



March, 2022

Dear Members and Friends,

Your Lake Bluff Yacht Club Board of Directors has been busy planning for the sailing, paddling and social activities we enjoy so much when it finally gets warm enough to go down to the beach. Whether you are a sailor, a paddler, or just enjoy coming to our parties, we have activities for you, so please take a look at the calendar of events below so you can plan your fun accordingly. The calendar is also available on our web site [www.lakebluffyachtclub.org](http://www.lakebluffyachtclub.org). We want to see you and your family at Club events and down at the lakefront having fun.

There are several issues of importance I would like to bring to your attention as we start the year:

**Membership: Dues and storage slot renewal fees are due by April 15, 2022**. It is very important that we receive your dues by that date if you currently have storage in the compound and you want to continue to have the storage slot(s). **The compound is currently at full capacity and there is a waiting list. If you have not paid your storage dues on time, you will lose your storage space.** You can pay your dues either by following the link on the email you received or going to our website, [www.lakebluffyachtclub.org](http://www.lakebluffyachtclub.org) and following the link there.

**Boat Compound: We** have been informed that our neighbor to the North, the North Shore Water Reclamation District, plans to start a long delayed project to install a sewage storage basin that will be directly under where our compound currently sits. This project is similar to a storage basin that was completed at Lake Forest beach several years back. Construction could start as early as late September of this year. Unfortunately, the project requires the removal of our compound and we will not have a boat storage compound for one or two summer seasons, depending on how long construction takes. When the storage basin is complete, we will rebuild our compound on top of the storage basin. As I know that this project will raise a lot of questions in people's minds, I have prepared a Question and Answer sheet at the end of this mailing that I hope addresses many of the questions our members may have about the project.

**Increased Dues and Storage Fees for 2022:** In order to build a bit of a financial cushion for the time when we will rebuild the compound, we are increasing membership dues from \$135 to \$175, boat storage fees from \$130 to \$170 and paddle board storage fees from \$40 to \$60. We are doing this for several reasons: first, to help raise some additional funds to rebuild the compound, second, to help offset the loss of storage fees that will occur while the construction occurs, and finally, to keep pace with increased costs in our current inflationary environment. It has been so long since dues and storage fees were increased that no-one in the club that I have talked to can remember that last time they were increased. Even with the increase, our dues and storage fee structure is among the lowest, if not the lowest, on Chicago's North Shore.



**2022 Sunfish Women’s North American Championships:** We will be hosting the women’s championships for Sunfish this year between September 23 - 25. This event has grown significantly since we last hosted it in 2014 and we anticipate hosting up to 40 women sailors from around the country. This is a big undertaking for a club our size and we will be asking many members to help out, either through volunteering or by hosting some of the sailors in your homes. We’d like to make sure they become acquainted with Midwestern hospitality and we hope that you can help make their stay memorable.

**Safety, Compound Security and Personal Flotation Devices:** I am a bug about safety, and so I want to remind everybody about our rule regarding personal flotation devices (life jackets). **ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS MUST WEAR PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES AT ALL TIMES WHILE USING SAILBOATS, KAYAKS AND PADDLE BOARDS.** This is a club rule, not one enforced by the Park District, so the fact that the lifeguards at the beach don’t tell you to put on a life jacket has no bearing on your obligation as a club member to wear one. My years of experience have taught me that weather and conditions can change very quickly on Lake Michigan, so respect the lake and wear your personal floatation device at all times while on the water.

Safety is also a significant concern with respect to the boats and boards stored within the compound. This encompasses not only the physical equipment stored in the compound, but potential liability for unauthorized use of equipment stored within the compound. There are U bolts next to every slot and we ask all owners to lock up their equipment with cables when not in use so that unauthorized people cannot come in and “borrow” your equipment.

Thank you for your continued support for our club and I look forward to seeing all of you at the beach, on the water or at one of our social events.

John M. Palizza, Commodore

### Important Dates

Boats in day and compound cleanup	May 7
Start of the sailing season	May 29
Beach barbecue	June 11
Brunch on the Bluff	July 3
Sheppard Regatta	August 28
Commodore’s Cup	September 5
Women’s Sunfish North American Championship	September 23, 24 and 25
Lobster Boil	September 24
End of season	Open, depending on construction
Annual Meeting & Awards	November 12