Western Y Weekend 2023

The 8th annual Western Y Weekend was held Aug 4-6. It was a celebration of the Y Flyer sailboat and all who sail them. The main event was the Western Canadian Y Flyer Championship, a series of six races held over two days. It was contested by six well-sailed Ys: four from Itaska Yacht Club and two from St. Mary's Sailing Club. The winds were light and shifty. Most races were close and the lead changed often. In the end, it was a first-place tie between the Y Flyers of the Mitchell and Mckenzie families. Congratulations to Bob and Kristen and to Gord and Amelie! It was fun to have several young sailors in Ys this year: Lucas and Andrew Kachmar, Andy Sperling, and winning crews Kristen and Amelie. And Y Flyer friends, Janet and Laura, kept us company on the water in their Tasar.

| Place | Boat | Skipper | Crew | Club | #1 | #2 | #3 | #4 | #5 | #6 | Subtl | Drop | Total |
|------------|------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|------|-------|
| 1 (Tie) | 1043 | Bob Mitchell | Kristen Mitchell | IYC | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 15 | -5 | 10 |
| 1 (Tie) | 2805 | Gordon McKenzie | Amelie Snowdon | IYC | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 16 | -6 | 10 |
| 3 | 1085 | Richard Quinlan | Dorcas Kennedy | SMSC | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 16 | -4 | 12 |
| 4 | 1093 | Paul Johnston | Andrew Kachmar | IYC | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 20 | -5 | 15 |
| 5 | 1091 | John Haley | Ron Hammerstedt | IYC/SMSC | 6 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 27 | -6 | 21 |
| 6 | 935 | Andy Sperling | Lucas Kachmar | IYC | 5 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 32 | -6 | 26 |

There was a reception supper for visiting sailors, a pizza lunch, barbecue and awards, all hosted at the Johnston cottage. Several people with Y Flyer history visited over the 3 evenings to share their stories.

The success of the Western Y Weekend was thanks to Paul Johnston (planning, facility, and margaritas), Teresa Oram (creation and donation of Y Flyer glasses and coasters, and race officer - assisted by Matt, Israel, Surgei, and Dave), Sue Johnston (purchasing food, posters, and painting official Y Flyer beer fridge), The Haley family (donating cottage accommodation for visiting sailors), and Gordon McKenzie (beach storage for visiting boats). There was no entry fee for the event thanks to the generous sponsorship of Jenaker Construction.

We're already making plans for next year. Bring your Y Flyer, borrow one, or beg your way onto a Y to join us for the 2024 Western Y Weekend on the August long weekend!























