

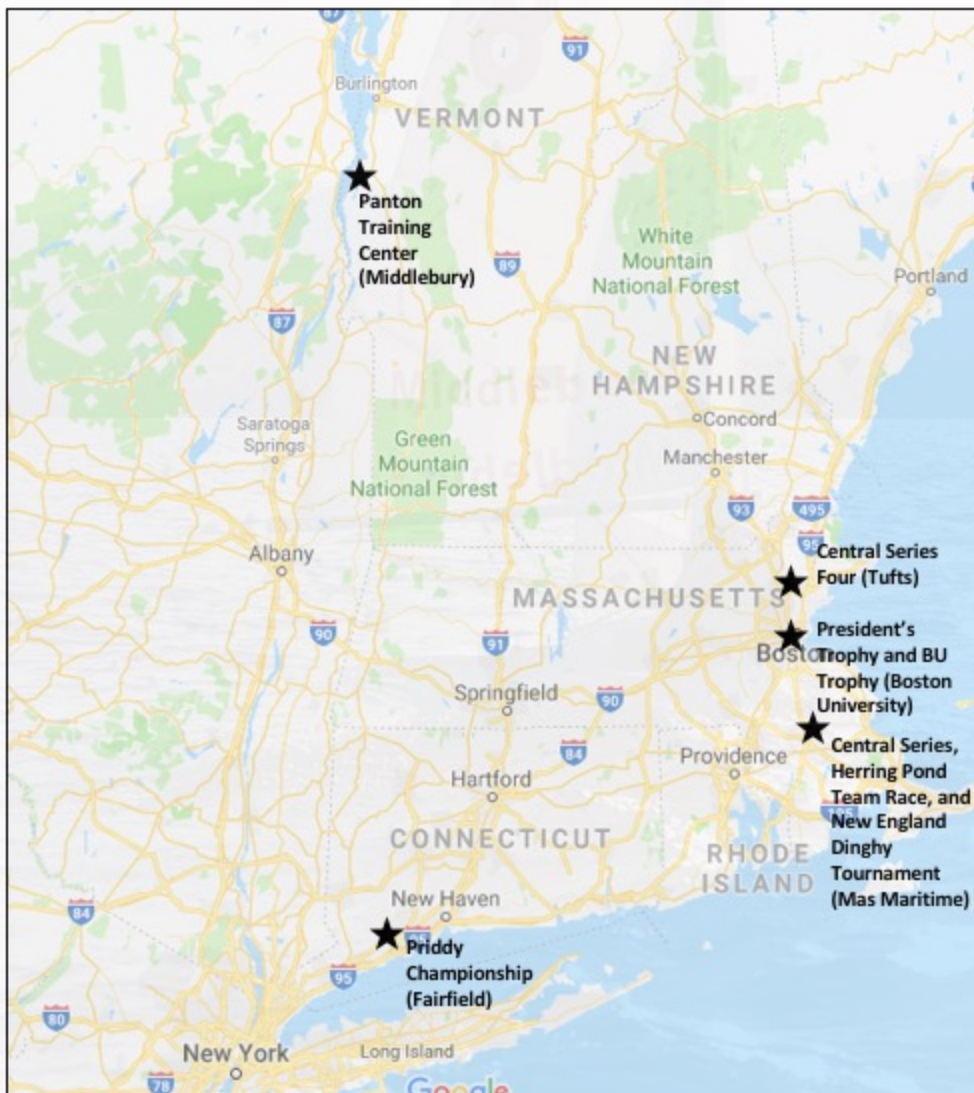
Middlebury Sailing



Spring Season Recap

The spring season is generally much shorter than the fall and the team raced in a total of 7 regattas, including our first team race! Highlights include:

- 3rd at the Herring Pond Team Race
- 3rd at the New England Dinghy Tournament
- 6th at the Mass Maritime Central Series



Spring Break

While Lake Champlain remained frozen through March, the team had a productive week sailing out of the US Sailing Center in Miami. We had four days of steady wind, bluebird sunshine, lots of improvement, and even more sunburns! A big thank you to the Leshaw family for generously hosting us!



End of Season Barbeque and Awards

Most valuable skipper: Anna Spiro

Most valuable crew: Casey Astiz

Most improved: Ding Pang

Coach's Award: Nico Leshaw

Bullets: Alex Baskin, Casey Astiz, Anna Spiro, Ben Arquit, Mollie Ockene, Hanna Mass, Ding Pang, Allie White



Coach's Corner



This spring season was hampered by a lingering winter, and ice on the lake until early April. There was no available water in March, but the team had a productive spring break training trip to Miami. We had four full days of sailing out of the US Sailing Team Training Center on Biscayne Bay under perfect conditions. The four days of practice made up for a lack of sailing in Vermont and the 12 traveling sailors all saw

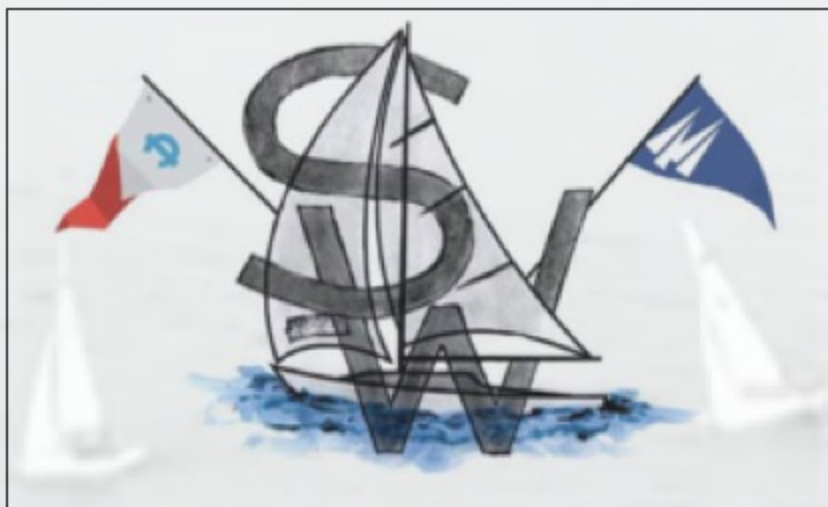
substantial improvement that would pay off back in New England. Thanks to U Miami and the Leshaw family for hosting the team.

The following weekend was the spring dinghy tournament. This was originally scheduled to be sailed at Middlebury but was moved to Mass Maritime due to ice on Lake Champlain. The team narrowly missed second place and qualifying for the New England Championship. They finished in third, only three points behind Maine Maritime academy. The effort featured a standout performance by seniors Alex Baskin and Casey Astiz who made up a 5 point deficit in the final rotation. Overall this season saw 19 students competing and featured the first team race and women's regatta in recent memory. Of the 41 conference member schools, Middlebury can confidently claim 19th this spring.

Looking forward, our fall season is looking promising. Our monstrous dock system seems to finally be on autopilot thanks to continued support from alumni Annie Hopper and Sean Willeford. Our new venue is still a work in progress and continues to improve each season. Continued donations have gone a long way to support a quickly growing program. Despite losing six graduating seniors and three key members going abroad, the fall roster will be large and talented, allowing for more boats sailing each practice and more regattas attended. We're scheduled for 14 carefully planned and selected regattas this fall with the goal of breaking the 18th place threshold to qualify for the Schell. Our home regatta, the Stuart Walker Trophy has been upgraded to a C-level event and will now count towards overall conference rankings and will be sailed on September 14th. Each season is getting better with a larger roster and better performance, and this fall is developing to be successful.

You are cordially invited to
The 6th annual
Stuart Walker Regatta

Hosted by the Middlebury College Sailing Club



Events

Saturday September 14th: Support you favorite sailors at our home venue NEISA regatta. Afterwards, join us for cocktail hour/dinner! (location TBA)

Sunday September 15th: Participate in the Friends and Family Regatta on Lake Champlain!

Message from the Commodore

It has been another great season for the team. We started off on the right foot before spring break with a regatta at Mass Maritime where we sailed 6th place finish among some quality competition. We then had our spring training trip to Miami where 12 of us had a great week of practice in very heavy wind conditions. The trip is always a highlight and this year was no different. Thank you to the Leshaw family for hosting us!

We also sailed our first ever team race, where we came in 3rd and beat Tufts thanks to some great sailing from some of our underclassmen. In the New England Dinghy Tournament, the team finished 3rd in a very close regatta.

We had our fair share of struggles this spring with our docks, which severely limited the amount of practice we got in, but the team persevered. We had multiple practices where we carried boats into the water and had great results at regattas, even with very minimal practice.

Finally, the team grew in size for another year, adding a host of new Freshmen and Feb's who will contribute for years to come. The skill level of the team is growing every day and we look forward to a very heavy racing schedule in the fall. Thank you to all of our graduating seniors who have contributed so much to the team over their four years at Midd. You will be missed!

We are looking forward to a relaxing summer and getting after it when we return in the fall!

Ben Arquit '20

Commodore

Graduating Seniors

As our season comes to an end and graduation quickly sneaks up, we sadly say goodbye to some of our favorite members of the team! It's hard to imagine Middlebury sailing without the class of 2019, and they will be missed dearly. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors and hope they return to visit us!



“To my brothers and sisters of MCSC: train hard, sail fast, and qualify for Shell. Hit me up if you are in Hong Kong, and we will see each other again.” Vick Xu ‘19

As a graduate of political science and economics, Vick will be moving to Hong Kong where he will be working as a legal analyst and hopes to continue sailing on the other side of the pacific!

“One of the best things I’ve done at Midd would definitely be sailing. I’m extremely grateful to be part of this amazing team. I’m currently part of a fellowship that will lead to a job as a business development representative in a tech company. Hope I can come back and visit Midd! Sail Fast!” Erich Wu ‘19





“I’m moving to San Francisco in July to be a software engineer at LiveRamp. I’ll be working with MCSC alums Dylan Quenneville and Ellen Sartorelli! I’m looking forward to sailing Hobie cats in the Bay with Casey and Ben Brown,

but I’ll miss Lake Champlain a lot.” Nick Jaczko ‘19

“MCSC has been a major part of my experience at Middlebury, and I’ll be so sad to say goodbye to the team. I’ll miss the amazing sunsets over Dunmore and Champlain, racing and eating Chipotle all over New England, sailing with dolphins and otters in Santa Cruz, my 6 semesters of organizing all things social, and, of course, all of the wonderful people I’ve met. My next adventure will take me to New York where I’ll be working as a research associate at the NYU Langone Neuroscience Institute for 2 years before heading off to med school. Signing off one last time, your social skipper, Lexie <3” Lexie Lessing ‘19



“Pete Kirby-Miller told me to join MCSC when he saw me wearing a regatta t-shirt during MidView gear pick-up, and I’ve been a part of the team ever since. I have loved practicing on Lake Dunmore and on Lake Champlain; both venues are among the most beautiful in NEISA. MCSC has also connected me with some of the best people at Middlebury. I am proud to have raced for MCSC in 25 regattas across New England over the past four years. I’m also proud to say that I’ve been to just about every Chipotle between Middlebury and Boston because of MCSC. Starting in the fall, I will be attending NYU Stern’s Full-Time MBA Program as a part of the Berkley Scholars Program. Thank you to the team, Coach Alex, and Coach Tom for a great four years on and off the water.” Alex Baskin ‘19

“I can't believe I'm graduating and leaving MCSC, as I've seemingly been apart of the team since before I arrived. While I'm excited to pursue software engineering in California, I'm going to miss sailing at Panton, and traveling around New England for regattas. I'm so proud of how the team has grown, and can't wait to see what happens next! Thank you for a wonderful 4 years!” Casey Asitz ‘19



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 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.

<http://sites.middlebury.edu/sailing/support-us/>

Buy a Hat or Shirt! MCSC finally has merchandise in the bookstore! All profits from the shirts being sold in the bookstore go directly to the team and buying new boats!

For more information or to donate please contact Ben Arquit, Commodore

E-mail: sailing@middlebury.edu Or visit our website: www.sites.middlebury.edu/sailing

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Middlebury College Sailing Club

Spring 2018 Windward Panther Written by Hanna Mass, Minister of Special Events