

Spring Meeting updates for all members 14th April 2019

Despite the rainy weather the spring meeting had an excellent turnout and the meeting room was full. Thanks to all the members who came and renewed their membership - the treasurer reports the first membership deposit for the 2019 season was very healthy.

The commodore thanked long time club members Brian and Ann Hersey for their many years of service to the club. Ann served on the executive as the Supply Captain but stepped down last year when Brian was in a serious car accident. The club is glad to see that Brian has made a significant recovery and look forward to seeing Ann and Brian at the club with their special light blue BLSC T-shirts.

Other highlights from the meeting included the news that the club has made a substantial investment in the club buildings by having a new shingle roof installed on the clubhouse and the garages updated. The garages both have eavestroughs and the maintenance garage has a new shingled roof and easy open garage door. Inside the clubhouse, members will find a new kitchen counter and faucet. These upgrades address the issue of rodents and moisture getting into the buildings. The club was able to sell the metal roof which helped with the overall cost of the building upgrades.



The membership captain shared the good news that the club is almost completely full but with a few members selling their boats or moving there are some open spots for members who have been on a waiting list from the fall and new members. This good news is also reflected in the budget that the treasurer shared.

Other news shared include an explanation of the four membership participation tasks and that to save the club's machines the main area grass cutting will be done once a week by Garafraxa Turf. Last season the club encountered many instances of the riding and push mowers requiring maintenance including some expensive

repairs. Members are still expected to cut the grass under their boat regularly and to remove any debris (rocks, bricks, wood, bungee cords etc.) from the grass to prevent damage to the lawn mowers.

Racing plans for the season including training sessions for any member who wants to help out with racing (no experience needed to time races or change the flags) on May 12 "Intro to Racing Day" 1 pm with BBQ approx. 430 pm and June 2 PRO training for racers – 10 am start. Racing will run Sundays at 2 pm and Wednesdays at 630 pm. This year members can choose race duty as their participation task so we hope to see more non-racing members help with the running of the club's fun participation weekly races. Racing starts May 5 and May 8.

Members were also reminded about the federal government requirements that lead the Club to request that members provide their PCOC (Pleasure Craft Operator Card) on their membership form this year. "In Canada, if you operate a boat with a motor and use it for recreation, you need proof of competency — something that shows you have a basic understanding of how to operate your boat safely and know what to do in an emergency. Proof of competency is required with all motor types (including electric trolling motors) and even when the motor is not in use (such as when sailing)." As the club operates 2 powerboats the club has to ensure that the boats are operated by members who have a valid PCOC. Members who have a boat with any type of motor are encouraged to have their PCOC while operating the boat (A paper or electronic copy of a PCOC is NOT acceptable.) More information available [here](#).

There is a full events schedule for the 45th Anniversary with the kick-off being the weekend of May 4 & 5.

May 4 – Club opening work party, 9 am – 1 pm (bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to share) We hope to have a large turnout of members to rake the grounds, clean the buildings and move the picnic tables and Muskoka chairs. Members can also renew their membership.

May 5 – Boat sale and open house, **10 am -1 pm**; **last day for Early Bird membership discount**

Thanks to the many members who have registered a boat in the sale - it's not too late to enter your boat; trailer or motor; just email to register.

Frances Norlen

Publicity Captain