

DREXEL NEWSLETTER

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THE FROM THE TOP OF THE MAST

Regatta Reports

Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta

Our next regatta is one of our favorites on the team as it's a once a year opportunity for the team to race competitively on "big boats". This year we were assigned to a J105 with our awesome owner Bobbi. Upon arriving to the Larchmont Yacht Club Saturday

morning we were greeted at the registration table with our owner and some breakfast and hot coffee as we had a cold day on the water ahead of us. The weather Saturday was overcast but about 8-10 knots steady, a perfect day to learn our way around the boat, and get our bearings before hopping into a race. Once the racing started the team was in for a sharp learning curve of racing competitively with 6 people on the boat as opposed to just 2, but eventually learned to work well with one another. We ended our day on a very positive note of a 4, 5, and 5 leaving us 2 points out of 3rd place out of 10 in the very competitive fleet. That night the annual raffle was held and was a great opportunity to meet and greet other teams.

Upon arrival Sunday however, the winds were whipping up to 20 knots and the

waves plentiful on Long Island Sound, topped off with freezing rain. However, this did not deter the team, and had us trying even harder to edge out the fleet and keep the boat flat. After some heavy wind quarrels and fast asymmetrical downwinds we found ourselves ending our day with smiles on all faces in 6th overall in our fleet. We are excited to go back next year and hope to prove ourselves as a threat in any fleet we race!



McCurdy Open

As many of the upperclassmen were attending IOR the same weekend, the Delaware McCurdy Open was comprised mostly of underclassmen and newer team members excited to sail for the weekend. The team placed second overall, only one point behind Columbia in first. The first day was light and shifty as the sailors got off three rotations. The second day, only one race was accomplished as there was strong wind and many teams were unable to finish due to them capsizing. Although the heavy wind provided a lot of fun sailing for the short amount of time



that the sailors were out on the water, everyone was sent in when it became dangerous and masts started getting stuck in the mud. Overall it was a good weekend with fun sailing and a good performance. A fleet was sailed by Haley Clemson with Elizabeth Calio and Alex Harris as crew. For the single attempted race on Sunday, Jake Ellis skippered A and managed to win the race, though sadly it didn't count. B fleet was sailed by Madeline DeVescovo with Allison Reed as crew.



Central Fall Open

The Central Fall Open this year was hosted by Monmouth University at Shrewsbury Sailing & Yacht Club. It was a competitive fleet of 17 teams from all over the Mid-Atlantic Region. The regatta kicked off Saturday with Jeff Proko and Liz Jarvie sailing in A fleet while Haley Clemson sailed B fleet with Summer Retif. On Sunday, Madeline DeVescovo skippered B fleet with Summer. The Shrewsbury River proved to be an ideal place to sail with temperatures in the 60s both days and consistent, sailable breeze. Saturday, both the A and B boats placed consistently mid-fleet, advancing their placement throughout the day. Highlights included a second place finish by Haley to bring the team even further forward in the standings. On Sunday, Drexel did better yet, placing consistently in the top five. We started out in postponement, but were able to get on the water by 10:00. The wind picked up a bit, causing a few teams to capsize, Drexel fortunately not among them. We ended up placing 7th overall, achieving our goal of moving up the board from Saturday. The regatta was made even more enjoyable by the appearance of team member Teddy Schon's dog Holly, the new sailing mascot.



Henry Luce Regatta

October 15th to the 16th, we sent 5 Drexel sailors to the Henry Luce Trophy regatta at SUNY Maritime. Saturday, although beautifully sunny, started off with very little wind. We started racing in a light 3-7 knot northeasterly. After racing 4 A-division races and 2 B-division races, a southerly breeze filled in at 7-9 knots. A total of 4-B division and 6-A division races were completed using W3 and W4 courses. With the less than ideal wind, there were multiple abandoned starts on Saturday, especially in B division.

On Sunday, racing started on time at 0930 with 5-10 knot shifty southerly breeze as well as a rather strong current due to the full moon. However, due to practicing on the Delaware, Drexel had a distinct advantage at predicting the current. 6 B division and 4 A division races were completed before the cutoff time. In A-fleet, sophomore Jake Ellis skippered with senior Barrett Adams as his crew. B-fleet had pre junior Nick Piasecki skippering with freshman Elizabeth Calio and sophomore Molly Henebury rotating crew. The regatta was highly competitive with 18 teams, many of which were varsity. Taking into account the competition and the less than ideal conditions, we're very proud of how we raced this weekend.



Club Championships

This year's Club Champs was hosted in Toms River by Ocean County College, a normally high-wind venue. This year did not disappoint, as the winds averaged above 20 mph for the entire weekend. In fact, as teams arrived Saturday morning, the race committee was not sure if the regatta was going to take place at all! A fleet (Jeff Proko skipper and Barrett Adams crew) went out for the first two heavy wind races, before it began to downpour. Nick Piasecki (skipper) and Cooper Voigt (crew) bravely headed out for the B rotation and sailed for 2 races before the winds hit 27 mph and they canceled the rest of the day.



Arriving on Sunday, the wind seemed much calmer, starting the second A rotation at 15 mph. For B fleet, Liz Jarvie switched with Cooper to crew for two races. In the first B fleet race of the day, Drexel placed second, just inches away from passing the boat in first place. During the second race, Nick and Liz scored Drexel's first bullet of the weekend! A fleet was sent out again, but by then, the wind picked up considerably- passing 20 mph and leaving 6 boats unable to finish the second race.

After 6 races were scored for A fleet and 4 for B, the regatta was called as the wind topped 25 mph. Out of the 18 boats in the fleet, Drexel scored 4th out of 18, our highest placement in this regatta in over 7 years!



Meet the New Officers!

At the end of the fall term the team held officer elections. Thank you to all those who ran, and congratulations to our new officers. See below for the 2016 - 2017 Officers with emails:

President – Jeffrey Proko

president@drexelsailing.com

Club Manager – Elizabeth Jarvie

clubmanager@drexelsailing.com

Treasurer – Nick Piasecki

treasurer@drexelsailing.com

Regatta Manager – Haley Clemson

regattamanager@drexelsailing.com

Equipment Manager – Jake Ellis

equipment@drexelsailing.com

Secretary – Molly Henebury

secretary@drexelsailing.com

FAM Chair* – Abby Proko

fam@drexelsailing.com

*This is a new position. FAM stands for Fundraising, Alumni, and Merchandise, and will be in charge of alumni contact, the alumni regatta and banquet, newsletter, and equipment orders.



Member Spotlight

Name: Jake Ellis
Major: Chemical Engineering
Year: Sophomore
Home Town: New Gretna, NJ

Favorite sailing memory:

I was on "Temptation", Oakcliff sailing's kerr 50' in the Marblehead to Halifax race. We were out in the middle of the Atlantic somewhere off the coast of Maine and I was on the night shift. We could only see by the moonlight and stars, which illuminated the night sky, and phosphorescent plankton lit up the water. The only noise I could hear was the splashing of the waves and the occasional whale breaching the surface for air. It was truly an amazing experience, and is not only my favorite sailing memory, but my favorite memory to date.

Involvement for the team:

Joined freshman year, was unable to sail his first quarter due to classes, but spent time getting to know his team mates every opportunity he could. Went to his first regatta in the spring of his freshman year and ended off the season skippering his first full regatta on the team and helping to win the Drexel Open. He continued to skipper this past season in assorted regattas from home regattas, to Delaware open to Luce Qualifier. He currently is the equipment manager manager of the team and looks forward to another 4 years.

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Sailing Club Acct #: 710039 Org #: 3526

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