

Severn II succession planning

– *Eight for Sale* –

A fine opportunity to crew and grow into 8mR racing!

From Cedric Gyles, current owner of *Severn II*: With the intent of ultimately retiring from my tenure of ownership, it is my desire to perpetuate *Severn*'s legacy and offer partnership firstly to crew to get new blood into the Fleet and if that cannot be achieved at the RCYC, then for sale alternatively to other yacht clubs locally or overseas. In this regard, I am sending a copy of the posted *Severn* listing with the intent that the notice is made available to the wider audience of the NAEMA and IEMA membership that this note now contemplates. We are looking to find a good home for *Severn II* and that is of prime concern to us in considering the change of ownership.

Some of the *Severn* story

Severn II is designed to the 1933's Third Rule of the International 8 Metre Class. Her original and full name remains *Severn II of Ardmaleish*, (not to be confused with the first *Severn*, a Fife designed Eight Metre class yacht).

Severn II was designed by Alfred Mylne and built in 1934 by Bute Slip Dock. In her first major international competition, representing Great Britain in 1935, *Severn II* won the Coupe de France, at that time a hotly contested series and thereafter competed for many decades on the River Clyde in Scotland. *Severn II*, currently registered under sail number CAN 7, now sails from the Royal Canadian Yacht Club in Toronto, Canada.

Since arriving in Canada, she has won the RCYC Fleet and the regional yacht clubs' regatta series titles 6 times each, and the North America Eight Metre Association Overall 8 Metre Season Championship 8 times.

She was brought over to Canada in 1975 by RCYC member Steve Cameron and then purchased by Dan Molloy and Cedric Gyles in 1978. Since then, the ongoing program of repairs and maintenance has included extensive rib and plank replacements by Gyles Sails & Marine of Thornbury, a new mast and boom from Klacko, and a new deck and cabin top. The crew is diverse in age – between 20 to 70. Most live close at hand in Toronto, but some join us from farther afield: Burlington, Oshawa, and Collingwood.

Owning an Eight Metre comes with a heritage responsibility, and while I am just taking my turn in the wake of those who have gone before me over the first 80 years, it will be for the owners and crew who come after us to provide the care that maintains her legacy of swift and successful sailing, keeping *Severn II* a contender for decades to come.