

**Midwest District Championship
Sheboygan Yacht Club/Sail Sheboygan – Fleet 187
Sheboygan, Wisconsin
June 25–26, 2016**

Pos	Sail#	Skipper	Crew	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	15390	Todd Wake	Kristine Wake, Bret Leibmann	1	1	1	2	5
2	15480	Bill Faude	Kate Hayes, JuJu Senfft	2	4	3	3	12
3	15493	Richard Walsh	Tina Walsh, Alex Cox	5	2	12	1	20
4	14938	David Stix	Amy Simonson, William Gibson	3	6	5	6	20
5	15342	Hans Graf	Jonathan Meins	10	3	2	9	24
6	15543	Doug Wake	Noah Bartelt, Meredith Ryan	4	5	9	7	25
7	13901	Michael Laing	Christopher Laing, Kristin Reeser	6	12	6	5	29
8	15064B	Jason Bemis	Isabel Buerger, Cabell Sitter	9	11	4	8	32
9	15262	Whitney Kent	Claire Dennis, Peter Grimmer	15	8	7	4	34
10	14778	Mike Tennity	Lars Osell, Tori Strutz	8	7	13	10	38
11	15158	Peter Orlebeke	Kaleigh Orlebeke, Kim Orlebeke	7	10	8	17	42
12	15585	Doug Steffenson	Brandon Holton, Patrick Keys	13	15	10	11	49
13	15064	Paul Bartelt	Beth Bartelt, Joel LeMehaiu	14	14	11	12	51
14	15301	Denise Cornell		12	9	17	17	55
15	14880	Erik Elliott	Abbey Pomeroy, Zach Meredith	11	13	17	17	58
16	15119	Eric E. Larson	Eric A. Larson, Brian F. Steiner	16	16	14	17	63

Districts Report
6-29-2016
Doug Wake

This year, the Sheboygan Yacht Club and Fleet 187 saw a competitive 16 boat fleet, the best turnout in years, for its District Championship. The headliner in this fleet was an incredible presence of young sailors, stirred up by Whitney Kent. Whitney managed to find crew for 6 boats via her WISCO sailing connections. This was beneficial to all as we had more sailors, thus more boats, and Whitney wasn't stuck hanging out with "old guys" like Bill and Todd. Aside from this all, Sheboygan delivered pristine conditions, barring one fog delay, making the whole weekend full of solid racing.

Saturday opened with an abnormally warm and un-foggy condition for set-up. Fleet 187 provided a full breakfast and sailors fueled up before heading out. Racing started with a 9 knot Southerly and light chop. The right side was heavily favored, and Todd Wake and team stretched their legs to gain a comfortable win. Race 2 had slightly more breeze, with the same right favor. T. Wake won yet again, followed by Richard Walsh. After this, the Race committee was more determined to level the playing field, as the right corner was the only way to win. The course was shifted aggressively inshore in an effort to eliminate this issue. More wind filled for what was to be the final race of the day. As the thermal strengthened, this one was sailed in 18 kts. sustained and gusts in the mid-twenties. Lightning sailors were battling kiteboarders for space on the lake. For a final time, Todd Wake and team pushed hard and won in a landslide. One can attribute this to a skill Todd mentioned at the debrief. In these tough conditions, he, "just drove faster", which seems like a technique that is easy to replicate. The final run brought some excitement, as Richard Walsh and Denise Cornell capsized, strewn some carnage across the course. Due to a lack of many safety boats, the RC decided to end the day, and all teams receded to shore. A post racing debrief was called into order shortly after the yacht club set out chips and guac. Todd Wake told everyone to focus and drive faster, while Whitney Kent was made to introduce her friends and Bill Faude provided "colorful" commentary. Dinner was awesome, per the norm, and those of us short hitters went home and quickly to bed. From what I could make out, the young and hip crowd had a bonfire on the beach before shuffling back to Whitney Kent and Juju Senfft's apartment.

Fog greeted the fleet on Sunday, which seemed eerily familiar to years past. Everyone found their own entertainment, and boredom was seldom found. Doug Steffenson and team went on an adventure sail up the river, while a heated match race series culminated in the inner harbor. Youth and college sailors tried their hand against near Olympic match racer and Brazilian sailing hot-shot Juju Senfft in O-pen Bics around a 150 foot course. This series ended with Senfft taking a 2-1 series over Doug Wake. During the final match race, it was announced that fog was clearing. A strong thermal breeze had filled and was ripping over the racing area. Teams geared up and headed out to find 15 knots and moderate chop. Todd Wake lead for 3.5 legs before Richard Walsh sailed on by to take the gun. A Westerly was conflicting with the Southerly thermal, making the final legs odd for many teams. The wind, which was previously strong, shut off and went in circles. This was all the racing to be had on Sunday, and the regatta had concluded. By the time the teams hit shore, the temperature had shot up into the high eighties and gear was shed quickly. Awards were handed out with Richard and Tina Walsh with Alex Cox in third, Bill Faude with Juju Senfft and Kate Hayes in Second, and Todd and Kristine Wake with Bret Leibmann taking the victory. Doug Wake won the newly instated junior district championship, sitting in sixth in the regatta. All sailors and organizers extend a huge thank-you to our race committee, volunteers, and extraordinarily hospitable members and staff of the Sheboygan Yacht Club. We hope to see you all for the 2016 Brotz Regatta in Sheboygan on August 27-28.