

# The Mainsheet

## High School Great Lakes Championship

*420 and powerboat fleet moves to Monroe for a few weeks to host Midwest High School Championship, and then college regatta*



After a fantastic fall high school sailing season of hard work, intense practices, and great fun on the water and on the road, the Chicago Yacht Club Sailing School finished up the season, as they do annually, with the High School Great Lakes Championship down at Monroe. Twenty-one 420s and most of the support boats get moved downtown to Monroe, which provides a well-protected racing area as well as an albeit unmatched spectating facility.

MISSA, the Midwest Interscholastic Sailing Association, is the local conference and consists of over fifty teams from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan. Each fall, CYC hosts the MISSA Championship where teams from all over the conference come to Chicago to compete for the title. Teams are expected to come with enough sailors to field three divisions in which to compete - two in our doublehanded 420 dinghies, and one in a Laser Radial. For the first time ever, twenty full three-division teams registered for the event, showing how much the district has grown in the past few years.

### Upcoming Events

**December 25th**

Merry Christmas!

**December 27th-30th**

Orange Bowl Regatta, Coral ReefYC, Florida

Racing began on Saturday, November 12th with blustery winds but relatively mild temperatures. The sailors were eager to hit the water and get to racing, since the wind pressure was good and the sun was shining! Understanding that the forecast for Sunday was for high winds and possibly unsailable conditions, the Race Committee pushed through the day, getting in as many races as possible, fighting with shifty breeze and a quickly approaching sunset. By dusk, seven races had been completed in each division and racing was called. The teams showed up Sunday morning greeted by south winds that had begun to kick up some good waves in Monroe Harbor. Upon arrival, the wind was strong, but still manageable for most of the competitors, blowing a solid 15 knots, with gusts into the low 20s. After much deliberation,



the regatta organizers decided to give it a go, and told sailors to prepare to sail and launch the boats. By the time the boats were in the water, however, the winds had increased significantly, steadily in the mid 20s and gusting to the 30s in the harbor. Judging that it was too much for the sailors and boats, the regatta was called early and the scores from the previous day stood as the final results.

A team's score is the combined scores of all three divisions, putting a lot of emphasis on the team's performance as a whole and reliance on all sailors rather than just one or two. There are no dropped races in high school sailing, so every finish, every boat beaten, counts. The teams that were able to come out on top were *(cont'd page 2)* those that were able to perform well in all three divisions.

Not long into the regatta, the top three teams began to pull away from the rest

## Welcome to The Mainsheet!

The monthly Chicago Yacht Club newsletter dedicated to keeping the community informed about and engaged in the ongoing at the Sailing School.

### In this Issue:

- High School Great Lakes Championship Hosted at Monroe
- Hinsdale Sailors Kiernan and Wilder Compete at National Great Oaks Regatta in New Orleans, LA
- 420s Hit the Road for the Winter
- Notable Performances



*Many hands make light work when loading the 420 trailer to hit the road*



*Towing in from practice on a light day  
Photo by Elizabeth Foulston.*

*Follow the 420 Race Team's travels this winter at the Orange Bowl and 420 Midwinters Regattas!*

**Like "CYC 420 Race Team" on Facebook for updates, pictures, and more!**

of the pack. Lake Forest High School, Minnetonka, and New Trier have been leaders at MISSA regattas for years, and continued that trend of dominance over much of the rest of the fleet at the championship. By the end of Saturday, the consistency in results posted by Lake Forest and Minnetonka in all three fleets was hard to keep up with, and the two teams were leading with 72 and 78 points, respectively, and ended up with first and second for the event.

All three of CYC's High School teams sailed very well in tough conditions! The New Trier team, last year's Great Lakes Champs, finished solidly in third place with 110 points. Hinsdale Central, a newer team on the circuit but a new force to be reckoned with, finished in sixth place with an all-women's team. And the young but nonetheless talented St. Ignatius team finished in ninth place overall.

After the completion of the Timme Angsten Memorial Regatta the following weekend, the boats were brought back to Belmont and put away for the winter. The high school sailors will be back at it before they know it though, the spring season kicking off the second week in March! ❖



*See the Notable Performances for CYC sailors' individual results*

### Contact Information

**Martha Pitt**  
[pitt@chicagoyachtclub.org](mailto:pitt@chicagoyachtclub.org)

The Mainsheet Editor-in-Chief  
 Sailing School Director

[chicagoyachtclub.org/sailingschool](http://chicagoyachtclub.org/sailingschool)

312-861-7777

### HINSDALE CENTRAL'S KIERNAN AND WILDER COMPETE IN NATIONAL REGATTA

*by Mary Claire Kiernan.*



The Hinsdale Central Sailing Team finished the 2011 Fall Season by attending the Great Oaks High School Invitational Championship Regatta. The team was one of six teams selected by MISSA based on its qualifying finish at the Great Oaks Qualifier Regatta held back in October. Southern Yacht Club in New Orleans hosts the Great Oaks Regatta each year and the event is sailed on Lake Ponchartraine. Forty-two high school teams from around the country, including a team from Hawaii, attended the event, each school represented by one doublehanded boat. Junior Mary Claire Kiernan and Senior Taylor Wilder traveled to New Orleans to represent the Hinsdale Central Team at the regatta.

On day one of the regatta, the schools were randomly split between two fleets. Each fleet sailed thirteen races and the teams that finished in the top half of each fleet were awarded a berth in the Gold Fleet for day two. The Hinsdale Central girls finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their qualifying fleet, ensuring them a Gold fleet berth. On day two twenty-one teams competed in the Gold Fleet for the single boat championship title, while the remaining teams competed in a Silver Fleet. Sun, favorable winds and crowded mark roundings produced a competitive and close competition in the Gold fleet. The conditions proved challenging for all, even the top teams having a few tough races in the series. After twelve races, Hinsdale Central finished 6<sup>th</sup> overall – a very strong finish to a great season!



### Notable Performances

#### NEW TRIER TREVIANs

Finishing third at this fall's Great Lakes Championship was surely a group effort for the Trevians. Junior **Will Holz** and freshman **Patrick Scherer** dominated the A Division, winning 5 of the 7 races. Senior co-captain **Mitchell Gordon** with fellow senior **Sam Scales** had a fantastic B Division performance, finishing 2nd. Co-captain **Mike Kanare** finished 8th in the Laser Radial C Division.

At the Shepherd Memorial Championship hosted by Columbia Yacht Club, the Trevians picked up some more hardware: **Colin Richards, Sarah Wright, Hunter Johnson,** and **Elizabeth Duquette** finished third!



#### HINSDALE CENTRAL DEVILS

The Hinsdale Devils finished the season strong, with a 6th place finish at the Championship. The all-women's team was lead by **Mary Claire Kiernan** and **Taylor Wilder** in A Division with an impressive 3rd place. **Samantha Foulston** and **Kat Wolfe** held it down in B Division, finishing in 8th, and **Elizabeth Foulston**, often a crew, stepped up to skipper the Radial to a 9th place finish in C.

#### ST. IGNATIUS WOLFPACK

The young Wolfpack team finished the Championship in 9th place. **Rose Edwards** with **Morgan Gaudet** and **Jack Thompson**, plagued by a DSQ (disqualification) still got 8th place in A Division. Freshman **Siri Anderson** with **Will Pollard** and **Grant Egan** had a little more trouble with the breeze, and finished 11th in B. Co-captain **Mike Duncan**, sailing the Laser Radial for the first time, sailed to an impressive 6th place in C Division.

#### WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAINSHEET?

As publication gets underway, we will be looking for stories, articles, and other contributions to include in each issue. If you are interested in participating in any way, with writing, ideas, or otherwise, please contact Martha Pitt at [pitt@chicagoyachtclub.org](mailto:pitt@chicagoyachtclub.org).