

**2024 Turtle Regatta**  
**Willamette Sailing Club (WSC), Portland, Oregon**  
**Hosted by Lido Fleet 25**  
**May 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>**

... and the Turtle Award went to John Purdy! John and crew Kim Gilmer were hiked out, going fast, and a dreaded gust hit. Butts were wet. They were going over. But John saved the day and took the sacrificial plunge to spill his weight and save the rig (and crew Kim). Then, mighty Kim hoisted John back in the boat for some bailin' & sailin'! So, they didn't actually turtle, but John did go swimming in very cold water. (Thankfully he was wearing his synthetic cross country ski gear underneath sailing bibs and a spray top and neoprene socks, so he didn't get too chilly). 23 Lidos participated in the 2024 Turtle Regatta, hosted by Portland Fleet 25 at the Willamette Sailing Club. We were fortunate to have 4 Lidos down from Tacoma (fleet 82), 2 Lidos up from Eugene (fleet 81), and 3 stellar Youth Lidos. The wind was puffy, shifty, and gusty (0-18 knots) with rain and strong current up the middle of the river. It certainly tested our grit! A few boats had some significant swamping going on. There were some exciting jib tack shackle breaks. And various on-the-water repairs. There were 9 total races, with 1 throwout. All 23 Lidos started/raced together. At registration/check-in, sailors self-selected which fleet they would ultimately be scored in (A, B, or youth). Regatta Chair, Mark Sandifer did a superb job of getting everybody checked in, waivers signed, and making everything look effortless (even though there was a lot of work to be done). PRO Mike Rees could not have done a better job. Kerry Poe generously ran the annual pre-Turtle sail trim clinic. The wind was light and the rain suboptimal, but all that braved the conditions seemed to have a great time and many stuck around for snacks and drinks at the clubhouse bar. It was a great way to get ready for the regatta.

A Fleet: Current 2023 National Champions Kerry Poe and Rachel Pulver (fleet 25) won 1st place. Chris Bittner and Emily Tan (fleet 25) took 2nd place. Chuck Queen (fleet 82) and Chloë Shanley took 3rd.

B Fleet: Al and Emily Avey (fleet 81) won 1st place. Dave Shanley and Erica Liepelt (fleet 25) won 2nd. Marty Parisien and Sara Shin (fleet 81) won 3rd.

Youth Fleet: Alex Cherevatenko and Lucia Dausz won 1st in the Fleet 25 "Club Lido" - and impressively would have won 4th place in A fleet if scored in that fleet - extra impressive since this was their first time EVER sailing a Lido! Ben Shanley and Gus Stannard placed 2nd. Neil Merims and Noah Johnson-Green / Koji Kubo placed 3rd. These juniors are outstanding sailors.

Full results can be found on the WSC website under racing/turtle.

<https://willamettesailingclub.com/newracing/results/2024/TurtleRegatta2024.htm>

We were lucky to have new skippers racing too. Annie Havekost and Colleen Brunell (fleet 25) and Emily Wood and Hans Rolla (fleet 82) braved the weather and sailed solid races. Our DaySailer "fleet curious" friends, Sebastian and Sarah Nicolas and daughter Emilie (who last minute filled in to crew even with a medical boot on) were a welcome addition too. Fleet 25 Galley Skipper (and Lido skipper), Christine Stamper prepared an outstanding memorable professional caliber feast on Saturday night. We had box (turtle) wine with our

gourmet steak and baked potato dinner in our beautiful Windward room. It was truly delicious and a perfect meal to warm the body and soul after cold wet sailing!

What stood out to me at this regatta, was really the warm sense of community in this Pacific Northwest Lido gang. The sailing was a lot of fun, however it was truly a joy to hang out with the fabulous fleet 25. And a joy to get to know our Lido friends from Fleets 81 and 82. Chip Balough (fleet 81) wasn't able to sail but came down for Kerry's clinic and helped with race committee. JB Cianciarulo and Shaun Prestidge (fleet 82) camped in our boat lot - brought great energy - and generously shared their cold beer while de-rigging Sunday (totally hit the spot!). John Purdy (our turtle superstar) and Bill Conerly washed ALL the dishes, glasses, silverware, and maintained smiles on their faces. There were so many folks rolling up sleeves to help inside and so many people rolling down sleeves (layering up!) to help RC outside, including Lido sailors Terry Goodall and Kent Derbyshire. We have one heck of a Lido Gang. Good stuff. See you all in Eugene for the 2024 Memorial Day Regatta.