

2012 Championship Reports

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Juniors' North American Championship
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European Championship
Canadian Championship





Youth World Championship

Tuusulanjärven Purjehtijat, Järvenpää, Finland

July 23-27, 2012

Champions: Adam MacDonald, Sam Jones, Abby Bennett



The 2012 Lightning Youth World Championship was hosted by Lightning Fleet 456 at Tuusulanjärvi Lake Sailing Club, and it was an amazing event. It all started with registration and measurement day on Monday, July 23, when the teams all started to show up at the regatta and began to get acquainted with one another. Everyone was very friendly, and the competitors all got to know each other immediately. The teams were all extremely excited, as they were determining their sleeping accommodations for the next week. Some stayed at a hostel up the road from the yacht club, and some of the competitors were lucky enough to be put up in a club member's home.

The organizers and volunteers involved with this process did an exceptional job making sure everyone was accommodated. A big thank-you goes out to all the host families, especially the Karhusaari family who were our host family.

After everyone was settled in, we had dinner and then were off to bed in preparation for the practice race, skippers' meeting and opening ceremonies the following day. Everyone arrived the next morning to draw their team number, which would determine which boat they got. After many pictures, everyone geared up for sailing and went out to sail the practice race. More than half of the fleet was not at the starting area when the race started, so it was a little bit of a skewed race, but it was still a good warm-up to the launching procedures and race course area.

After everyone got in from the practice race, we all showered and changed into our team uniforms for the opening ceremonies, which

were held in a tent beside the sailing club. After speeches from the mayor and other local leaders, we all headed inside for a delicious Finnish meal cooked by the sailing team volunteer staff. After the ceremony and a dinner, the teams all headed back for a good rest, as Tuesday was the first day of racing.

The teams all arrived at the yacht club at around 10:00 AM, and we found out then which boat we would be sailing the first race. Every race, the boat each of us sailed switched, and we had to sign off on a checklist. Some boats were better than others. The boats' hull numbers ranged from about 14000 to some of the newest boats in the 15300s.

The first day conditions were cold, so people suited up in their foul weather gear. The wind was variable but got up to around fourteen knots, which made for some perfect conditions. The racing area was small, and the races were seven legs, with the start and finish in the middle of the lake. After lunch at the nearby hostel, we went out for our third race at around 5:00 PM. Unfortunately, we had a boat whose tanks had been filled during lunch, so our it was extremely heavy, resulting in a poor performance.



MacDonald Team



After coming in, we checked the tanks, and they were full of water, which granted us grounds for redress, which would be an average of our scores from the first two days of racing. The results were very close, and with six races left, it was still anybody's regatta.

That evening there was a volleyball tournament scheduled, but since the racing went on for so long, the tournament was moved to the following evening. All of the teams were exhausted from the full day and grabbed dinner before an early bedtime.

The next day was very similar to the last, except it was a lot warmer, and the wind was a little lighter. We were fortunate enough to get better boats for both races and had a great day.

That evening there was a volleyball tournament, foursquare, a portable sauna, and a stir fry. The night ended, and with five out of the eight races completed, and the competition was getting very fierce. There were a couple of protests that resulted in some changes to the scores, which altered the results slightly. There were still two days scheduled, but the forecast did not look promising.

The next morning the lake looked very flat, and the races were postponed until around 4:00 PM when the wind came up, and we all went out to the course. There was only one race in very shifty conditions, and we did not fair very well, but it was enough to maintain our lead.

There was a trip to Helsinki scheduled for the night, and that meant that protests were moved to the following morning, allowing for everyone to participate in the outing. The entire group journeyed by coach bus to the hotel, where we enjoyed a delicious buffet before trekking through the streets of Helsinki to our pickup location right in the centre of town. Overall, it was a very fun night, and everyone returned that evening to get a good night sleep in preparation for the final day of racing.

The last day was very similar to the previous and was dead calm upon arrival to the club. They postponed the race for the protests, even though there was no wind. The protests went on for a while, and at around 12:45 we all headed out to the calm lake to be prepared if any wind did filter in.

Our team was very nervous at this time since we held the lead by a small margin of 0.7 points over Timmy Crann. No race could start after 3:00 PM, so we were counting down the minutes. Eventually, in what seemed like forever, they called off the races, and the regatta was concluded.

The awards were fun and the trophies were exquisite. Many dignitaries spoke, as well as Ian Jones representing our club, the Buffalo Canoe Club, which is hosting the next Junior Worlds. After the awards ceremonies, the teams all said their good byes and parted ways.

A big thank-you to everyone who helped makes the regatta a success. To name a few people: Erik Hartman the regatta organizer, Sakari the person in charge of boats and his team, the entire Race Committee, all of the judges. Also thank you to all the competitors for making the event so much fun and very competitive, and congrats to runner-up Timmy Crann and his team.

Finally, a special thank-you to everyone who was supporting us at our club, as well as the people who devoted their time to help us: Debbie Probst, Larry MacDonald, David Stark, Jody Stark, Ian Jones and Kevin Robinson, as well as the rest of Fleet 12. The regatta win was also special to our team because my grandfather, Larry MacDonald Sr., started the event in Peru in 1978, and it has been held every two years since then. Overall, the regatta was a ton of fun and the friendships that were made and the memories we shared will certainly last a lifetime. We look forward to seeing even more teams and countries in 2014 at the Buffalo Canoe Club for the next Junior Worlds!

Adam MacDonald





2012 Youth World

| Pos | Sail | Skipper | Crew |
|-----|--------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | CAN/14895 | MacDonald Adam | Bennett Abby & Jones Sam |
| 2 | USA/15122 | Crann Timmy | Jones Lauren & Blumenthal Ali |
| 3 | USA/15202(3) | Gemperline Mike | Vining Scott & Wallace Stuart |
| 4 | ITA/13462 | Saladino Alessandro | Arcovito Luca & Cusinotta Carlo |
| 5 | BRA/15333 | Lowy Manzoli Martin | Egon Essle Alexander & Gonzalez Gil Victor |
| 6 | USA/15417 | Godfrey Connor | Markarian Brian & Ring John H. |
| 7 | ECU/1 | Ignacio Cordovez Jose | Enrique Fierro & Alejandro Santos |
| 8 | USA/15246 | Moloney Christine | MacDonald Julianne & Oak Kayla |
| 9 | CHI/11011 | Gonzalez Alberto Jr | Kuhlenthal Ian & Fantuzzi Angel |
| 10 | FIN/15281 | Hartman Rosemarie | Aromaa Pirta & Saari Paulus |
| 11 | FIN/15331 | Aalto Pyry | Suutari-Jääskö Eeli & Suolahti Laura |
| 12 | FIN/15341 | Lappalainen Aleks | Aalto Matti & Hartman Rosabella |
| 13 | BRA/5333 | Teodoro Soazade Paula Joao | Muller Poleto Guilherme & Gustavo Hedler Ferreira Luiz |
| 14 | GRE/15093 | Fotiadoy Nephelie | Stamatakis Manos & Nomikos Panagiotis |
| 15 | GRE/15245 | Leventi Alexandri | Kyriakou Melina & Marangos Apollon |
| 16 | FIN/15415 | Tuomas Nurmi | Sakari Nurmi & Henrik Lilja |





Championship

| R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | Total | Nett |
|-------|------|------|------|----------|-------|-------|------|
| 2 | 3 | RDG | 3 | 1 | (7) | 18.3 | 11.3 |
| 3 | 2 | 3 | (4) | 3 | 1 | 16 | 12 |
| 6 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | (OCS) | 38 | 21 |
| 7 | 5 | 8 | (12) | 2 | 3 | 37 | 25 |
| 4 | 6 | 4 | 7 | (DSQ) | 5 | 43 | 26 |
| 1 | RDG | 6 | 1 | (RAF) | DSQ | 45 | 28 |
| (DSQ) | 9 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 47 | 30 |
| 11 | 10 | (13) | 2 | 6 | 2 | 44 | 31 |
| (8) | 7 | 5 | 5 | RDG(6.3) | 8 | 39.3 | 31.3 |
| 9 | (11) | 10 | 11 | 9 | 4 | 54 | 43 |
| (13) | 12 | 7 | 10 | 5 | 9 | 56 | 43 |
| 5 | RDG | 11 | 9 | (13) | 13 | 61 | 48 |
| 10 | 8 | 12 | (14) | 11 | 10 | 65 | 51 |
| 14 | 14 | 14 | (16) | 7 | 11 | 76 | 60 |
| 12 | (15) | 15 | 15 | 12 | 12 | 81 | 66 |
| 15 | 16 | 16 | 13 | (DNF) | 14 | 91 | 74 |





Youth World Championship



Champions: Sam Jones, Adam MacDonald, Abby Bennett



Team USA



Team Italy



Team Brazil



Team Ecuador



Team Finland



Team Greece



Team Greece



Team Finland



Team Ecuador



Team Brazil



Team Italy



Team USA