



CLUB NEWS

WWW.MASKWA.CA

Spring 2024

COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



Peter Giles,
Commodore

Spring is always an exciting time at Maskwa, and this year is no exception. Our year-round athletes and our senior coaches have returned from Florida, the competition season is already underway, and the summer staff will soon be getting trained and oriented for the big summer rush.

You are probably all aware that in 2023, the club had a very successful season on the water, winning the CanoeKayak Canada Sprint Nationals burgee, the CanoeKayak Canada Masters burgee, and just about every club prize that we could win in the Atlantic division. The coaches have big plans for 2024 too! Our athletes train hard, and race to win, and I

can't wait for warm weather and weekend regattas. But belonging to Maskwa means more than that. We are actively working to extend our reach in the community through a variety of programs, so that more people can enjoy this sport we love so much. I encourage you to take a look at all of the different options we offer under Paddling Programs.

Over the next couple of months we will also be looking for volunteers to help with various projects. Please keep an eye out for those calls. There is always plenty of work that needs to be done in the spring to get the club ready for the summer programs. We will also be looking forward to some more social events at the club this summer, so watch out for those activities also. I am personally looking forward to meeting more of you over the coming months!

COACH NEWS

It's been a busy spring at Maskwa and paddlers are now back on Kearney Lake both morning and afternoon! High Performance, Academy, and Para groups are underway, with Development and Masters soon to follow. Many Maskwa athletes just returned from training camps in Florida, which was a great way to kick off the season! Maskwa's camp had over 30 paddlers and 11 of those continued on to the first ever Team NS Provincial Camp. In addition to 400 kilometres of on-water work, Maskwa's Florida camp contained lots of fun, including a talent show, soccer tournament, scavenger hunt, trips to an NHL game, theme park, and beach! This experience is something to look forward to for athletes entering U16 in 2025. A special shout out to Maskwa athletes Bret Himmelman, Jake Steele, and Andrew Billard who competed at NTT #1 in California- they are now back and hard at work towards NTT #2 in Montreal this June! Myself and all of the coaches are looking forward to the start of the racing season this June and seeing how everyone's hard work has paid off.



Christian Hall,
Head Coach

PROGRAM NEWS

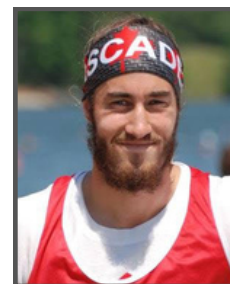
ACADEMY & MASTERS



Jacob McKenna,
Assist. Head Coach

The Academy group is back on the water after a long winter of hard training! Over the winter they worked on swimming, running, rowing and played games! After starting on the water in early April, the group has begun training for their first regattas in May. Morgan Pugh-Toole has been leading the group through the winter and will continue in the spring.

After a great winter training, the Masters are getting ready to hit the water in the next few weeks. We have a few new faces in our program who have been working hard. We're all excited to hit the ground running and see what happens. We can't wait to get back on the water!



Doug Ellery,
Assist. Head Coach

DEVELOPMENT & PARA



Savannah Sullivan,
Dev. & Para Coach

Development is back on the water for the spring season, and first competitions are just around the corner. They've worked hard in the gym and outside running, and are ready to get back on the water full time!

Para has been putting in the work in the gym and on the ERG's. We are back on the water full time May 1st! We have some new athletes ready to get in a boat for the first time and experienced athletes itching to get back in the water.



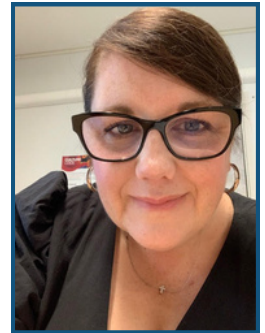
FLORIDA FUN



Board Member Spotlight: *Patricia MacArthur, Fundraising Chair*

Patricia MacArthur, also known as Trish, lives in Bedford and works in Advancement for Saint Mary's University. Patricia is a proud mom of twins and Rowan is a year-round kayaker at Maskwa. After 20 years in the charitable sector, Patricia is really excited to join the Maskwa board and support the fundraising initiatives for the club.

Over the next few months, Maskwa will be kicking off some new fundraisers in support of the Club. Funds raised will directly impact the Club and all of our members (ex: new boats, equipment, expansion efforts and more). We would love to gather a group of people to be part of the Fundraising Committee! If you are interested in volunteering on the fundraising committee, or helping with an upcoming fundraiser please email info@maskwa.ca and we'll put you in touch with Patricia.



JOIN US THIS SUMMER FOR ADULT DRAGON BOAT!

-  Fun, recreational program for both new and experienced paddlers 18+!
-  Unique way to stay in shape, and a great social atmosphere!
-  Chance to enjoy the great outdoors on beautiful Kearney Lake!
-  Programs offered on Mon & Wed evenings, beginning in June until the end of August.
-  For more info, and to register, visit us online at:

WWW.MASKWA.CA



FAQ?

Is your child coming to Maskwa this summer and you have questions? Wondering what a typical day of programming is like? What to pack each day? What kind of life jacket? Where to go when you arrive? Drop off & pick up times?

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

Visit the Parent FAQ section of the website [here](#) for the answers to all these questions and more! In addition, we will be having our annual Open House on Saturday, June 08 from 2-4PM, and our Parent Info Zoom Call on Wed., June 12th at 7:30PM.

