

1997 World Championship Report

— DAVE BROWN

Canadian Yacht Association's Race Management Manual (1997) replaces the "Guide for Principal Events" (Appendix C3) in the 1997 Rule Book. It is the "Bible" for those of us who have an interest in organizing major regattas. One paragraph of particular importance reads:

There is one essential element that determines in large measure how the regatta will be judged by its participants. This is the degree to which visitors are made to feel welcome by regatta workers, club members, officials, local merchants, and others in the community. This job cannot be assigned to a committee or included in the budget. Yet it can be discussed in the planning process and should be considered in making decisions. It is everyone's job.

With this thought in mind, and my intimate knowledge of Pointe Claire Yacht Club, I accepted the responsibilities of the Co-Chairperson for the 1997 Lightning Worlds. Peter Hall (Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club, Lightning World Champion 1989, and Past President of FVQ) and Tony McBride (Pointe Claire Yacht Club, and past President of the International Lightning Class Association) were the prime driving force in bringing the Worlds to Montreal. Peter assured us of good participation from Europe and South America; Tony said he would fire the guns. I planned to ensure that everyone would leave with very positive memories when the racing was finished. In 1994 Tony, Peter and I submitted a 15-page proposal throughout the lightning community. In 1995 the selection committee chose Montreal over 5 venues in North America.

We selected early June to hold the event because Lac. St. Louis normally enjoys good wind and no weeds at that time of the year, overriding the associated negatives of cold water and extra current. We realized quickly that our estimated budget of \$25,000 needed to be increased and we scrambled for sponsorship to obtain a total of \$40,000. Bell Mobility became our prime sponsor with numerous other companies and organizations providing much needed support of cash and goods. Thus, we were able to hold the entry fee to \$250.00 (US Funds) per boat and provide both an opening and closing dinner.

Although the Lightning Class is one of the most competitive of the non-Olympic classes it is still a fun boat that promotes a family atmosphere. Pointe Claire Yacht Club, with



—The winners: Larry Mac Donald, Jody Swanson and Ian Jones with their support team!

its many volunteers, proved an ideal host club in its dedication to competitive sailing and having fun. With a lot of help from many sources we accomplished the following:

- Had a race committee consisting of 45 people.

- Organized a highly competitive (but not formally constituted) international jury who were all up to date and comfortable with the new rules.

- Set up the measurement in our barn with the scale suspended from the ceiling, and the templates for the measurement on waist-high tables, resulting in a pleasant work environment with no worries about wind or rain.

- Laid out a social program, which gave everyone a chance to meet Lightning sailors from around the world and to enjoy the night-life of Montreal.

- Organized 10 charter boats for European and South American competitors.

- Provided free housing for more than 20 teams.

- Maintained close relations with the local media resulting

in continuous exposure on TV and in the local newspapers.

- Raised money through the sale of regatta shirts.

All of our efforts resulted in the following:

- Winner: Larry MacDonald Jr., Canada, followed by Chile, USA, Brazil and Canada.

- Competitors: 58 boats from 9 countries.

- Organizers: A group of over 100 volunteers handled most duties and only a few employees from both yacht clubs were needed to operate rescue boats.

- Weather: Light easterly or variable winds on 5 of the 6 racing days with plenty of sunshine. Great for the spectators but challenging for the competitors and the race committee.

- Rules: There were no hearings regarding right of way. The jury did observe approximately 10 boats taking penalties on the water.



—The runners up: Manuel Gonzales Mas, Juan Francisco Novion and German Novion.

- Black Flag: Race #4 did not get started smoothly. In winds of 5-8 knots with minor shifts the sequence of events was as follows:

1. general recall
2. general recall with I flag
3. general recall with Z flag resulting in 20% penalty to 10 boats
4. general recall with black flag resulting in disqualification for 8 boats.
5. clean start

The jury was very active that evening responding to numerous requests for redress and answering the query "What happened?" Tony McBride and his race committee had done such a good job of timing, flying the appropriate flags, recording the events on audio and video tape recorders that all requests by competitors were quietly dropped when they saw and heard what had actually transpired.

Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club and Pointe Claire Yacht Club are proud of having hosted a successful Lightning World Championship Regatta. •

— This article was written by Dave Brown for the Canadian Yachting Association's newsletter.



1997

June 8-13 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

POINTE CLAIRE YACHT CLUB AND ROYAL ST. LAWRENCE YACHT CLUB • MONTREAL, QUEBEC

58 Boats from 8 Countries, 5 Races, No Throwout

Place	Country & Sail #	Skipper/Crew Names	Race 1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	CAN 14834	Larry MacDonald, Jody Swanson, Ian Jones	1	8	8	13	11	41
2	CHI 14709	Manuel Gonzalez, Juan Francisco Novion, German Novion	3	1	6	20	13	43
3	USA 14763	Tim Healy, Maria White, Bill Healy	5	10	2	8(20%)	7	44
4	BRA 12657	Manfred Kaufmann, Renato Kaufmann, Anna Luiza Osser	26	4	1	24	6	61
5	CAN 14591	Al Boucher, Mark Rotsaert, Terry Line	18	6	11	5(20%)	10	62
6	USA 14752	Steve Hayden, Barr Batzer, David Hood	40	3	3	14	4	64
7	USA 14740	Bill Faude, Jared Drake, Susan Daly	14	21	16	11	8	70
8	BRA 14203	Claudio Biekarck, Gunnar Ficker, Marcelo Batista Da Silva	33	13	5	19	1	71
9	USA 14821	Ched Proctor, Ned Roseberry, Carisa Harris	8	9	33	12	14	76
10	USA 14345	George Fisher, Tom Emch, Laura Milne	11	7	13	16	31	78
11	CAN 14507	Jim Cameron, Janice Allard-Cameron, Richard Walsh	12	26	29	3	9	79
12	USA 14589	Brian Taboada, Larry Colantuono, Joe Starck	25	15	7	26	12	85
13	CAN 13927	J.F. Simard, Marc Robin, Stephane Arsenaault	4	25	30	2	33	94
14	ARG 11649	Hector Longarela, Hugo Longarela, Javier Lopez	49	12	22	9	3	95
15	USA 14045	Matt Fisher, Sjoerd-Jan Vanderhorst, Joyce Ferguson	15	23	4	60	5	107
16	CAN 14768	Peter Hall, Katherine Josenhans, Neal Burnham	17	20	17	38	17	109
17	USA 14678	David Starck, Kevin Robinson, Heidi Thoma	10	17	34	22(20%)	16	111
18	USA 14774	Dan Norton, Linda Norton, Jeff Hagman	2	5	25	60	20	112
19	USA 14746	Brian Hayes, Carter Utzig, Allison Peter	21	19	26	29	19	114
20	USA 14807	Jim Allen, Tom Allen Jr, Jane Allen	9	11	54	18(20%)	15	119
21	USA 14428	Jim Alman, Vickie Matthews, Christine Bateman	16	16	23	47	24	126
21	USA 14825	Bob Wardwell, Kip Hamblett, Rebecca Sidway	19	41	18	25	23	126
23	USA 14397	Chad Atkins, Adam Burns, Ben Ellcome	22	45	27	7	27	128
24	CHI 11011	Tito Gonzalez, Rodrigo Zuazola, German Schacht	7	2	60	60	2	131
25	CHI 12925	Francisco Perez, Fernando Perez S., Cristobal Perez S.	41	24	43	1	34	143
26	USA 14780	Colin Park, Karen Park, Becky Nelson	32	43	9	23	39	146
27	USA 14814	Jack Huntsman, Theresa Colantuono, Brad Thompson	6	38	35	41	28	148
28	USA 14798	Bill Fastiggi, Curt Felix, Lesley Frymier	35	27	19	27(20%)	30	150
29	ECU 14671	Juan Santos, Paco Sola, Arturo Iturralde	43	22	46	4	37	152
30	USA 11754	Frank Atkinson, Jr., Stuart deLisser, Kim Logan	45	34	24	6	44	153
31	USA 14148	Michael Thomas, Stephen Thomas, Bill Thomas	23	44	14	30	43	154
31	USA 14765	Bill Shore, Betsy Altman, Anthony Kotoun	13	37	15	60	29	154
33	USA 14811	Tom Allen Sr., Lisa Brauer/Brenda Crane, Jim Crane	44	31	12	15(20%)	41	155
34	USA 14786	Jon Schwartz, Jon Fiest, Jon Singsen	27	36	38	21(20%)	22	156
35	USA 14799	Andy Horton, Rick Villamil, Dave Smith	24	42	20	37(20%)	25	160
36	USA 14298	Mark Sertl, Cory Sertl, Jean Palm	39	39	10	60	18	166
37	BRA 14602	Michael Norris, Christina Norris, Judy Hanlon	30	14	48	34	46	172
38	FIN 14655	Heikki Hamalanien, Dick Hallagan, Lori Foster	34	18	21	60	40	173
39	ECU 14676	Carlos Lecaro, Jimmy Pazmino, Alejandro Perez S.	47	35	37	10	45	174
40	USA 14779	Jim Davis, Christine Davis, John Heagy	29	32	52	36	35	184
41	CAN 14174	David Sprague, John Sprague, Stephanie Kelly	20	51	32	40	42	185
42	CAN 14176	Tony Staples, Valerie Lavigne, Scott Collins	36	33	41	60	26	196
43	ARG 11037	Roberto Ricoveri, Rolando Turrado, Gabriel Berberian	51	49	31	45	21	197
44	USA 14417	Don Barrett, Donna Barrett, George Wiedermann	38	46	36	33	47	200
45	ECU 1478	Miguel Plaza Jr., Juan Baquerizo, Jose Manuel Gonzalez	52	30	45	42	36	205
45	SUI 13790	Urs Wyler, Walter Durr, Gilbert Durr	42	48	28	43(20%)	32	205
47	CAN 14451	Malcolm Crooks, Craig Baker, David Baker	55	28	56	17	50	206
48	USA 14695	Len Krawcheck, Beau Samuelson, Joe Pitcavage	37	29	47	39	58	210
49	SUI 14482	Peter Graf, Joan Hurban, Gary Hurban	31	47	49	35	52	214
50	CAN 14612	Ross Bailey, Nancy Bailey, Don Shanks	28	40	55	60	38	221
51	ECU 1086	Gaston Vedani, Jose Ferretti, Bruce Lindheim	48	50	42	31(20%)	56	239
52	CAN 14599	Dave Wood, Graham Jones, Paul Olivier	59	59	39	32	51	240
53	FIN 14535	Antero Punttila, Erkki Punttila, Maija Pyy	50	56	40	41	54	241
54	COL 14132	Solmar Bermudez, Roberto Londono, Pedro Londono	46	53	44	46	53	242
55	SUI 14777	Jacques Perret, Thierry Monnier, Jo Ann Jones	56	57	50	28	55	246
56	CAN 14134	Scott Warrenner, Craig Zaluski, Peter Ryerse	54	54	53	44	49	254
57	USA 14743	George Nickels, Traci Nickels, John Kopko	57	55	51	49	48	260
58	BRA 12686	Cid Godoy, Gustavo Loubet G., Marcelo La Motta C.	53	52	57	48	57	267



This Year's Events

