



Scuttlebutt



December 2025

FIFTY POINT
YACHT CLUB

2025 Issue #12

12th Place Photo by Nancy Verbunt



Longing to be back at the Dock...

Want to submit a Photo for our Contest? Sent the Picture with background information (Location, boat name, photographer's name, caption, etc. to info@fpyc.ca – Thank you!



Commodore's Message

Wow, where did the year go? It feels like 2025 flew by, maybe thanks to the nonstop stream of global, U.S., and Canadian news coming at us daily. Between invasions, inflation, tariffs, ceasefires, elections, political squabbles, wildfires, fake news, climate worries, and yes, even the Blue Jays, there was plenty to keep our minds busy this year.

But despite all that noise, we had a really great year at Fifty Point Yacht Club — one that helped keep us focused on the good things in life. We packed the calendar with social and cruising events, welcomed a solid number of new members, and wrapped up the year with positive cash flow and a strong balance sheet. Not a bad way to head into 2026.

A big thank you to everyone who filled out the recent Member Survey. More than 67 of you took the time to let us know what worked well this year and where we can do better. You can see the survey highlights in the pages that follow. The Board will be meeting in December to nail down our 2026 plans using your feedback. Keep those ideas coming — and as always, we'd love any help members can offer to keep our social and cruising programs running strong.

Our first event of the new year is going to be “Learn to Curl” on January 17 at the Grimsby Curling Club. Thanks to Peter Collins and several GCC members, you'll learn the basics, get a few pointers, and then put your new skills to the test in a friendly game. Afterward, we'll head upstairs to the lounge/bar to warm up, grab some food and drinks, and share a few laughs. Not interested in stepping on the ice? No worries — spectators are welcome to watch from the lounge. Registration details will be out in early December.

A quick reminder that our Annual Member Meeting is happening on Sunday, January 25 at 2:00 pm at the Grimsby Royal Canadian Legion. You can join us in person or virtually on MS Teams. We'll share year-end updates, plans for the year ahead, and the financials for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Nancy Arnold will also be attending to provide us with the latest Marina Update. After the meeting, feel free to stick around and catch up with other members in the upstairs hall. This is your meeting, so we hope you'll join us however you can. Watch for the official “Notice of Meeting” in early December.

Lastly, Rita and I want to wish all of you a wonderful Christmas season. We hope you have plenty of time to relax and enjoy the company of family and friends over the holidays. Be happy, be healthy, and stay safe. Enjoy the December issue. ⚓

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This Month's Content

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- Save the Date / Annual Members Meeting
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Save the Date / Annual Members Meeting



SAVE THE DATE

FPYC Annual Members Meeting

Sunday, January 25th @ 2:00 PM

Grimsby Legion Branch 124 (Lower Level)

233 Elizabeth Street, Grimsby, ON
& On-Line via MS Teams

Mark your Calendars for our first in-person FPYC Annual Members Meeting since 2019. For those of you who will be unable to attend in person, we will provide the opportunity to participate on-line through MS Teams. Immediately following the meeting, we plan to hold a Member Reception in the upstairs hall where you can socialize with fellow members.

FPYC 2025 Year End Survey Highlights

Respondents

- 67 Members Responded (64 boating members, 3 social)
- 44 Sailboat owners, 23 Power Boat
- 64% have been members for < 10 years
- 54 respondents are 50+ years of age
- 46% joined FPYC for reciprocal privileges, 27% for social
- Value for Membership \$ - 63% Excellent, 31% Good

Club Cruises

- 65% of respondents attended at least 1 cruise this year
- 97% support maintaining a club cruising program
- Suggested destinations for 2026 - PCYC, NYC, RCYC, RHYC, LS, MMCC
- Full Moon Cruise: 72% in favour, Midweek Cruise: 64% in favour
- Importance of Reciprocal Privileges: 66% high, 27% medium
- Clubs Visited in 2025: 1-2 (39%), 3-4 (30%), 5-6 (9%)
- Average # nights/stay at other clubs: 1 (19%), 2 (51%), 3 (15%)
- 16 respondents indicated interest in being a Cruise Captain

Social Events

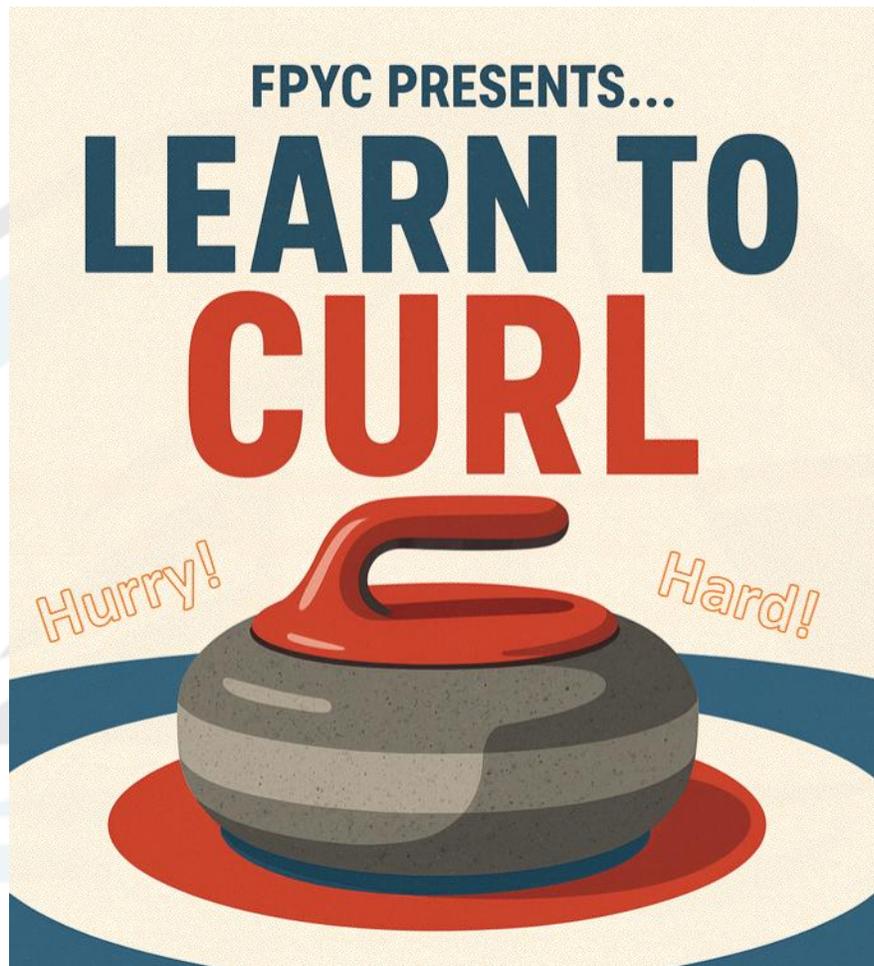
- Favourites: Pre-Launch BBQ, Welcome Potluck, Sailpast, Summer BBQ, Tailgater
- Interest in Winter events: Yes 61%
- Interest in joint social event with a nearby Clubs: Yes 55%
- Interest in Commodore's Ball – 12% in favour, 55% indifferent, 33% opposed
- Suggested Events: Canada Day Party, Dingy Games, Bocce Ball/Corn Hole Tournament, Trivia Night, Card games, Legion or Limani Event, Educational/Learning Seminars

Membership Perks – Most Popular

- Favourites: Kelsey's, DNA Pizza, Sunset Grill, Marine Doctors
- Suggestion: Limani, Turtle Jacks, 50 Pt Market, Winona Crossing business, Marine Supply Store, Grimsby on the Lake, JJ's on the Lake

Other Highlights

- Communication preference: 1. Scuttlebutt/Email, 2. FPYC Website. 3 Facebook
- Annual Meeting Attendance Plan: In Person (36%), On-Line (30%), No Show (34%)



Join your fellow FPYC Members at the Grimsby Curling Club

Saturday January 17th from 2:30 – 5:30 pm

for some real “COOL” fun!

GCC members will teach us how to play, then we’ll square-off against fellow members in this classic winter sport.

After the game, we’ll gather in the bar/lounge to share our experiences along with some snacks and refreshments.

The cost to play is **\$15 pp**, but only **\$5 pp** if you prefer to just watch the fun and hang out with your fellow members.

Register [HERE](#) for the “coolest” FPYC event of the year!



PHOTO CONTEST

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

**SUBMIT YOUR BEST PHOTOS TO
INFO@FPYC.CA**

***YOUR WINNING ENTRIES WILL
BE FEATURED IN SCUTTLEBUTT***

Why Sponsor FPYC???

Our Social Committee is working hard on putting together a great slate of activities for FPYC Members in 2026. To keep Member cost at a minimum or even at no-cost at all, we must count on important Sponsorships. Krista Toussaint is leading our initiative to propose suitable Sponsorship Opportunities. If you know any organization who would be willing to Sponsor FPYC, please reach out to Krista directly!



Fifty Point Yacht Club is nestled within the scenic Fifty Point Conservation Area, offering a perfect blend of natural beauty and modern convenience. Ideally situated just off the QEW Niagara, it provides easy access to nearby shopping, amenities, and vibrant neighboring communities.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR SPONSORSHIP - KRISTA

- 📞 905-973-1324
- ✉ krista_toussaint@yahoo.ca
- 🌐 www.fpyc.ca
- 📍 1479 Baseline Rd., Stoney Creek

WHO WE ARE

A thriving non-profit yacht club with nearly 100 members and growing, located in a marina featuring 336 boat slips. Boaters from near and far gather to enjoy a fun season filled with social events and exciting cruises. The majority of our members reside within a 30-minute radius, primarily from the Hamilton and Niagara regions. We welcome all ages and host many families!

WHEN OUR SEASON OPERATES

Our boating season runs from April to October, with events and membership perks offered all year round.

This year we have weekly and monthly events planned along with five cruises to neighbouring yacht clubs.

WHY SPONSOR US?

With close to 100 members and growing PLUS access to 336 Boat Slips plus visiting friends and families...

The possibilities are endless!

- We are a close-knit club built on strong community connections, with referrals playing a key role—especially for boat-related services, local dining, activities, and shopping.
- Our members share common interests, a passion for boating, and an appreciation for the finer things in life. Many spend weekends and extended stays at the club, seeking local places to dine, shop, and explore.
- We host a variety of weekly and monthly events, providing a fantastic opportunity for sponsors to showcase their brands through promotional items, prizes, signage, and giveaways.
- Our diverse membership spans all ages, including many families. Additionally, we welcome social members from the local community who may not be boaters but enjoy being part of our vibrant club.

Levels of Sponsorship

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

FIFTY POINT YACHT CLUB



PLATINUM SPONSOR \$1000

- Quarter size ad in Scuttlebutt for 12 months (\$375 value) - emailed to all members and displayed on Marina Board by Marina Office and Restaurant
- Official sponsor of One Event/Directional Sandwich Board
- Opportunity to place promo items in gift bags to all members at events
- Social Media Advertising - two ads per month from May to September
- Signage as Co-Host at One Major Event



GOLD SPONSOR \$500

- Quarter size ad in Scuttlebutt for 12 months (\$375 value) - emailed to all members and displayed on Marina Board by Marina Office and Restaurant
- Opportunity to place promo items in gift bags to all members at events
- Social Media Advertising - one ad per month from May to September



SILVER SPONSOR \$250

- Business size ad in Scuttlebutt for 12 months (\$275 value) - emailed to all members and displayed on Marina Board by Marina Office and Restaurant
- Opportunity to place promo items in gift bags to all members at events
- Social Media Advertising - two ads per Season (from May to September)



BRONZE SPONSOR \$100

- Business size ad in Scuttlebutt during one month of our busy summer season (from May to September)- emailed to all members and displayed on Marina Board by Marina Office and Restaurant
- Opportunity to place promo items in gift bags to all members at events
- Social Media Advertising - one ad per season (from May to September)



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

- Provide prizes for events (gift cards, promo items, etc)
- Provide membership perk

C O N T A C T : K R I S T A _ T O U S S A I N T @ Y A H O O . C A

Members Perks Program



GTHN Boat Polishing - 10%
Pita Pit- 10%
Kelsey's - 20%
Freshii - 15%
DNA Pizza - 10% on orders over 15.00
Booster Juice - 15%
Sunset Grill - 15%
Lazeez Shawarma - 15%
Pho Huy - 15%
Marine Doctors – 10% off labour
imPerfect Fresh Eats, Winona Crossing Plaza – 10%
Noodlebox, Winona Crossing Plaza – 10%

Members must present their membership cards to the server to receive the discounts.

If you have any “Perk” suggestions, please send us an e-mail at info@fpyc.ca

Why Sustainable Boating Matters

Thank you Tara Dinyer for this submission from Boat Blurb ([link](#))

More than 70% of our world is made up of water. For boaters, the waves atop the surface represent both freedom up top and responsibility down below. Sustainable boating is a movement towards protecting the rivers, lakes, and oceans that provide us so much joy. Adopting eco-friendly equipment and thoughtful boating practices will help preserve the maritime habitats that enable boating, whether you're living aboard permanently or a dayboating adventurer. Here are some helpful tips to make every trip safer, greener, and more environmentally friendly.

Why It Matters

Although boating allows us to have a direct connection with nature, it also poses risks through habitat destruction, fuel spills, and the accumulation of wastes. "Green boating" is about lessening your impact through waste management and pollution prevention. Everyone benefits from cleaner waters, including future generations who will need clean boating grounds, safe swimming conditions, and a healthy marine ecosystem, same as we enjoy today. Sustainable boating not only enhances the quality of your time on the water, it also guarantees that the beauty of our waterways continues.

Eco-Friendly Products that Make a Difference

Sustainability often begins with the products aboard your boat. Marine life can be harmed by chemicals or plastics found in common items like kitchenware, cleaning products, and maintenance tools. By swapping them out for more environmentally friendly options, waste and pollution are decreased without sacrificing functionality.

1. Non-Toxic Cleaning Products

Conventional boat cleaners frequently use harsh chemicals that can contaminate marine ecosystems by seeping into the water. The most common are phosphates, ammonia, and chlorine. Fish, coral, and algae populations can be permanently impacted by even tiny amounts of runoff from cleaning your deck or hull.

Cleaners that are phosphate-free and biodegradable provide the same level of cleaning power without harming the environment. Biodegradable soaps and degreasers from companies like Better Boat and Star Brite Sea Safe decompose organically after use. To make sure your items reduce their impact on the environment, look for certificates like "EPA Safer Choice" or "biodegradable within 28 days."

2. Solar Powered Equipment

One of the easiest ways to reduce pollutants and fuel usage when boating is to use solar energy. Lighting systems, navigational aids, bilge pumps, and even tiny appliances can be powered by solar panels. To keep your batteries charged without using any fuel, many new boats can be equipped with solar panels, or even flexible solar mats, that are easy to affix to decks or canopies. Solar equipment not only powers necessities but also lessens the need for generators, which makes your travels not just cleaner, but quieter too.

3. Reusable and Durable Essentials

One of the biggest hazards to the ocean is single-use plastics. Over eight million tons of plastic are dumped into the ocean annually, where they decompose into microplastics that poison fish, birds, and even our drinking water.

By using reusable glassware and storage containers, you can drastically lessen your impact. Try going boating with reusable silicone bags, glass or stainless steel bottles, and beeswax wraps rather than zip-lock bags or plastic wrap. Whenever possible, use compostable utensils and dishes that are melamine-free. You can even invest in sturdy dock lines, reusable fenders, and recycled-material ropes for boat hardware and accessories that will last longer and require fewer replacements. These little exchanges not only save money over time, they also safeguard the water you cherish.

4. Fuel-Efficient Upgrades

In addition to cutting expenses, which is on every boater's mind, fuel efficiency lowers emissions and the danger of oil contamination. By installing a fuel flow meter, you can monitor and maximize fuel consumption in real time, ensuring that your boat is operating at its maximum efficiency.

Even more, fuel economy can be increased by up to 30% with routine engine maintenance. Basic services like cleaning injectors and replacing filters can make a huge difference to your bottom line. Even more, the growing market for electric and hybrid outboard motors, which provide quieter rides and almost completely prevent fuel spills, is getting close to reaching parity with its gas-powered brethren. Despite a typically increased initial cost, a keen eye for maintenance and a move towards electric alternatives can save money over time while simultaneously benefiting the environment.

Habits that Protect the Water

Bad habits cannot be overcome by even the best equipment. Marine preservation is influenced by how you run your vessel and take care of your surroundings. Being sensitive of how your actions affect the water, wildlife, and adjacent ecosystems is the first step towards sustainable boating.

1. Manage Waste Responsibly

One of the pillars of sustainable boating is effective waste management. Always keep separate containers for hazardous waste, recyclables, and non-recyclables. To stop waste from blowing overboard, keep lids covered and secure. Additionally, human waste needs to be handled carefully. Untreated sewage discharge into open ocean adds to the depletion of oxygen in marine environments and spreads bacteria. Use a holding tank or marine sanitation device and only release at approved pump-out locations. These days, a lot of marinas provide these services for free or at a very low cost.

To take it a step further, consider planning your own beach garbage collecting day or take part in a neighbourhood cleaning initiative. Many marinas are beginning to offer 'cleanup days' for their members to join. Not only is it a chance to clean up your local waterway, it's also a chance to meet new boating friends. Through

community cleaning days, each individual effort is amplified, and the boating community is held accountable through collective action.

2. Prevent Oil and Fuel Discharge

Even in little quantities, oil is one of the most damaging contaminants to marine life. Maintain your engine by replacing outdated hydraulic lines before they break, tightening hardware, and looking for leaks. Look for corrosion, signs of wear due to age, expired or overused components, and respond accordingly.

Additionally, remember to shut off the bilge pump when refueling to avoid contamination from overflow (not to mention the risk of spark). Keep a spill kit on board in case of an emergency and surround the nozzle with gasoline collars or absorbent pads. A bilge sock is a great tool and a small expense. Make sure you don't fill up the tank all the way! Always allow 10% room for expansion, particularly on hot days. These small actions will save you money and safeguard the mechanical integrity of your boat.

3. Anchor and Cruise Responsibly

Coral habitats and delicate seabeds can suffer permanent harm from improper anchoring. For information on designated mooring locations, always consult your charts or consult with your local marina or

information source. Instead of anchoring on seagrass beds or coral reefs, which are vital habitats for marine life, choose sandy or muddy bottoms whenever possible.

On a smaller scale, be mindful to slow down and remain calm when cruising through wildlife zones. Manatees, dolphins, and sea turtles are especially susceptible to propeller damage. Many local jurisdictions have legislation where needed, but it's still a good habit any time you're in an isolated natural area. Try to steer clear of feeding animals or tossing food scraps overboard as this might cause wildlife to become reliant on humans and interfere with normal feeding habits.

Sustainable boating isn't about downplaying the boating experience; it's about securing the future of boating itself by respecting the environment in ways we haven't previously done. Every fuel-saving improvement, conscientious behaviour, and cleaner product contributes to maintaining the health and vitality of the waters we cherish. Sustainable boating guarantees that the open water will continue to be a place of beauty, harmony, and adventure for future generations, and that's why we need to keep protecting it right now. ⚓



Photo- Christian de Stradis / Unsplash

GAMRU South Shore Search and Rescue

Help Support GAMRU South Shore Search and Rescue



You can now support GAMRU by downloading and shopping through FlipGive!

FlipGive is a shop-and-raise website where sports teams, leagues, schools and other community causes can raise money by shopping online. GAMRU earns cash back when you shop online with popular retailers such as Nike, Under Armour, Starbucks, ALDO, and more.

Get started now by visiting GAMRU on [FlipGive](#) or download the app on the Apple App Store or Google Play



flipgive

SB Editor's Note: FPYC is very grateful to have GAMRU operating out of our Marina, ready to provide assistance when needed. As with past years, FPYC donated \$500 to GAMRU this October to express our gratitude for their dedicated service to local boaters. ⚓

Update from CanBoat/Nautisavoir

SAILING COURSE

This sailing course covers the practical and theoretical basics of sailing and sailing seamanship.

No prerequisites required

- Course length 10-11 weeks, Thursday nights
- Start Date Thursday February 5, 2026
- Start Time 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Macassa Bay Yacht Club, 80 Harbour Front Drive, Hamilton
- Last day to register, January 1, 2026 (takes 4 weeks to receive materials)

Cost: \$165.00

Includes Instruction, Book and Quiz

Book Online at www.canboat.ca

Note: Under all courses, click Course Calendar, scroll down to find Sailing, Click Find a Class, Click Classroom, Click Hamilton

Never taken a CanBoat course: Click sign up and create an account.

Need assistance: Contact Ron Warby 905-389-5719 or ronwarby46@gmail.com

#####

Upcoming Classes

Basic Navigation and Boat Handling

Improve your boating experience by registering for this online informative course.

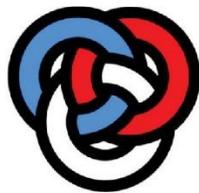
Check it out at www.canboat.ca Click All Courses, Course Calendar

Course starts January 29, 2026

Need assistance: ronwarby46@gmail.com



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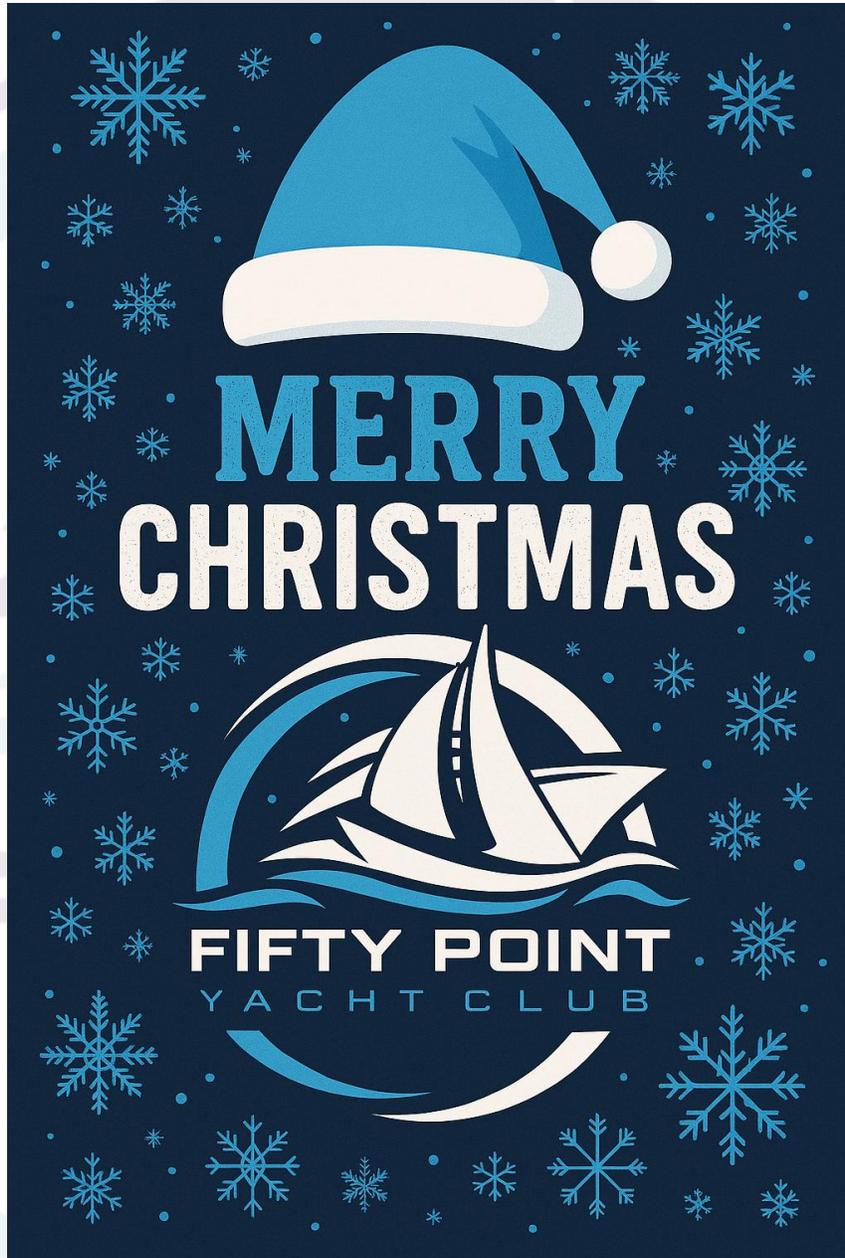
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December 2025



Christmas Salad

(www.simplystacie.net/)

Servings: 8 | Time: 1 hr 10 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 head Broccoli (chopped into florets)
- 1 head Cauliflower (chopped into florets)
- 1 Red Onion (thinly sliced)
- 2 cups Cherry Tomatoes (halved)
- 1 cup Mayonnaise
- ½ cup Sour Cream
- 1 tablespoon Sugar

Directions

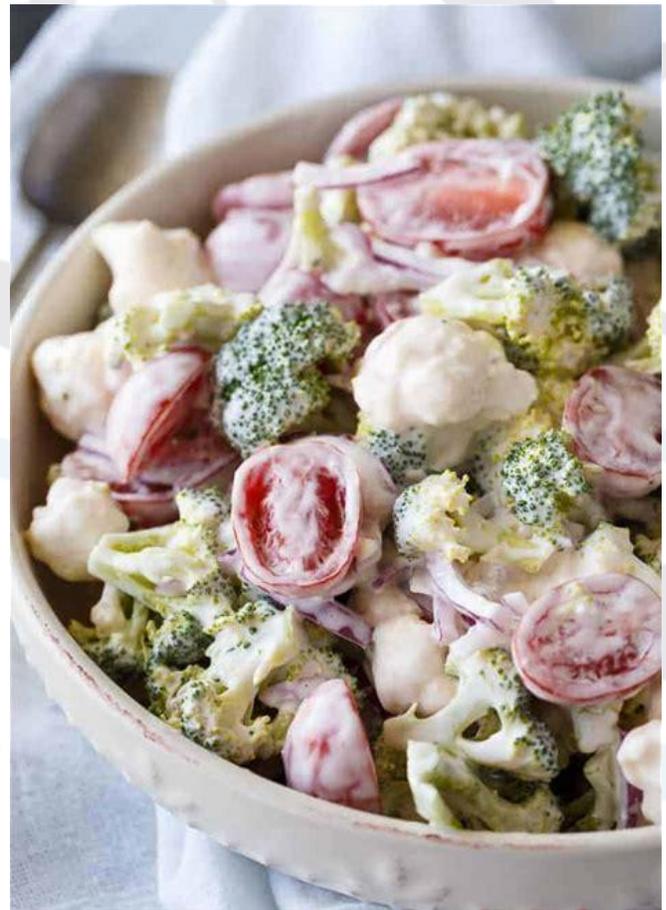
- Add veggies into a salad bowl.
- In another bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, sour cream and sugar. Pour over veggies and toss together.
- Chill in the fridge one hour before serving.

Substitutions

Mayonnaise: fat-free or low-fat mayonnaise

Sour Cream: 1 cup plain whole yogurt, 3 tablespoon melted butter or ¾ cup buttermilk plus ¼ cup oil or ¾ cup milk, ¾ teaspoon lemon juice and ⅓ cup butter or margarine

Sugar: 1 cup light brown sugar (packed) or 2 cups powdered sugar or ¾ cup honey (reduce liquid in recipe by ¼ cup)



Items of Interest

FPYC is not endorsing these sites, but they may be of interest to our Club Members.

LIMANI AT FIFTY / LIMANI ON HESS https://limaniatfifty.com / Limani on Hess	GAMRU www.gamru.ca
Transport Canada – Safe Boating Guide Download PDF Here	Canadian Yachting http://www.canadianyachting.ca/
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