

An Invitation to the Canadian Open Championship and Canadian PANAM Trials

All of us here in Fleet 90 at Kitsilano Yacht Club are extremely excited to be hosting the Canadian Open Lightning Championship and now the Canadian PANAM Trials. It's a great opportunity for us as a fleet and club to be able to showcase the amazing sailing to be had in English Bay and to showcase what the Lightning Fleet as a whole has to offer to prospective new sailors in the region.



Established in 1934, Kitsilano Yacht Club is located in Vancouver's Kitsilano neighborhood, and truly is a hidden gem. Located next to Kitsilano Beach Park, it is a very short walk to the beach and to the outdoor public pool to cool off after a day of sailing, if a dip in the ocean isn't your thing that is. KYC's position on English Bay provides access to world class sailing with the Bay's consistent westerly wind. However, at times this venue can provide a truly unique sailing experience, with strong tides and huge ocean freighters making for challenging and dynamic racing.

Lightnings have been a part of the KYC since the mid 1940s and remain an integral part to this day. Interest has ebbed and flowed over the years, as most of you know, however, Lightnings remain a boat that is forgiving and friendly to newcomers, and the helpful and welcoming nature of the fleet and class makes it an excellent choice for those that are looking for a "first foray" into racing.

Large Regattas, like the Canadian Open are a great way to gain interest in the fleet and racing in general. I was lucky enough to have been asked to crew for one of our local skippers down in San Diego for the 2018 North American Championships. The following season my wife and I bought our Lightning. It is our hope that, hosting the Canadian Open Championship in the

Pacific Northwest, will similarly garner interest in the fleets here and help us continue to grow into the future.



It's been a long time since the Canadian Open Championship has been held in Vancouver and as a relatively new member of the fleet this will be my first one. I know I can speak for all of us

here at KYC, and Scott Point in saying we very much look forward to hosting any boats that are willing and able to make the trip out to Vancouver. We understand that the distance is a factor and cost is also an issue. But if there is anything that we can do to help make this easier, please do not hesitate to reach out. July is a fantastic time to be in Vancouver and one of the best times of the year to sail! Here's to some great sailing ahead.

Ian Weekes
Fleet Captain
Lightning Fleet 90

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

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English Bay Weather:

[KYC weather station](#)

[English Bay Tides](#)

<https://jsca.bc.ca/services/weather/>

[Jericho Sailing Center Webcam](#)

Tourism Links:

<https://www.destinationvancouver.com/>

<https://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/kitsilano-beach.aspx>

<https://www.capbridge.com/>