

Portuguese tall ship Sagres

The return race of the tall ships to Europe, which will be the inaugural race for the Ports Canada World Cup, will commence in Nova Scotia and terminate at Liverpool's Albert Dock on August 3. The trophies for the winning categories of the ships will be presented by Canada at a special ceremony in Liverpool's City Hall. There have always been strong ties between Canada and Liverpool from the days of two-way trade with the New World to the more recent generations of immigrants who have sailed from this famous port.



Paul Chaisson

During the Labatt St Lawrence Offshore Championships, all Canadian yachtsmen will be able to join this first fleet in their own yachts, for competitions in different classes such as 10R and PHRF. Shorter race programs or ones offering more cruising possibilities will make these competitions more accessible to amateur skippers. Crews will also be able to complete all races inside the three weeks.

Sailing on the St Lawrence

Blue Flying Sails

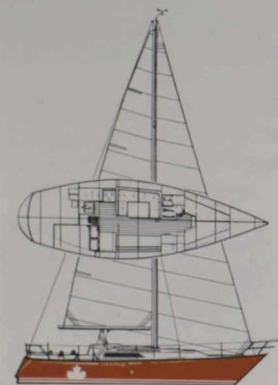
In contrast to the tall ships, the 'Labatt Blue Flying Sails' series is the most comprehensive collection of small sailboat competitions ever held as one event in North America. Between June 18 and August 23, seven major national and international championships have drawn competitors from across Canada, the US, Mexico, the Caribbean, South America and Europe. The three selected course areas, Bay of Beauport, Lake St Joseph and Bay of Gaspé, will be alive with thousands of dinghies, catamarans and sailboats in exciting manoeuvres during this festival of youth and friendly competition.

During these competitions the emphasis will be to keep spectators informed and involved. As well, the freestyle, slalom and long-distance events organized for the small boat categories will be held near the shore for easy visibility.

Challenge Canada

The 'Labatt Challenge Canada', covering a course of more than 1000 miles and involving the waterways of six provinces, will be the first long-distance race by stages held in North America. A series of six races commencing in Toronto and ending in Charlottetown are scheduled over the course.

Ten of the best Canadian sailing crews, one from each province will compete in the Labatt Interprovincial Offshore Championship aboard one-design yachts. The new C&C 35, Challenge Canada Edition, made in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario has an overall length of 34.65 feet and 576 square feet of sail area.



The C&C 35, Challenge Canada edition, a Canadian 35 foot yacht.



Photo: Courtesy Nova Scotia House

Transat TAG

The final major nautical event, the 'Transat TAG Québec-St Malo', will be the first-ever west-east transatlantic team race. Organized in honour of Jacques Cartier and to crown the Québec 84 celebrations, some 50 of the world's foremost skippers will compete for a total of \$275,000 in prize money. In many of the world's fastest yachts, they will cover the 3000-nautical-mile course that traces Jacques Cartier's historic return journey from New France to St Malo.

Throughout the race, spectators will be able to watch via a comprehensive communication program. A satellite transmitter-receiver system will track the competitors from the starting line at Québec City's Old Port to the finish, receiving Telex images emitted from the boats and possibly live closed-circuit coverage as well.

Calendar of major events

The Return of the Tall Ships

June 10-13 Fleet at Halifax
June 18-20 Fleet at Gaspé
June 25 Fleet arrives at Québec City
June 30 Sail-past at Québec City

Challenge Labatt Canada Yacht Race

June 23 Toronto-Kingston
June 27 Montréal
July 2 Québec City
July 7 Rimouski-Rivière-au-Renard
July 12 Ile Bonaventure
July 14 Gaspé-Iles de la Madeleine-Shediac
July 20 Shediac-Charlottetown

Labatt Blue Flying Sails

June 22-July 1 Canadian Junior Championship, single and double-handed (Québec City)
July 1-8 North American Laser Championship (Québec City)
July 10-15 The Ten Provinces Championship (Laser, Prindle 16 and Windsurfer), 1st heat (Gaspé)

July 17-22 North American Prindle 16 Championship (Québec City)
July 31-Aug 6 North American 470 Championship (Québec City)
August 9-12 Canadian Women's Championship (Québec City)
August 14-23 Export 'A' Western Hemisphere Windsurfer Championship (Québec City)

Transat TAG Québec-St Malo

August 11-18 Roll call at Québec City
August 18 Meteorology briefing
August 19 Departure from Québec
End of August Winner arrives at St Malo

Ethnic Celebrations

July 16 Amerindian and Inuit Week
July 23 Scandinavian Week
July 30 Celtic Week
August 6 Anglo-Saxon Week
August 13 Latin Week
August 20 Asian Week

