

American Kiteboarding Association

KITE RACER OF THE YEAR

2013 NOMINEES

BRYAN LAKE | GO FASTER



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

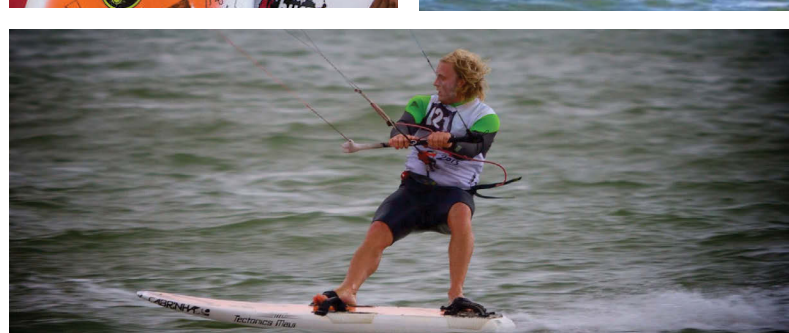
2013 Kite Slalom Men's World Champion
Undeclared in Series

2013 Kite Course Racing
North American Championship
Runner Up

2013 Kite Foilboard
California State Championship
Runner Up

2013 Kite Course Racing
Canadian National Championship
Runner Up

Bryan is a natural talent and 2013 was a crown year for the San Diego native. After countless podium finishes at major championships around the world Bryan rung the bell in 2013 claiming the PKRA Kite Slalom Racing World Championship in style, undefeated. He won every single regatta convincingly. What makes Bryan so fast you ask? You'll have to check with him to get the details. What we do know is that he can make anything go fast. From skimboards to foilboards, a Finn Olympic dinghy to CFJs Bryan just simply goes fast. Even in slow boats... he's the fastest guy out there. A consummate professional and all around great guy you can find him in his office just about anywhere... the beach.



ERIKA HEINEKEN | ROCK SOLID



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

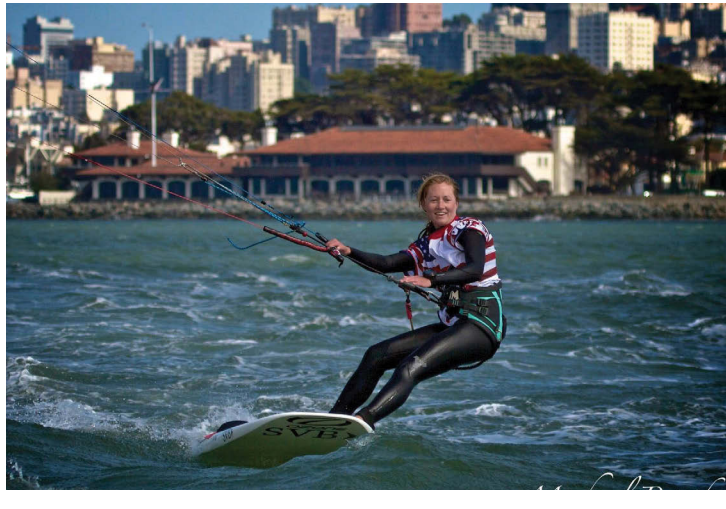
2013 Kite Course Racing
Women's World Champion

2013 Kite Course Racing
North American Women's Champion

2013 Kites and Big Cats Championship
Women's Champion

2013 Kite Course Racing
Canadian National Championship
Women's Champion

Winning a second Kite Racing World Championship title in a row Erika definitely showed her mettle in 2013. Leading into the Worlds an epic throwdown in the Women's fleet was certain. Rivals Steph Bridge and Elena Kalinina both flashed some deadly speed and smarts at events earlier in the year. It was anyone's guess who was going to take the 2013 World title. Add to that, breaking waves at the top mark and semi-submerged jetsam dotting the racecourse the regatta was ripe for drama. Not to be phased Erika came in firing and didn't quit. She won 12 of 14 races and claimed her spot with undoubted confidence. In addition Erika was Women's Champion at the Canadian Nationals, the North Americans, the AC Open, and the American Kiteboard Association's West Coast Tour.



JOEY PASQUALI | LOCAL HERO, INTERNATIONAL FLAIR



Sausalito resident, multi-discipline kiter, and all around good guy Joey Pasquali makes it all look easy. But what you don't see on the face of it is that he is one of the hardest working kites out there. If there's breeze, Joey is on the water training. Even when there's no breeze he might pump up just to test the lower limits of the equipment. He has a strong sailing background in the 420, 29er, and 49er fleets and is a pioneer of strapless kiting with a skimboard. He rocketed to the top of the fleet in the 70cm Raceboard Class, and is now one of the top Kite Foilboard riders in the world. Look out for Joey in 2014 at the 70cm Worlds and in the Kite Foilboard Gold Cup results.

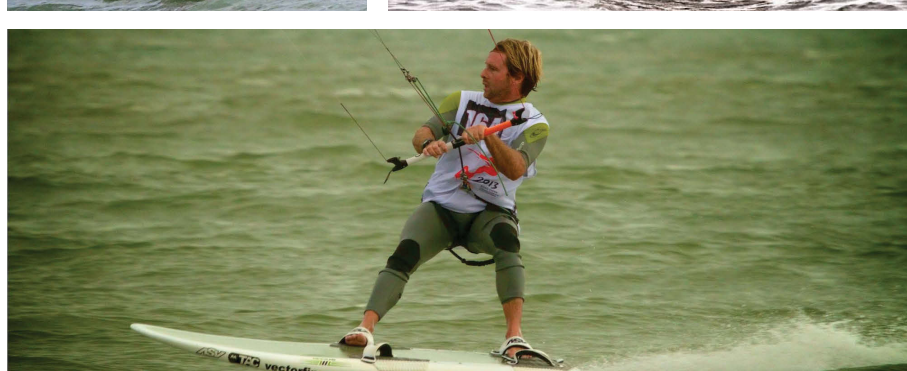
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2013 Lagunitas Kite Series
Overall Champion

2013 Kites and Big Cats
Runner Up

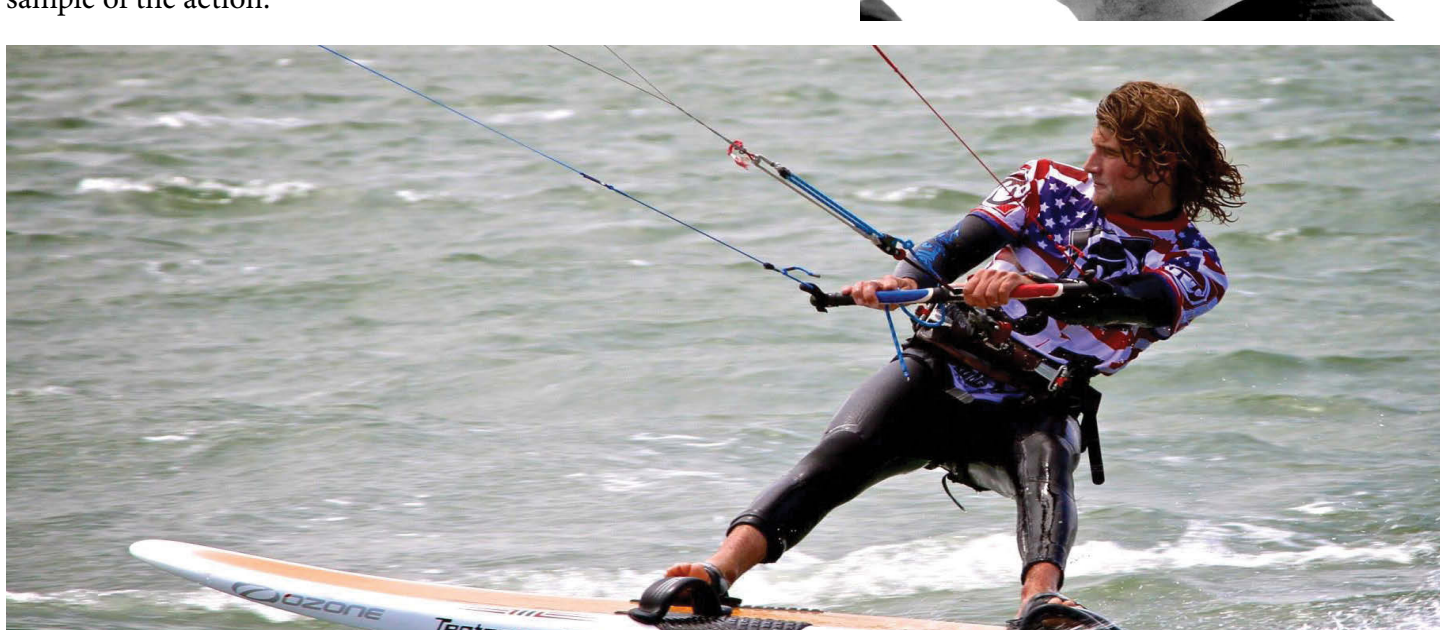
2013 Kite Course Racing
North American Championship
Seventh Place

2013 Spring Dinghy Regatta
Runner Up



JOHN HEINEKEN | LIVING LEGEND

With untouchable skill, blistering speed, and groundbreaking performances Johnny sails at a completely different level. From his legendary, stratospheric snow-kiting jump to his Ronstan Bridge to Bridge record run the list of accomplishments in 2013 was extremely long. All this and he manages to fit a full-time job into the mix. One of the coolest things he did this year however didn't necessarily make headlines. Johnny was instrumental in starting the first youth kite racing program in the United States. He dedicated his time and connected his resources to the program and they're turning out some future champions right quick. And at 25 years old he's got a lot of time left to rack up more titles. Look for Johnny in the Kite Foilboard fleet in 2014 and check out his tacking and gybing vid on YouTube for a little sample of the action.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2013 Kite Course Racing World Championship
Second Place

2013 Kite Foilboard
California State Champion

2013 Kite Course Racing
North American Champion

2013 Kite Course Racing African Championship
First Place



TY REED | "WAIT, I'M A MASTER?"



He's done it all and he's one of the most humble guys out there. Hailing from San Diego, CA Ty was a successful youth dinghy racer all the way to Olympic athlete. While at St. Mary's College Ty was awarded All-American honors and won three national championships including a Team Racing title with teammates Anthony Kotoun and Mark Ivey. After college Ty teamed up with Bora Gulari to compete in the 49er fleet for two Olympic quads. In 2013 he racked up a couple of podium finishes in the Kite Class as well. His Master's World Title at the 2013 Worlds in King Bay Bao China and second place at the US National Championship among them. He's absolutely one of the most experienced guys on the Kite racecourse and a deserving of the title "master".

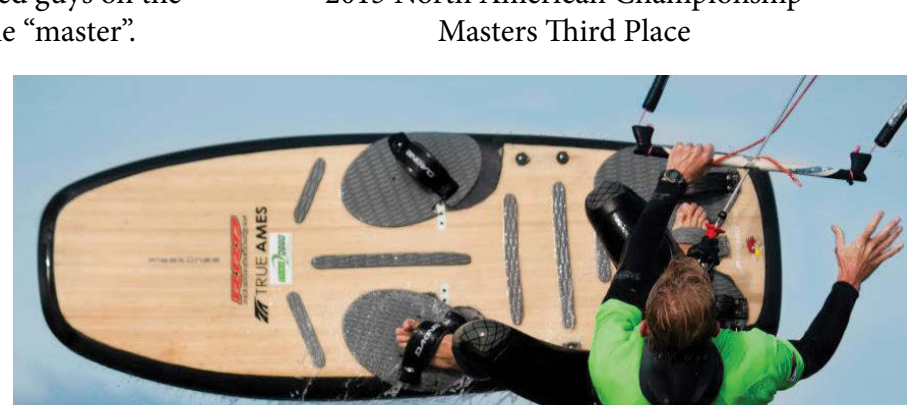
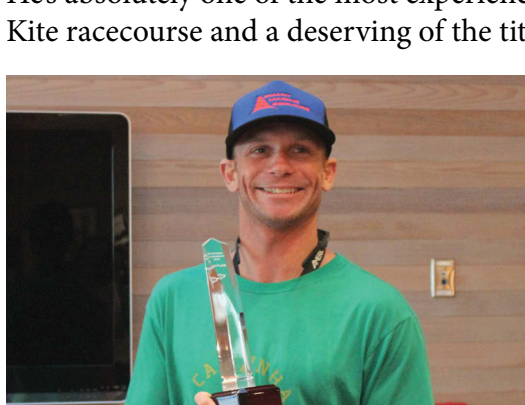
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2013 Kite Course Racing
Masters World Champion

2013 Kite Course Racing
US National Championship
Runner Up

2013 Kites and Big Cats
Third Place

2013 North American Championship
Masters Third Place



A huge kudos to our contributing photographers, who capture the action, beauty, and joy in the sport of kite racing: Michael Petrikov, Chris Ray, Guacamole Kite, Toby Bromwich, Andrea Bass, and someone at San Diego Yacht Club.