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**NAHCA Division 7 Volume 1 Spring 2007**

# Introducing Hobie Fleet 444!

**Hobie Fleet 444** is a NAHCA Division 7 organization committed to sharing and promoting the fun and excitement of catamaran sailing.

The Fleet includes sailors from all walks of life, young and old, new to the sport and with years of experience. Fleet membership is open to all makes of catamarans, and in fact catamaran ownership is not a prerequisite for Fleet 444 membership...join in, catch a ride and experience the fun of catamaran sailing.

The focus of **Hobie Fleet 444** is to increase participation in catamaran sailing by hosting a number of "Fun Sails" during the season which use a rally/cruising format to get more boats out on the water.

**Hobie Fleet 444** "Fun sails" are intended to be just that...relaxed, rally format with a cookout at the end of the day. Join us for the "Spring Tune-Up" **May 19**; "Lake Pepin Distance Rally" **July 21** and the



Hobie 16 on Green Lake, MN

"Apostle Island Catamaran Rally" **Aug 24 - 26**, Bayfield, WI.

Home waters: Lake Pepin...part of the Mississippi River. Lake Pepin is 22 miles long and offers some great sailing, and you can actually go for a day sail and only see the same place twice.

If you are new to the sport, this is the perfect chance to get out on some new (bigger) water with the security of a fleet

of boats all heading in the same direction...don't go it alone. Join us and ask questions about rigging and sailing your cat, see what other folks are doing with their boats...and we always have an extra hand to help you step that mast.

For the racers...

**Hobie Fleet 444** will host the *Muddy Waters* Hobie Points Regatta, June 9 - 10 (see article on page 2).

Membership to **Hobie Fleet 444** is low to allow you to spend more money on your boat \$25 for boat owners / \$10 for non-boat owners, and fees go to support fleet activities and promote our sport.

Don't let that cat stay covered with weeds, or take up space in the garage unused. Come out and join the fun with **Hobie Fleet 444**.

## "Spring Tune Up" at Lake City Yacht Club Beach - May 19th

Don't wait until the first race of the year to get the boat out on the water. Here is a great chance to get the cobwebs (icicles) out of the rigging and the sea back in your legs.

New crew? Need to adjust the rudders? Tweak the battens? Adjust that harness after the off season? This is will be a great sail before the racing season gets underway.

We will meet up at the Lake City Yacht Club ramp/beach and take our time rigging up. Look to hit the water around 10:30. Depending on the wind, we can sail up to the Hok-Si-La Camp-ground, site of the June Regatta, or sail down to

Pepin, WI for coffee or a late lunch at the Pickle Factory, or just work out the tacks off of Lake City.

Look for Bald Eagles, admire the bluffs on the sides of the river, and fly past the big mono's cruising the lake. With 22 miles of length, Lake Pepin is a terrific cruising venue.

Back to Lake City for a cookout and a chance to discuss the upcoming season.

Fun Sail cookout ...\$5 for Fleet Members and \$10 for non-members.



Lake Pepin

## “Muddy Waters Regatta” - June 9th & 10th



Hok-Si-La Campground, Lake Pepin

**Trivia Question:** How many Hobie regattas are held on the Mississippi River?

Well, as far as we know, only this one.

For several years the *Land of Ten thousand Lakes* has been left wanting for a Hobie sanctioned, one-design, Points regatta. This summer, on the second weekend of June, **Hobie Fleet 444** brings you the *Muddy Waters Regatta*.

We look forward to participation from Hobie sailors from MN, WI, IA, SD and even Canada (Well, we are an international fleet).

**Regatta Site:** The shores of Lake Pepin, a few miles north of Lake City at the Hok-Si-La Campground, which features campsites on a bluff above the lake and a sandy beach for the boats. There are also a few hotels in Lake City.

**Schedule:** Details and NOR available on [www.fleet444.com](http://www.fleet444.com), plan on racing all day Saturday, with a lunch break and Sunday morning racing, with things wrapped up by 1:30 or so to get everyone on their way.

Since one of our fleet mottos is “We keep the fees low, so you can spend more money on your boat,” this is a cheap regatta. Double handed boats \$30,

single-handed \$25, boats crewed by kids under 15 can participate for free. Don’t expect any fancy meals or high thread count t-shirts, but do expect to have a great time and some great racing.

So come on out to earn those Hobie Points and have a terrific time on the Mighty Mississippi in the *Muddy Waters Regatta*.



## Thanks to the our new web sponsors for 2007!

Sponsors allow **Hobie Fleet 444** to offer our website, support this newsletter and add additional value to our other activities.

Our charter website sponsors include:

- **A.C.E.S. Flight Simulators** - [www.flyaces.com/](http://www.flyaces.com/); Mall of America

- **Aquarius Sail Catamarans**— <http://www.aquarius-sail.com>; ARC cats, boat and sail repair. Wyoming, MN
- **Sogn Cabinet Company** –Handmade custom cabinetry solutions - 507.301.9019
- **Rick’s Adventure Sailing** - <http://teachsailing.net>; Cat sailing instruction, beginner to advanced

- **Hi-Tempo Ski, Snowboard, Sail**— [www.hitempo.com](http://www.hitempo.com); White Bear Lake, MN

We encourage you to get additional details about our sponsors on our website, and where the opportunity presents itself to utilize their services.

Please, support our sponsors, they support us!

## Lake Pepin Distance Rally - Saturday, July 21st

Not planning to sail in the Hobie North American Championships this weekend...? Excellent, come out and join **Hobie Fleet 444** for a nice long sail on Lake Pepin...if you have it, bring out that spinnaker.

The plan: Put-in at the Lake City Yacht Club ramp and beach and plan to push off around 10:00 AM. The objective will be a sail up to the north end of

Lake Pepin, to the beach at Bay City, WI. This is over 14 miles each way from Lake City, so we are looking forward to at least 30 miles on the water.

This part of the lake tends to get less boat traffic than down by Lake City, so depending on the wind, look for the chance for long tacks and some serious time on the wire. Great bluffs on both sides of the lake with some neat homes up on the WI

side. Keep an eye out for young Bald Eagle pulling fish from the river.

We will have a predetermine turn-around time to get everyone back to the beach in Lake City for the cookout.

Cookout fee: \$5 fleet members/\$10 non-members

## Apostle Island Catamaran Rally Aug 24th - 26th Buffalo Bay Campground and Marina Bayfield, WI

While Minnesota may have 10,000 Lakes, fact is, most of them are not very big. There are a number of sites within easy driving of the Twin Cities, which offer good lake sailing...but for those who enjoy the swells and clean air of ocean sailing, there is certainly a lack of BIG sailing water. The closest thing would appear to be the greatest of the Great Lakes.

From discussions with local cat sailors, sailing on Lake Superior seemed to be limited to larger mono's. Water was too cold for beachcats, the area has tricky, quickly changing weather, valid reasons for preparation, but we were looking at one of the most lightly traveled National Parks with a collection of 22 islands, spectacular views, cliffs, sea caves, really clean water, beautiful beaches...and the potential for big water wind.



A view from Oak Island, Lake Superior

After two late season sails among the Apostles Islands on beach cats, this event comes highly recommended.

The schedule used the past couple years seems to work well, get to the Buffalo Bay Campground late morning on Friday, unpack, rig up and get in a great afternoon of sailing. Camp under the stars just yards from your boat. Saturday is a full day on the water...planned for-

mat would be to rally to various islands and beaches, depending on the conditions. Sunday is a morning sail, then pack up when you are ready and head back to the grind.

### **Please consider this an open water event.**

- Wetsuits/drysuits are essential.
- GPS/marine radios are highly recommended.
- Have a paddle, food and flashlights on board. We have covered as much as 135 miles in a day and a half.

For the past several years this has been the best sailing of the season. Beautiful location, join us for a chance at some incredible sailing.

## Hobie Fleet 444 Website...up & running [www.fleet444.com](http://www.fleet444.com)

**Hobie Fleet 444** Web Meister, Todd Bosch has provided us with a great location to update schedules and share our experiences out on the water.

Check in frequently to see pictures and recaps of events, and links to sailing related sites.

### Fleet Contacts:

**Commodore/Regatta Chair:** Karl Brogger

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**Treasurer:** Rick Adams

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**Web Meister:** Todd Bosch

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Hobie 18's on Bear Island, Lake Superior

## Warm waters, sandy beaches...by Rick Adams



That's not snow... Florida's Gulf Coast - Hobie 18, reefed and ready to go.

Forty miles on a fast reach in flat water; the spinnaker on my Hobie 17 flying most of the time. Two stops. One at Juana's famous "parrot head" bar for a fried grouper sandwich and ice tea, could have been a beer! Another stop on one of the miles of uninhabited beaches to stretch my legs and take a short nap. Under six hours with the stops. I take this trip a lot and sometimes am tacking or beating much of way but long legs are frequent, today was memorable.

Tomorrow at sunrise they fire the starting gun for the Around The Island Race, 50 miles in the Gulf and 50 miles along the same path I just took down the inter-coastal waterway. The only difference will be much of tomorrow's leg will probably be sailed in the dark.

Watch for a full report on "[teachsailing.net](http://teachsailing.net)" after the June race.



Hobie Fleet 444  
 3386 Sogn Valley Trail  
 Dennison, Minnesota 55018



Mailing Address

*Submit your membership application for the 2007 season today...see "Membership Info" on [www.fleet444.com](http://www.fleet444.com)*

**2007 Catamaran Sailing Schedule - Fleet 444, Division 7, Regional and National - "Events of interest"** Some dates subject to change, please check [www.fleet444.com](http://www.fleet444.com) for updates.

<p><b>2007 Catamaran Calendar:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>*April 28-29</b> Division 14's <i>Daggerless Regatta</i>; Clinton Lake, Kansas (near Lawrence, KS) Hosted by Fleets 297, 131 and 25.</li> <li>• <b>+May 19</b> "<i>Spring Tune-Up</i>" Fun Sail Lake Pepin, Lake City, MN Hosted by Fleet 444</li> <li>• <b>*June 9-10</b> <i>Muddy Waters Regatta</i>, Lake Pepin, Lake City, MN Hosted by Fleet 444</li> <li>• <b>*June 23-24</b> Storm Lake, IA Hosted by Fleet 475</li> <li>• <b>Early July</b> <i>Bald Eagle Regatta</i> Green Lake, Spicer, MN Hosted by Fleet 52</li> <li>• <b>*July 14-15</b> Spirit Lake, IA Hosted by Division 7</li> <li>• <b>+&gt;July 21</b> "<i>Lake Pepin Distance Rally</i>" Fun Sail Lake Pepin, Lake City, MN Hosted by Fleet 444</li> <li>• <b>&lt;July 20-22</b> Hobie 14, 16 Youth &amp; Hobie 16 Women 2007 Hobie North American Championships Geneva, New</li> </ul>	<p>York</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>&lt;July 23-27</b> Hobie 17 &amp; 18 2007 Hobie North American Championships Geneva, New York</li> <li>• <b>July 28-29</b> <i>Broken Rudder Regatta</i> (WI vs. MN) Shell Lake, WI</li> <li>• <b>&lt;July 30-August 3</b> Hobie 16 Open / Hobie 20 2007 Hobie North American Championships Alameda, CA</li> <li>• <b>&gt;August 5 - 11</b> <i>LOWISA 42</i> Lake of the Woods, Kenora, ON Canada</li> <li>• <b>August 10</b> <i>Youth Regatta</i> Hobie Wave/14 Hosted by Jim's Sailing Center</li> <li>• <b>*August 11-12</b> Saylorville Reservoir, Des Moines, IA Hosted by Fleet 84</li> <li>• <b>&gt;August 11 - 13</b> <i>Leech Lake Regatta</i> Distance Race, Leech Lake, Walker, MN</li> <li>• <b>*Aug 18 - 19</b> <i>North Central Area Championships/Don Coe Memorial Regatta</i>, Clear Lake, IA Hosted by Fleet 10</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>+&gt;August 24 - 26</b> "<i>Apostle Islands Catamaran Rally</i>" Bayfield, WI Hosted by Fleet 444</li> <li>• <b>*Aug 25 - 26</b> <i>Division 7 Championships</i>, Yankton, SD Hosted by Fleets 291 &amp; 192</li> <li>• <b>*September 15-16</b> <i>North Central Area Championships/Don Coe Memorial Regatta</i>, Clear Lake, IA Hosted by Fleet 10</li> </ul> <p><u>Legend:</u>      +Fun Sails with Hobie Fleet 444      *Hobie Points Regattas      &lt;NAHCA North American Championships      &gt;Distance Event</p> <div style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Fleet 444 Hull Stickers Available:</b>          High quality, laminated <b>Hobie Fleet 444</b> Hull Stickers are available. Check Fleet Application and web-site for details.</p> </div>
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