

Bob Holtsman Photography – Biography

My triathlon journey started back in 1986. My first race was the 1986 Bridge City Triathlon. Back in those days we swam in Harry Bailey Aquatic Centre, biked along Spadina, and ran the MVA trail. The bike was especially fun because we crossed over the old Traffic Bridge, and climbed the hill at Cherry Lane. For safety and logistical reasons, we only raced this awesome course once.

I also raced the Frank Dunn Triathlon in Waskesiu that year. We swam in the lake, biked to Spruce Home, and ran to the RedWing School just outside Prince Albert. That course was changed a couple years later so all parts of the race were inside the park, and was much better for athletes and spectators.

My fondest triathlon memory was completing the 1990 Ironman Canada in Penticton.

I was very involved with the club back then, and was Co-Race Director of the 1992 Bridge City Triathlon, along with Ron Golden. We swam in the river that year! But that's another story.

I also ran several marathons between 1989 and 1996. Those long training runs were the beginning of the end for my triathlon career. I had knee surgery in 1999, and never raced again.

Since I couldn't race, I decided to take pictures instead. This was back in the days of film. I had a really good Pentax 35mm camera, and a telephoto lens, and I would go to races and shoot my friends. On a good day I'd shoot 2-3 rolls of film, so around 100 images max.

When digital photography became mainstream, I purchased a small point-and-shoot, and did my best to capture some events, taking into account the difficulty of shooting moving bikes and people with the inherent shutter lag of the early automatic digital cameras. But I was also shooting 200-300 images per event, and more people were enjoying my photos.

Opening a Facebook account back in 2010 provided a wonderful platform for sharing my photos.

Eventually I graduated to a professional grade DSLR and was shooting over 1000 images per event. In the last couple years I started posting event images in Google web albums, and my viewership increased dramatically.

I retired in June of 2017 after 39 years in the construction industry. My love of photography grew into a bit of a business prior to retiring, and has continued to grown in the last six months. I built a Squarespace website, and my images can be viewed at www.bobholtsmanphotography.com.

My current interests include Sport, Event and Lifestyle photography, however, I am also doing some commercial work. Give me call if you need a headshot!

I'm pretty excited about my expanding relationship with the Saskatoon Triathlon Club and capturing and sharing photos from their many awesome events.

Keep an eye of for me at events this summer, and when you see me, smile and wave!

Have fun, and race safe!