The Windward Panther End-of-Season Report – May 2016





MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

We had a great spring season, competing in seven regattas, a great improvement on last year thanks to the mild winter! We were able to start practicing as soon as we returned from spring break (our last practice this year was on the same day as our first day on Dunmore last year).

We welcomed six new members, including four new febs and two exchange students. As always, we enjoyed teaching newcomers to the sport and watching them grow as racers. A highlight of the season was winning US Sailing's collegiate burgee bracket competition.

Looking forward to next season, we are excited to host the fourth annual Stuart Walker regatta September 17th. The same weekend, we are hosting a friends and alums of MCSC regatta and dinner. Invitations and details to follow- but save the date!

Alden Cowap '17, Commodore and Rebecca Freeman '18, Co- Social Chair







Spring 2016 was another excellent season of progress for the Middlebury sailors. In late March, nine sailors traveled to St. Petersburg, FL for five full days of training at Eckerd College. Being able to get out on the water for 4.5 beautiful days of sailing was an incredible jump to our season that we needed before returning to a cold but thawing Vermont. Despite busy schedules and lingering chilly weather in a shorter season, we routinely had 4-6 boats at practice everyday!

We ended on an excellent note at Tufts, bringing eight sailors to compete in the Mendums Pond Invite. Being able to travel with a group of new sailors as well as our strongest racers to the same event makes college sailing unique; one group's new learning experience is another group's opportunity to compete with highly competitive and regionally ranked sailors.

This team has come a long way this year, and we all look forward to more successes in the future. -Alex Levin

ALUM SPOTLIGHT!



Peter Huoppi '00
Pictured far right,
designer of the burgee

Sep 17-18	Stu Walker UVM
Sep 24-25	Roger Williams URI
Oct 1-2	MIT
Oct 8-9	Bowdoin Bates
Oct 15-16	Mass Maritime McGill
Oct 22-23	BC Tufts
Oct 29-30	Fall Tourney at Mitchell College
Nov 5-6	BU MIT

"The current incarnation of the sailing club was started by Bill Noto '97. The team sailed their first regatta at Bowdoin on September 14, 1997. Matt Holt, Kevin Murphy, Bill Noto and Cammie Dixon finished fifth out of six. We didn't have boats yet, so we didn't practice at all, we only competed on the weekends. Somewhere along the way it was decided that a legitimate sailing club needed to have a burgee.

There was a small core of active members, the people listed above, plus myself, Chris Morgan '00, Jason MacMurray '99, Jess Silverman '00, Jed Harris '99 and Pete Steinberg '99. (I apologize if I'm leaving anyone out) During one of our meetings, the group came up with the concept of a blue flag with two boats whose sails would make an "M." I had some basic PhotoShop experience, so I volunteered to do the design. We added it to our fledgling website and on the front of t-shirts with a drawing on the back by Simon Adams and the motto "No Boats, No Problem." It's very exciting to see how far the team has come in terms of boats and facilities, and it's nice to see that the burgee we designed is still in use." —Peter Huoppi

Looking to become more involved?

Host the team! Our sailors travel across the country to regattas, let us know if you are willing to host four of us for a weekend!

Fundraise! The team is fundraises for the spring training trip, coaching expenses, new boats and equipment, and other needs. We would love for alumni to help coordinate our fundraising efforts.

For more information or to donate please contact Alden Cowap, Commodore

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