



Arizona Yacht Club

Eight Bells for Devon Howe



Martin Lorch, Commodore, Arizona Yacht Club, announces with profound sadness, the sudden passing of Arizona Yacht Club's Vice Commodore, Devon Howe. Devon passed away this past Monday, January 20, 2025.

A Memorial/Reception will be held, in honor of Devon this coming Saturday, January 25, 2025 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home located at 4800 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix, AZ 85018.

Devon is remembered as a man of few words, someone who was thoughtful and provided insight into the direction and future of the Club.

Racing was Devon's objective when he joined the Club on August 2, 2023. To that end he was committed to growing the AYC MC Scow Fleet. By September 2023, the fleet had four active participants and was seeking more active members. Devon was ardently encouraging members to give the MC Scow a try and had several boats which he offered to loan to anyone willing to give the MC Scow a try.



Devon was the proud recipient of the Blunder Bucket in December 2023 for his sailing antics which included a failure to launch his MC Scow due to a mishap involving a broken mast, followed by capsizing and beaching another MC Scow a week later and finally for nominating himself for the Blunder Bucket.



Devon has been an avid racer on his MC Scow Daddy Long Legs since joining the Club in August 2023. He finished the Fall 2023 series in First Place in the Portsmouth Fleet. He grabbed a First Place Finish, in the Portsmouth Fleet for the Spring 2024 series. During the November 2024 Dinghy Days, Devon came in Second Place in the MC Scow class. He also took a Second Place finish in the Fall 2024 Portsmouth Fleet. Rather than wait the hot summer out, Devon hit the road and took in a number of MC Scow regattas this past summer. Devon had a 5th Overall finish in the 45th Annual Orlando Webb Memorial Regatta and a 4th Place finish in the 2024 Spring Dinghyfest at Rush Creek Yacht Club near Dallas Texas. In both races he reported that he competed on borrowed boats. According to his June 2024 article for the AYC Compass Points, Devon had more summer sailing planned. Find Devon's article at: <https://arizonayachtclub.org/2024/06/20/summer-racing-road-trips/>

Devon's sudden passing is a significant loss to the leadership of AYC. His willingness to step into a leadership role and working to grow a fleet from such a new member is unprecedented. He very quickly became a respected leader and friend to many members. We will miss his enthusiasm and thoughtful approach.

Sean Kenealy, AYC Secretary said "Devastating news indeed. I was excited to go Scow sailing with him in the summer. He has certainly left his mark on the Club and will be sorely missed."

“This news is extremely shocking. I am very upset. I am talking to Kristin about him now, as while Devon didn’t know us well personally, we were big fans, a leader by example and a Corinthian man and next in line to take the helm,” said Tyler Pace, AYC Treasurer.

The Arizona Yacht Club Board of Directors and membership extend their deepest condolences to Katherine and family. Devon and his towering, kind and thoughtful presence will be missed by all.

In lieu of flowers the family is requesting that donations be made in Devon’s memory to AzDA Cares Foundation. For more information and to donate see: <https://azdacares.org/donation-in-action>

