

Fort Ridge Fall Classic Regatta 2026

 Whonnock Lake, Maple Ridge, BC

A Powerful First Step — Highlights from 2025

If you're wondering whether your child is ready for their first big competition — **this is the one.**

At last year's **Fort Ridge Fall Classic**, we brought a group of **7 young athletes** — **all of whom had never raced before.** What began as a learning opportunity quickly turned into something extraordinary:

 Together, they earned **over 15 medals**, discovered their competitive spirit, and made memories that will last a lifetime.

But beyond the medals, what truly stood out was their transformation. They arrived unsure and nervous... and left with **confidence, joy, and pride.** They supported one another, grew closer as a team, and realized just how much they're capable of — on and off the water.

As coaches, we witnessed raw talent emerge in real time. This event gave us the chance to **unlock their potential**, and gave them a stage to shine — even as first-timers.

The Fort Ridge Fall Classic is **more than a regatta.**

It's a chance for your child to **try something new**, grow in a positive environment, and take their **first step into the racing world** — surrounded by support, fun, and friends.

 If your child is curious about racing or looking for a new challenge, **this is the perfect place to begin.**



Event Overview

- **Event Dates:** Saturday, September 12 & Sunday, September 13, 2026
 - **Arrive on Saturday:** 7:00 AM (tentative)
 - **Location:** Whonnock Lake, 27871 – 113th Avenue, Maple Ridge, BC
 - **Arrival in Maple Ridge:** Friday, September 11, 2026
 - **Return to Edmonton:** Sunday evening, September 13, 2026
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Race Categories & Events

Each athlete will compete in **6 to 8 races** over the weekend.

- **U10:** 200m / 500m / 1000m – K1, Mixed K2, C1, Mixed C2
- **U12:** 200m / 500m / 1000m – K1, K2, K4, C1, C2, C4
- **U14:** 200m / 500m / 1000m – K1, K2, K4, C1, C2, C4
- **Novice (U16):** 200m / 500m / 1000m – K1, C1
(for athletes who started paddling within the last 2 years)
- **Open (15+):** 200m / 500m / 1000m – K1, K2, Mixed K4, C1, C2, Mixed C4
- **Open ParaCanoe / Special Olympics:** 200m / 500m

Between races, there is **plenty of downtime** to relax, eat, socialize, and cheer for teammates.

Venue Experience

Whonnock Lake provides a beautiful and family-friendly setting:

- Younger athletes enjoy playing in the **sand and swimming** between races
 - The venue is right on the **beachfront**, offering access to nature and recreation
 - Older athletes enjoy the **racing atmosphere** while the younger ones benefit from both sport and fun
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Entry Fees – \$400 per athlete

Includes:

- ☒ Regatta entry fee
-  Boat rental / Transportation
-  Coaching fees
-  Snacks during competition
-  Event coordination

Does NOT include:

- Accommodation
- Meals
- Local transportation

 **Payment Deadline:** September 6th

 **Travel & Flights**

 **Our coaches will be taking this flight**

Ginger Brown Adult		Departure flight new Lite Bundle
YEG Departs Edmonton, AB 07:10 PM September 11, 2026	F8703 →	YXX Arrives Abbotsford, BC 07:45 PM September 11, 2026
YXX Departs Abbotsford, BC 08:30 PM September 13, 2026	F8702 →	YEG Arrives Edmonton, AB 11:00 PM September 13, 2026

Saturday & Sunday (Regatta Days)

- **Breakfast:** Provided at the hotel
- **Lunch:** Bring your own
- **Dinners:**
 - **Saturday:** A **team dinner** will be organized (Families and Athletes are invited)

Accommodation

Group Reservation Hotel: Best Western Maple Ridge Hotel

Group Reservation Link (Block of 6 rooms booked):

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.62127.html?groupId=2S5CY4F3

 **Dates:** September 11–13, 2026

 **Hotel Booking deadline:** August 20th, 2026

 **Estimated Rate:** CAD **\$209 per night** (2 queen beds) If you see a higher rate on the booking system don't worry our rate is locked at \$209

- Located ~15–20 minutes from Whonnock Lake
- **Free hot breakfast:** waffles, eggs, sausage, pastries, yogurt, fruit
- **Free amenities:** Wi-Fi, parking, indoor pool, hot tub

What to Bring

- **Club racing singlet – \$50** (*ask your coach to buy one*)
- PFD (mandatory for athletes under 16)
- Paddle, kneepads, race gear
- Water bottle (refillable)
- Towels, sunscreen, sunglasses
- Hat, rain jacket, water shoes
- Extra set of clothes
- Folding chair
- **Binoculars** – great for viewing races and cheering teammates from a distance

Expectations & Conduct

- Athletes must demonstrate **respect, sportsmanship, and team spirit**
- **The club tent is for athletes, coaches, and parents as well**
- Please **stay mindful of space within the tent**, as it is not very big, and ensure that **athletes and coaches have priority**
- Families are encouraged to bring folding chairs and support the team with positive energy

Coaches

- **Zak Mahmoudi** – Head Coach and boat driver
- **Ginger Brown** – Bantam Coach
- **Seanna Stock** – Bantam Coach