

The Officers, Directors and Members of  
US SAILING  
are pleased to present the  
ARTHUR B. HANSON RESCUE MEDAL  
to  
MAGGIE LUMKES and LYNN WALLS  
for the rescue as follows:

Racing in the Jimmy Talbot Memorial Regatta for high school teams was canceled for the day on October 2, 2010 due to 25 to 30 knot winds, 5 to 7 foot waves, and air and water temperature in the 50s. All the same, a 14-year-old sailor and a 23-year-old coach, on their own, launched a racing dinghy on the public ramp and sailed out in to the lake. Neither was wearing a dry suit, but fortunately both were wearing lifejackets. When the dinghy capsized, the younger sailor drifted away while the coach hung on to the hull.

Observers on shore notified Chicago Yacht Club Sailing School Director Maggie Lumkes and On the Water Director Lynn Walls. Heading out into the extreme conditions in a 16-foot rigid inflatable bottom motorboat, Lumkes and Walls first located and rescued the boy, who had drifted an estimated 100 yards from the capsized dinghy, and then proceeded to pick up the older sailor. Lumkes and Walls brought the two victims to shore and went out onto the lake again to help other CYC sailors in an unsuccessful attempt to retrieve the dinghy.

As paramedics treated the boy for hypothermia, Chicago police questioned the coach and issued a citation.

US SAILING's Safety-at-Sea Committee awarded the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal to Maggie Lumkes and Lynn Walls for saving the lives of a pair of sailors on Lake Michigan.

Dr. Gino Bottino, MD  
Chairman, Safety at Sea Committee  
By Direction

## WHAT HAPPENED

Saturday, October 02, 2010

Rescue of an adult and minor from a capsized V15

After the club canceled racing for the day and flew N over A from the flag halyards, two visiting sailors (an adult and a minor) launched their Vanguard 15 ("V15") off the public ramp and sailed out of Belmont Harbor onto Lake Michigan.

The V15 promptly capsized and one of the sailors (the minor) drifted away from the boat.

Observers on shore quickly notified CYC staff members Maggie Lumkes (CYC Sailing School Director) and Lynn Walls (CYC On the Water Director). Lumkes and Walls immediately went out of Belmont Harbor in a VSR (RIB motorboat) onto Lake Michigan to rescue the sailors. By the time they reached the area, the crew (a minor) had been drifting farther and farther away from the capsized V15. Lumkes and Walls rescued the minor first and then proceeded to rescue the adult. Both sailors were brought to shore and treated by a waiting ambulance. A second CYC motorboat went out right after the VSR in an attempt to retrieve the V15 itself, but these efforts were abandoned. The second motorboat was staffed by Matthew Clark (a CYC coach) and Michael Leslie (a CYC volunteer). This is taken directly from an email that Maggie just sent me: I think you have the majority of the details. The water was definitely in the 50s. They did not have dry suits on. The boy was probably 100 yards from the boat he would not have been able to swim back. We pulled up to the public dock and handed them over to paramedics and police. The boy wasn't talking much but both were conscious. Lynn and I went back out to see if Matt and Mike needed help getting the V-15 in, but another boat was not going to help. We decided to abandon the effort. Lynn and I headed back in and spoke with the police. The sailors were brought inside. The young boy changed clothes to get warm, and then I didn't see him. The paramedics said he had hypothermia but he would be fine. The coach was taken into Lynn's office to be questioned and eventually given a citation. Let me know if there are any other details that would be helpful.

Leif Sigmond

Event Name Jimmy Talbot Memorial Regatta

Sponsoring Yacht Club Chicago Yacht Club

Event City Chicago

Event State Illinois

Body of Water Lake Michigan

Day or Night? Day

Air Temperature approx 50 F

Water Temperature unknown, but cold

Wind Speed 25 kts, 30 gusts

Wave Height 5-7 feet – whitecaps

VICTIM(S):

---- Victim 1 ----

Name adult (age 23) (coach) - identity withheld

Boat Make & Model Vanguard 15

---- Victim 2 ----

Name minor (age 14) - identity withheld

Boat Length 15

Boat Make & Model Vanguard 15

What position(s) was/were the victim working before they went in?

Adult was skipper and minor was crew.

Was a PFD worn by the victim(s)? Yes

What Type (Victim 1)? type 3

What Type (Victim 2)? type 3

---- Rescuing Boat #1 ----

Skipper's Name Maggie Lumkes and Lynn Walls

Boat Make & Model VSR (Very Slender Rib) - rigid inflatable bottom

Boat Length approx 5.4 meters

---- Rescuing Boat #2 ----

Skipper's Name Matthew Clark

Crew's Names and function each performed in the rescue: Michael Leslie - assisted

Boat Make & Model Brig - rigid inflatable bottom motorboat

Boat Length approx 16 feet

Overboard Specific Questions

What recovery method was used (Quickstop, Reach Method, Figure 8, etc)? pulled from water by motorboat

Did the victim's boat lose sight of the victim? unknown

What search pattern was used? none needed

Was GPS or other electronic MOB function used to track or help locate the victim? No

Was a rescue swimmer put in the water Y/N? No

Did the victim have a strobe light, a light or whistle? unknown

What color clothes were visible above the water? unknown

Was the victim able to help in the recovery? No

How did the victim get hoisted from the water level up onto the deck? pulled with lifejacket

Was any injury sustained by the victim? Yes

What type (hypothermia included)? possibly mild hypothermia

Was a Lifesling aboard? No

Was it used? No

How much time did the victim spend in the water? approx 10 minutes

Did a Mayday call go out? no

Nominator's Information Name Leif Sigmond