

PRESS RELEASE

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Excitement in the Air as Young Sailors Face Off in First Junior Hospice Regatta

[ANNAPOLIS, MD] Sixteen of the best of the best junior sailors from the Chesapeake Bay region hailing from Norfolk, VA to Talbot County, MD, competed in the first ever invitational Hospice Junior Regatta – part of the annual Hospice Cup Regatta XXVIII – on Saturday, September 26.

The winning team was composed of Maeve White, Kendall Swenson, Peter Bartlett, and Briggs Lalor. Coming in second place were Harrison Hawk, Nick Floyd, Graeme Alderman and Patrick Firth. The third place team included Charlie Lomax, Barbara Jacob, Will Whitmore and Andreas Adam. And rounding up in fourth place were Kyle Schweitzer, Kyle Comerford, Emma White and Sarah Alexander. When asked about his sons sailing skills, Dirck Bartlett said “Our son Peter and his sailing pal, Patrick Firth, have had a fantastic summer competing and racing. Team racing was one of my son’s favorite events and to be included in the Hospice Cup Team Races was a great bonus”.

The junior racers began the day under the watchful eye of proud parents, then participated in a “Chalk Talk” session to discuss the route and strategy for the race. Prior to the big race, team names were also chosen: Team 1, the *Farting Kyles* (boys will be boys); Team 2 – *Full Moon*; Team 3 --*Team E-TREME*; and Team 4—*Optimist Prime*.

The teams wore garb indicative of teenagers from leopard patterned shorts to sporting “war paint” (colorful sun block) on their faces in all colors.

“Starboard! Starboard! Starboard!” could be heard from the junior racers during the race began warning each other for rights and to move out of the way for this very seriously fun race.

Sponsored by Verizon, the four teams of raced on Opti’s, – a sailboat know for its speed and maneuverability and the first boat most grown-up sailing pros learn their expert skills.

Details and images of the Hospice Junior Regatta are available online at:
<http://www.hospicecup.org/juniorRegatta.shtml>.

About Hospice Cup

The Hospice Cup XXVIII event will take place on September 26, 2009. This year’s participating hospices include: Calvert Hospice, Capital Hospice, Hospice of the Chesapeake, Montgomery Hospice and Talbot Hospice Foundation. Each must meet the standards of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

Funds raised on behalf of Hospice Cup help pay the expenses not covered by Medicare or private insurance. These dollars enable the hospices to provide skilled compassionate care, comfort and dignity to the terminally ill, their families and friends. Net proceeds are disbursed to the participating hospices on a pro-rated basis.

Hospice Cup, Inc. (HCI) is a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia for the purposes of conducting a benefit yacht race and related events. The annual event is a cooperative effort organized by an all-volunteer HCI Board of Directors, an Executive Director, participating area hospices and hundreds of volunteers.

The Hospice Cup regatta is sanctioned by the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association (CBYRA) and counts for CBYRA season-long High Point competition. The race is managed by Shearwater Sailing Club and assisted by Storm Trysail Club Chesapeake Station. Hospice Cup, Inc. is a proud member of the National Hospice Regatta Alliance, www.hospiceregattas.org.

Visit us online at www.hospicecup.org.

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