

August 7, 2017

Canadian Lifeguard Challenge athletes take home \$20,000

Halifax – Canada’s top 18 male and female lifesaving sport athletes competed at the 2017 Canadian Lifeguard Challenge (CLC) on Sunday, August 6 at Martinique Beach Provincial Park – **and the results are in.**

“The top 18 lifeguards in Canada dealt with Martinique Beach's wind, waves and rainy conditions to demonstrate their expert lifesaving skills and tremendous fitness,” says Paul D’Eon, Director of the Nova Scotia Lifeguard Service. “The best of the best put on a great show today!”

The CLC is a high-performance, by-invitation-only, surf lifesaving competition sanctioned by the Lifesaving Society Canada. Each CLC athlete earned their invitation through their placing at the 2016 Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships at Parlee Beach, New Brunswick. The CLC is composed of three Oceanman/Oceanwoman events including surf ski, paddleboarding, and swimming. The CLC has three rounds, and is scored on the basis of total points accumulated from each round.

Cash prizes totalling \$20, 000 were awarded to the top eight placing male and top eight female competitors. Nova Scotia’s Jason Cross and Ontario’s Alexandra Ferguson each won first place, both taking home \$5, 000. Ontario’s James Verreault and Quebec’s Sandrine Hamel took second place and \$3, 000, and Quebec’s Didier Dupas and Marie-Helene Paquette took third and \$1, 000.

“As Canada’s lifeguarding experts, the Lifesaving Society knows that successful rescues are often a race against time, and lifesaving sport provides a great training incentive for those emergencies,” says Doug Ferguson, Executive Director of Lifesaving Society Ontario. “The Canadian Lifeguard Challenge is a triple triathlon test of skill and endurance and the most demanding lifesaving sport event in Canada.”

NOTE: A complete list of results from the 2017 CLC follows this release.

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About this organization: The Lifesaving Society is a national, charitable organization working to prevent drowning and reduce water related injury through our training programs, Water Smart® public education, drowning research and aquatic safety standards. The Lifesaving Society certifies Canada’s National Lifeguards. For more information, visit our website at www.lifesavingsociety.ns.ca.

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2017 Canadian Lifeguard Challenge Results

Female Placing:

- 1st – Alexandra Ferguson (58 points)
- 2nd – Sandrine Hamel (56 points)
- 3rd – Marie-Helene Paquette (46 points)
- 4th – Kathleen Belliveau (44 points)
- 5th – Alyce Sutcliffe (39 points)
- 6th – Claudine Courteau-Godmaire (35 points)
- 7th – Marie-Charlotte Hamel (33 points)
- 8th – Laurie Depault (31 points)

Male Placing:

- 1st – Jason Cross (60 points)
- 2nd – James Verreault (54 points)
- 3rd – Didier Dupas (48 points)
- 4th – Mackenzie Salmon (41 points)
- 5th – Zach Dorion (38 points)
- 6th – Scott Southwood (37 points)
- 7th – Colm Somers (30 points)
- 8th – Gabriel Quenneville (29 points)
- 9th – Johnathan Wyatt (28 points)
- 10th – Gabriel Selway (22 points)



The CLC athletes before the competition began on Sunday, Aug. 6, 2017.