, their crews, the volunteers, the RC, the Fleet Reps, the Bilge Pullers and the Board of Directors all pull together to make every regatta and the ILYA more than special. It is a conspicuous example of teamwork that we should all be proud to be a part of.

That said, we are an association of member clubs. On big lakes and small, from elaborate yacht clubs to a tent pitched in a state park, our member clubs and their sailors provide our lifeblood. So I ask you, ILYA members and faithful Scowlines readers, to take a moment and reflect upon your summer. Think of a club you visited, sailed, or experienced some of their members' hospitality and their uniqueness as a member club. If any of those clubs stood out in a memorable and remarkable way, I invite you to nominate them as Club of the Year. Please write a paragraph and submit your nomination to me at dberg@ilya.org by Friday October 28th. I will compile the nominations and present them to the Executive Committee so that they can nominate the club that made a lasting impact on the ILYA this year. There are many deserving nominees, however, the committee will narrow its choice down to 3 and the final winner will be announced at the Fall meeting, November 5th at Harken in Pewaukee in conjunction with the other Association awards and the induction of Bill Allen and Donald James Williquette into the ILYA hall of fame. Andy Burdick has told us numerous times that throughout all of his travels, there is no association like the ILYA. Nominate a Club and come and join us for a weekend of education and celebration of who and what we are. Look forward to seeing you there.

David Berg
Executive Director - ILYA
dberg@ilya.org
(847)-675-6434
P.O. Box 662
East Troy, WI, 53120-0662

[Register for Dues](#)
www.ILYA.org

September

17-18 C Blue Chip - Okauchee
 North Lake MC Fall
 Lake Fenton C Scow Event
 22-25 E Blue Chip - Pewaukee
 24-25 Lotawana C
 Beulah C Challenge

October

1-2 Polar Bear - Davenport, IA
 8-9 C Worlds - Delavan
 Oktoberfest - Nagawicka

November

5-6 ILYA Winter Inland and
 Board Meeting - Harken, Inc,
 Pewaukee

2017

April

21-23 Black Tie - It's Back -
 Rush Creek, Tx

June

TBD WI MC Champs -
 Nagawicka

July

20-23 MC Masters Nationals -
 Cedar, WI

Bowers Commits to another Quad

Japan on the Horizon

Hello Everyone!

I'm writing to announce the start of my Tokyo 2020 Olympic effort. I am continuing on in the Laser class. My motivation is to simply be the best in the world in one of the purest forms of sailboat racing. In mid-October, I'll be traveling to Japan for Enoshima Olympic Week. The regatta takes place at the venue for the 2020 Olympic Regatta. I'll be accompanied by my US Sailing Teammates Charlie Buckingham and Chris Barnard. Mark Littlejohn will be coaching. After Japan, training camps are scheduled for Long Beach. As always, the end of January will feature Sailing World Cup Miami. As the fall progresses, the full 2017 schedule will become clear.

My last update was back at the end of July, almost 8 weeks ago. The topic was final preparation during the last Rio training camp prior to the Olympic Games. I was optimistic about the medal chances for the US Olympic Sailing Team.

At the Olympics, there were curveballs. One of the launch venue's ramps collapsed less than a week before racing started. Racing conditions included a raging westerly breeze for a couple days. It was puffy and shifty "seat of the pants" racing inside the Bay, while conditions outside the Bay were barely raceable with wind into the high 20s with waves 10-14 feet high. Conditions settled down after a couple gnarly days. I followed the racing closely online feeling like someone watching "their team" compete in the Super Bowl. A 10-day Super Bowl that is. It was hard to watch my teammates putting it on the line in the Olympic arena.

At the end of Olympic competition, US Sailors finished in the top 10 in 6 of the classes. Medal opportunities were available in 2 classes. One bronze medal was won by Caleb Paine in the Finn Class. In the Men's Laser, USA representative Charlie Buckingham finished 11th out of 46.

My biggest take away lesson was just how important the first two days of racing are.
 When there are 10 total fleet races, 1 medal race (top 10 boats

only), and one throwout, there's a minimum benchmark to hit in the first 4 races. In the Laser, it's roughly this: 2 good races (top 7), 1 mediocre (mid to late teens), 1 bad race (throwout). Missing this benchmark almost guaranteed getting washed out of medal contention. It is so critical to have at least two positive racing exposures early in the regatta. Things are open and everyone is still on edge.

Since my July update, I've been quite busy. I actually wrote it from the Columbia River Gorge in Oregon, two days before the Laser North American Championship started. At the North Americans, there were 3 qualifying spots available for the 2017 Laser Worlds. I had a rough start to the windy 4 day event, taking both of my throwouts in the first 2 races. Undeterred, I chipped away over the next three days to finish a solid 2nd overall. This qualified me for the August 2017 World Championship in Croatia. So I've got that going for me, which is nice.

Upon returning home to Minnesota at the end of July, coincidence met opportunity and I found myself helming a borrowed boat in the 30 boat Yngling North American Championship on Lake Minnetonka. The Yngling, a former Olympic class, is a small 3-person keelboat. I'd never sailed one before. My two crew members were Katie Travers and Mark Werley. We had never met but were excited to race. It was a total learn on the fly experience. After 7 races and one throwout, we tied for first but lost the tiebreak, finishing 2nd.

Next came a blitz of E Scow racing from mid August to mid September. E Scows are some of the best one design racing in the country. The racing at regattas unfolds at a very fast pace just like the Laser. It was great to sail again with my awesome E Scow teammates Mike Woldum and Maclean Potts. The first regatta was the ILYA Championship at Lake Geneva the 3rd week of August. 58 boats were competing. 5 races were completed in medium to heavy breeze. We finished 3rd overall, marking the 4th straight year we've finished in the top 5. Three weeks later came the Nationals on Lake Minnetonka, September 9 to 11. 70 boats were racing with 6 races total; 1 in light air and 5 in medium to heavy air. We struggled with starting and putting together good races. We finished 10th overall. I gained some valuable lessons for better starting and decision making in a 70 boat fleet.

I am very excited about Tokyo 2020. Four years ago at this time, I was very green and inexperienced. Didn't know what I

didn't know. Tried to keep my head down and work hard along the way. There were ups and downs, bumps and bruises, but I kept focused on the things that gave me the best chances. At the Selection Trials I had a good fight with Charlie Buckingham. It took 18 races out of 20 before the Trials were decided in his favor. My runner up finish earned me Olympic alternate status.

This second effort begins with me in a much more advantageous position. My skill level and understanding of the game are so much stronger than 4 years ago. I'm immediately training with the best sailors and coaches in the US. It is going to be a long process, but I'm keen to grab each opportunity on the way to the 2020 Olympic Games.

Thank you for all your support over the last 4 years. I hope you will follow my journey on the way to the 2020 Olympics.

Cheers,
Erik

Lake Fenton Fall C

	1st Race	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total	Standing
LF 3 Walt Litzbarski	1	1	1	1	2	M 6	1
SL 0 Glen Walburn	2	2	4	2	1	M 11	2
LF 1 Mike Casler	3	3	2	3	3	14	3
ER 54 Matt Poile	5	4	3	4	6	22	4
LF 111 Scott Craig	4	5	6	5	4	M 24	5
WO 101 Cameron Shillington	6	6	5	6	5	28	6
LF 18 Jim Taylor	7	7	7	8	7	M 36	7
LF 31 Bob Oulette	8	8	8	7	8	M 39	8

Roble Begins WIM Challenge in Sheboygan

The Women's International Match Racing Series

The Women's Match Racing World Championship. The Buddy Melges Challenge. Three coveted and prestigious events in a perfect match, beginning on Lake Michigan tomorrow. WIM Series Champion Stephanie Roble and US Women's Match Racing Champion Nicole Breault are the local hopes, here to defend the Stars & Stripes: "This is our home event and we love coming here. We all learned how to matchrace here in

Sheboygan, and we're ready to finish first here" says Stephanie Roble.

"We're really excited to have this chance to race some of the top female match racers in the world" says Nicole Breault. All 27 sailors in nine teams enjoyed the most perfect sailing conditions during Tuesday's practise sessions on Lake Michigan with moderate winds and bright sunshine just outside the Sheboygan Yacht Club and the Sheboygan South Pier. But the forecast for the remainder of the week isn't that promising, with some showers and maybe thunder expected: "You can get just about anything out there. We've had a lot of light air days, so we anticipate some of that. But you can also see fog, or six foot swell and 20 knots of breeze. That's the beauty of Lake Michigan, it's totally unpredictable" says Maggie Shea, crewing for Roble in Epic Racing.

Tomorrow all the crews will go into race mode, beginning the event with a double round-robin, followed by quarterfinals and semis later in the week, and then the final on Sunday. Sheboygan hosts one of only four U.S. Sailing Centers, and is the site for international match racing. Sail Sheboygan and SEAS have been very instrumental in the development of women's match racing, not just in the USA, but also worldwide: "The Sheboygan Yacht Club is honoured and excited to be hosting a 2016 WIM Series event and the World Championship. Our members are supporting this event in a variety of ways, from race management and umpiring to shore support and community outreach. We look forward to meeting the competitors and showing them that Sheboygan Yacht Club truly is "The friendliest club on Lake Michigan!" states Denise Cornell, Vice Commodore of the Sheboygan Yacht Club.

In Sheboygan the competitors will race in the Elliott 6m, in the exact same fleet of boats that were used in the 2012 Olympics. Sail Sheboygan takes great pride in the maintenance of their fleet of boats, and probably the sailors will not find a better maintained and fairer fleet of boats anywhere in the world.

Inland Lake Yaching Association, PO Box 311, Fontana, WI 53125

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