



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WINNIPEG ROWING CLUB: RISING TO THE CHALLENGE AT INTERNATIONAL REGATTAS

August 21, 2014 (Winnipeg MB) -- Training is paying off for Winnipeg Rowing Club athletes, making their mark this summer while facing high level competition at international regattas in Canada and the US.

US MASTERS

The 2014 USRowing Masters National Championships were held August 14-17 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, hosting 1480 entries from 120 clubs across the US and Canada. A small contingent of six athletes attended and represented Winnipeg – making a huge splash in the process.

The Winnipeg Rowing Club was awarded the overall Efficiency Trophy, with an efficiency percentage of 21.25% (the next best was 14.4%). In addition to a number of silver and bronze finishes, the WRC captured four Gold Medals:

- Open A Women's 2x – Brandi Smith, Tracy Taylor
- Open A Lightweight Women's 2x - Brandi Smith, Tracy Taylor
- Open B Lightweight Women's 2x - Brandi Smith, Tracy Taylor
- Open C Mixed 4x – Andrew Lamont, Tracy Taylor, Brandi Smith, Jeff Reitberger

NWIRA CHAMPIONSHIP

The 111th annual North West International Rowing Association (NWIRA) Championship Regatta was held August 8-9 in Kenora. With over 500 entries from 13 rowing clubs, Winnipeg Rowing Club put up a strong battle for the grand aggregate Lipton Cup – coming up merely 8.45 points behind St. Paul.

The WRC Men were awarded the Con Riley Trophy for the second year in a row, presented to the club with the most overall points in men's events. The WRC Masters also took home top honours by earning the most points in Masters' events.

Winnipeg crews won 10 Gold Medals in the following events:

- Open Men's 1x – Kevin Kowalyk
- Open Men's 1x Dash – Kevin Kowalyk
- Lightweight Women's 1x – Tracy Taylor
- Master Men's 1x over 50 – Andrew Lamont
- Junior B Men's 2x – Tyrone Nakagawa, Andrje Kao
- Open Men's 2x – Kevin Kowalyk, Josh Ilse
- Lightweight Women's 2x – Brandi Smith, Tracy Taylor
- Open Men's 4x – Kevin Kowalyk, Josh Mintz, Steve Chubaty, Tyrone Nakagawa
- Master Men's 4x – Andrew Lamont, Tom Pundyk, Satoru Nakagawa, Jeff Reitberger
- Master Men's 4+ – Andrew Lamont, Tom Pundyk, Satoru Nakagawa, Jeff Reitberger

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CANADIAN HENLEY

The 132nd Royal Canadian Henley Regatta took place August 5-10 in St. Catharines, with over 2000 entries from all over North America and beyond. Winnipeg Rowing Club was represented by eight Junior and Open athletes, with strong finishes in many events.

CANADIAN MASTERS

The 2014 Canadian Masters Championships were hosted by Burnaby Lake Rowing Club in BC, on July 19-20. Five Winnipeg Rowing Club members competed, bringing home bronze medals in two events.

At 133 years old, the Winnipeg Rowing Club is the second oldest sporting organization in Western Canada. It has been in operation since 1881, stopping only twice – during WWI and WWII. A long-time tenant of the banks of the Red River in downtown Winnipeg, the WRC survived the North-West Rebellion of 1885, the General Strike of 1919, the Great Depression of the 1930's, the Great Flood of 1950, and the Flood of the Century in 1997. Over the years the clubhouse has been destroyed by fire, wind, and water, but has always managed to maintain its long and proud tradition. Today, the WRC is a non-profit organization with a rich and successful sporting history, fostering generations of camaraderie and friendships. Members range in age from teenagers right up to the 80's, and the club offers programs for all skill levels. www.winnipegrowingclub.ca

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