



SOCIETY OF MACKINAC ISLAND OLD GOATS – GRAND RAMS

In 1998, the Society of Mackinac Island Old Goats created a new classification marking an important milestone attained by only a few Bayview Mackinac Race sailors. The society recognizes, with special honors, sailors who have completed a minimum of fifty Bayview Mackinac Races. This honor and designation make such sailors GRAND RAMS. Since the yacht BERNIDA first crossed the finish line on the Straits in Mackinac on July 25, 1925 more than seven hundred sailors have become Old Goats, but as of 2019 only twenty-seven intrepid soles have sailed 50 or more Mackinac Races.

Having completed a minimum of fifty Mackinac Races requires more than one hundred twenty days on the water and some fourteen thousand miles of sailing. They have likely endured more than one hundred thunderstorms and suffered through five hundred or more watch changes.

Membership in the Society of Mackinac Island Old Goats – Grand Rams is open to all sailors who have completed a minimum of fifty Bayview Mackinac Races. Applications are available on the Bayview Mackinac Race website www.bycmack.com under the Race Info tab. Applications are due by May 1st each year. Membership notifications will be sent out around June 1st each year.

Newly inducted Grand Rams are recognized on Mackinac Island during the Island Awards Party following the Bayview Mackinac Race. They are also honored each year at the Old Goats Cocktail Party prior to the Mackinac Award Party in the fall. Their names are added to the Grand Ram Plaque in the Mackinac Room at Bayview Yacht Club and the Grand Ram Trophy in the Regatta Room at Bayview Yacht Club.

Members of the Society of Mackinac Island Old Goats Committee are Raymond S. Adams (Chair), Winifred Adams, Com. Robert Amsler, Com. Brian J. Geraghty, James Gerometta, Com. Robert Niederoest, Stos' Popowich, Robert Schappe, Sandra Thompson, Com. Chuck Bayer, Jr., Com. John Burke, and Com. Tom Meier. Please contact Ray Adams at adams@sailepic.com with any questions or to submit your application.

To order a Grand Ram blazer patch or other Grand Ram merchandise please see the Old Goat/Grand Ram Merchandise on the Bayview Mackinac Race website www.bycmack.com under the Race Info tab.