

2018 WJM Championship

Racing Venue

Cass Lake provides an excellent venue for dinghy racing. The lake is oblong in shape with a mild narrowing in the middle (see Figure 7). Wind conditions are typical of inland lakes with both oscillating and persistent shifts placing a premium on tactical decision making. It is possible to set one mile leg courses as shown in Figure 7. It is a short sail from the club to the race course. There is not room to set a second race course.

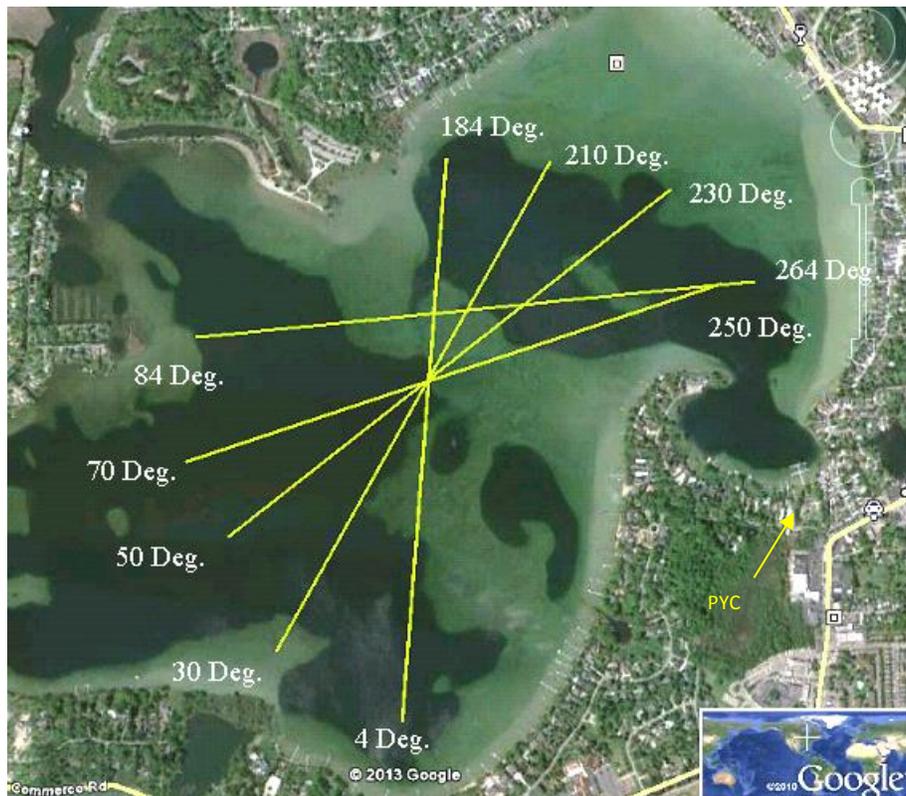


Figure 7: Cass Lake

The shores of Cass Lake are mostly flat with a few low bluffs; shore induced wind effects are relatively minor except when close to the shoreline.

By mid to late summer Cass Lake does develop weeds growing from the bottom of the lakebed which can detach, float to the surface and get caught on a centerboard. The weeds are relatively light, particularly when compared to venues such as the Jersey coast and southern California, but most racers will proactively raise their centerboard once or twice on every upwind leg to ensure it is clear.

Weather

Like most Midwest locales, summer months are pleasant and warm with relatively reliable wind. Per NOAA data, over the past 5 years the average wind speed in August, as measured at the nearby Oakland County International Airport is as follows:

8 am - 10 am	8.3 mph
10 am - 12 pm	9.5
12 pm - 2 pm	9.9
2 pm - 4 pm	10.3

Need we say, wind conditions can vary widely.

Race Committee

PYC and Lightning Fleet 54 have hosted our annual Whitecap Regatta for many years and are well versed in the management, both on shore and on the water, of a sizeable sailing regatta. We have obtained the commitment of a US Sailing certified PRO from outside the Lightning class to officiate the WJM regatta.

PYC operates a race committee boat, “Old Blue”, which can carry a crew of six comfortably and is well suited to run a race of this type (see Figure 8). Old Blue has all required flags and signaling devices. PYC additionally owns a number of skiffs used as safety boats. PYC also owns a pontoon boat used for spectators.



Figure 8: Race Committee Boat “Old Blue”