

Quinte SailAbility

Accessible

Active

Affordable

Annual Report 2014

Quinte SailAbility is a sailing school for persons with a physical or developmental disability, regardless of age or degree of disability. Founded in 2001 and serving the greater Quinte area, it has grown to be the second largest school of its type in Ontario. It operates out of the CFB Trenton Yacht Club. Its goal is to be accessible, affordable and active. Through the use of technology, barriers are eliminated, providing the therapeutic benefits of sailing on one's own. Our core product is self esteem and confidence.

Overview

2014 was a good year, though it did have some staff and equipment issues. We had 36 seasonal members, down slightly. Adding in outreach and therapeutic programs we had a 119 people going through our programs. Sailing sessions were down mainly due to reduced enrollment, fewer regattas and camps/therapeutic programs were down due weather. No one went to Mobility Cup. We also had some racers lose sight of what we are, resulting in the re establishment of our philosophy statement. This statement has been reviewed with all staff to ensure our operations, teaching and resource allocation is in line. See attached. Total sailing sessions were down 24% . Due to reduced membership, weather, and a reduction in racing. Split between physical and developmental disabilities was the same as in 2013, 49% physical and 51 % developmental. We welcomed a new treasurer, Margaret Pierinicka

Financial

We overspent the Operations by \$1836 due to high maintenance and part replacements costs . Capital budgets were still within our fund raising activity. Revenue was over budget, resulting in a \$1821 surplus . Our saving for upcoming capital expenditures are in good shape as we plan to replace the dock shed and older coach boat in 2015, both of which are at the end of their service life.

Awards Dinner

Sailor of the Year – Cansail- Not awarded
Sailor of the Year - Recreational – Not awarded
Most Improved Sailor Cansail– Jeff Lyle
Most Improved Sailor - Recreational – Ryan Letford
John Rymes Award - Sandy Watson

The John Gower Award – Bret Lyons
Case Downs Memorial Award- Riley Gonrad-Rosser
Undaunted Award - Ben Pelletier
Youth Volunteer – Not awarded
Volunteer of the Year - Charlie & Sandy Hearn

Operations

We added one new boats a CL 14 which is our first non-adaptive boat to our fleet. The boat is to provide a new learning and sailing experience to those with a developmental disability or high functioning physical disability. We spent the summer insuring staff where comfortable with so that the plan can be implemented next year. Richard Johnson the President of the UK Challenger Class Association visited and was very impressed with our operation and use of the boat. The Yacht Club's weed reduction program is working well and very few weed problems. Unfortunately the weeds that are there restrict the channel entrance and hence there is still a need for towing. Equipment faults were high, some to preventable staff performance. Through the generosity of the Rope Store we have indoor storage for our 2 coach boats and committee boat. The facility also allows for work to be done on them in the off season.

Sailing Equipment

4 Access 2.3

1 Liberty

4 Martin 16

1 Challenger Trimeran

1 CL14 Our first non-adaptive boat

Training

We continued as a Cansail Centre, one of 4 able sail schools to do so.

Staff

No changes to numbers with two new staff members and Program Assistant upgrading to instructor, resulting in all staff being new to their jobs. Never had two new instructors in one year and it proved to be a challenge. We did not do enough pre season training and planning and it showed. There was never any safety issues, however over all performance suffered but did improve as the season progressed. Regardless the interaction with the

students was very good. The junior instructor will not be returning and the Dock Supervisor is upgrading to instructor. A current volunteer is replacing her. There are plans to spend more time working with and train staff over the winter to ensure we return to our high performance standards.

Volunteers

Volunteers continue to be a key component of the success of Quinte SailAbility. We continue to draw upon the expertise and labour of the volunteers who provide boat and facility improvements, maintenance, marketing and dock side safety and assistance.

We had sufficient adult volunteers to cover all 10 weeks . Military volunteers continued to provide most of the dock assistant duties. In total 51 volunteers put in 1801 hours.

The teenage volunteers continued to be valuable part of the volunteer program. The teen volunteer program is a major contributor to keeping staff costs down while providing a positive and safe environment for teens.