

2023 Race Management and Advisory Board Team

John Abel, International Race Officer, Victoria, BC



John Abel Credentials:

World Sailing International Race Officer
Sail Canada National Race Officer
Race Management Master Course Conductor
Club Judge
Member Sail Canada Race Management Sub-Committee
Championship Coordinator, International Melges 24 Class

John Abel Career Highlights:

Principle Race Officer Sperry Charleston Race Week 2019
Principle Race Officer Swiftsure International Race 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015
Principle Race Officer VanIsle 360 Race 2019, 2017
Principle Race Officer Melges 24 World Championship 2018
Principle Race Officer Melges 24 Canadian Championship 2018
Principle Race Officer Sail Canada Youth Nationals 2017
Principle Race Officer Melges 24 US Nationals 2016
Principle Race Officer Australian Hobie National Championship 2014
Certified Race Officer Melbourne Sailing World Cup 2014

John Abel is a lifelong sailor and member of Royal Victoria Yacht Club. He has competed in numerous keelboat and dinghy classes including the Melges 24, J80, Star, Martin 242, and Soling. In addition to racing, John enjoys cruising on his Beneteau 49 which he recently sailed from Halifax, down the US east coast and through the Caribbean and Panama Canal.

Paul Evenden, National Race Officer, Vancouver, BC



Paul Evenden Credentials:

National Race Officer

Race Management Course Conductor

Paul Evenden Career Highlights:

Principle Race Officer Hobie 16 and Hobie 20 North American Championships 2019

Principle Race Officer BC Summer Games 2018, 2016

District Race Officer Laser North Americans 2017

Area Race Officer 6 Metre Worlds 2017

Principle Race Officer Hobie 16 Youth North Americans 2016

Paul Evenden is a member of the Cultus Lake Sailing Club and COSA (Central Okanagan Sailing Association). In addition to 15 years of race management experience, Paul has over 20 years of racing experience and achieved a 2nd place ranking in all of North America in the Hobie 18 class.

Charlie Macaulay, Chief Engineer, TÜV SÜD Global Risk Consultants, Sammamish, WA



Charlie Macaulay Credentials:

US Sailing Judge

US Sailing Judge Instructor

PIYA Appeals Committee

PHRF NW Board of Directors

Advisory Board, Whidbey Island Race Week

Charlie Macaulay is a US Sailing Judge and Judge Instructor, a member of the PIYA Appeals Committee and serves on the Board of Directors for PHRF-NW. He has participated in every Whidbey Island Race Week except two as either skipper or crew, racing the first ten years on his Backyard 28, Katrinka Finklesplatt. Kat Fink was retired from Race Week competition following Race Week No. 25 in 2007 and replaced with, Absolutely, a G&S One Tonner. After years of racing the G&S, a new Farr 39 ML entered the picture, was named, Absolutely, and Charlie and his crew (that include daughters, Leigh and Shelagh, and his wife Kathy) continue to regularly take a place on the podium in most of the races that the Macaulay's participate in. Charlie is also a longtime member of Corinthian Yacht Club of Seattle.

David Jackson, Overall Winner of Whidbey Island Race Week in 2018 and 2019, Point Roberts, WA



David Jackson has lived and raced in Point Roberts for 19 years and has a long history of sailboat racing since he was a young boy. He sailed sabot prams, lasers, fireballs and tornados before landing on his favorite big boat, Mad Dash – a Dash 34. Mad Dash has been in David’s family since 1984 when his parents and his sister (who were all on Olympic sailing teams) wanted a boat that the entire family could race and cruise on. His parents have since retired from racing, but David and his kids have continued the family tradition and have enjoyed a lot of success on the podium. As a longtime Whidbey Island Race Week racer (and the Overall Winner at Whidbey Island Race Week in 2018), David has also participated in club races, J24 Worlds and Vic-Maui.

Larry Butchart, Salesman, Fisheries Supply, Seattle, WA



Larry Butchart began sailing with his family since he was 6 years old. He started out with an 8 foot pram and eventually moved to Hobie Cats while in high school. He bought his first keel boat in 1987 and raced it at Whidbey Island Race Week for 3 years beginning in 1988. Larry has crewed at Whidbey Island Race Week every year since then on various boats including an Olson 25, Hobie 33, Olson 30, J-35, and 1D35. Larry was also crew of a 2001 Lloyd Phoenix Cup/US Offshore Championship team and has cruised and raced in the Caribbean, the British Virgin Islands, and a boat delivery from Alaska. He has worked for Fisheries Supply in Seattle, WA for 19 years, and has greeted racers at the Fisheries booth at Race Week for nearly two decades.

Cori Whitaker, Cori Whitaker Homes / Windermere, Shoreline, WA



Cori Whitaker of Cori Whitaker Homes/Windermere has been helping people move since 2005. She is listed in the Top 100 in the NWMLS for volume of sales and is a Windermere Premier Properties Director. She has been participating in Race Week for the past 5 years in the role of Sponsor and on the Event Management Team. As a business consultant to Whidbey Island Race Week, she began serving on the Advisory Board in 2019.

Stephen Orsini / Guemes Island, WA



Steve Orsini Credentials:

US Sailing Level II Coach
Member US Sailing
Past Commodore, Anacortes Yacht Club
Member, Anacortes Water Front Alliance
Regatta Chair, 2011 Lido 14 Nationals
Founder, Anacortes Sailing Club under the Interscholastic Sailing Association (ISSA)
Regatta Chair, 2016 Baker's Cup National High School Sailing Championship
Founding Member, ABB Regatta in Newport, Rhode Island
Business Owner, One Design Plus LLC

Steve Orsini is a longtime resident of Guemes Island in the San Juan Islands, and an accomplished sailboat racer. As the bowman for the Davidson 40 *Teddy Bear* for nearly 20 years, he competed in all major Pacific Northwest regattas, including Race Week. He also was selected by *Sailing World* magazine to represent Seattle at the National Offshore One Design (NOOD) Championships in the British Virgin Islands following his win of the Santana 20 class at the NOOD Regatta in 2008. Steve also campaigned a Viper 640, and participated in Viper Worlds in 2019.

In addition to a solid racing background, Steve's marine industry and professional background were instrumental in the development of Seafarers Park in Anacortes. He had a hand in the design of the Seafarers Park Building, and the ramp to ensure sailing dinghy launch capabilities. He also participated in the creation and design of the Cap Sante Marina dry storage, and the P-Q dock hoist.

Schelleen Rathkopf, Race Week Event Producer, Seattle, WA



Schelleen Rathkopf has been the Producer of Race Week since 2014, and served on the Race Committee as the timer and scorekeeper since 2000.

A graduate from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon with a major in Art History, Schelleen is also a certified professional organizer through NAPO (National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals), and has participated in Race Week for over 20 years. Her media career in marketing and sales promotion spans 30 years, where she worked for the Seattle Times, KING TV, and Seattle Magazine. She also was the Editor of Northwest Yachting magazine, and the Director of Operations and Producer of the Boats Afloat Show on Lake Union in Seattle in her position at the Northwest Yacht Brokers Association.

Schelleen was also the Sponsor Coordinator for the world-renowned Mallory and Irvine Research Expedition on Mount Everest in 1999, where she handled sponsor procurement, and managed contract fulfillment on Mt. Everest for the duration of the expedition. Schelleen has raced on a variety of boats including J24s, SJ24s, C & C 32, Olson 30, Cookson 12M, and a Star, and has participated in many Puget Sound area events as both a racer and as a member of Race Committee. She has also done some cruising in the San Juan Islands and British Virgin Islands, and has owned and skippered her own boat, *Isaura*, a San Juan 28 for many years. In 2019, she participated in a delivery on board *Maiden*, the 58' ocean racing yacht made famous when Tracy Edwards raced her in the 1989-90 Whitbread Round the World race with an all-female crew. Schelleen is a member of US Sailing, the Corinthian Yacht Club in Seattle, WA, Anacortes Yacht Club in Anacortes, WA, and the Ballard Elks Club.