

## The Road to Charleston: Qualifer Recaps



The Women's Qualifier was held April 8-9 in Dexter, MI. Kate Klement, Korina Hendricks, Annie Sullivan, Maggie Houtz, and Carolyn Keck made the trek on Friday afternoon, after picking up Coach Dave. Sadly they had to leave his new puppy, Charley, behind. After driving all evening, they arrived at the home of Brian Tobelmann ('16), a kind alumni currently going to grad school at the University of Michigan and coaching the Michigan Sailing Team, who graciously offered them a place to stay for the

weekend. The next day the sun rose over a nice frost, and at the site the ladies bundled up and lounged in hammocks waiting for the wind to fill. Eventually it built to a steady 9 knots, and the sailors were sent out to complete six races. The Honey Badgers ended the day solidly in first, with Annie Sullivan and Maggie Houtz putting up a picket fence in B-Division. The next day there was a solid amount of breeze all day, and Carolyn and Annie split time. The women experienced some "classic Baseline Lake shifts" up and down the racecourse, but contended well with the fluky conditions (and only capsized once) to end the regatta in first overall. Thank you to Brian Tobelmann for letting the Honey Badgers stay with him, Coach Dave for providing wisdom, and to the University of Michigan for running a stellar event!

The MCSA Coed Qualifier was held April 22-23 at the beautiful Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. Ten teams from around the Midwest were in attendance, and enjoyed two wonderful days of sailing on Lake Michigan. On Saturday, the wind ranged from 12-16 knots out of the north, which made for some large waves rolling down the racecourse and put a precedent on moving your body around in the boat in order to work it over the chop. The sun shined all day, and every sailor enjoyed getting to stretch their legs out in the hiking straps. Wisconsin ended the day in first, and went back to their respective sleeping arrangements to spend the night. Sunday morning dawned to a glassy Lake Michigan, but what the day lacked in breeze, the Race Committee made up for in cheerfulness. They managed to get two races off in each division before the wind completely died, and Wisco ended the regatta solidly in first. The sailors in attendance (Kate Klement, Korina Hendricks, Mason Engnes, Charles Bocklet, Maggie Houtz, and Erik Elliott) would like to sincerely thank Brian Tobelmann and the Miller family for their incredible hospitality, Northwestern University for running a great regatta, and Claire Dennis for coming along to coach!



Team Race Qualifiers were held April 29th and 30th on our home turf of Lake Mendota. Milwaukee, Michigan, Northwestern, Minnesota, U-Chicago, and Marquette came out to compete in what was forecasted to be huge breeze. Saturday morning, the weather was brisk and grey, and a steady 16-18 knots of wind sustained all day which gave the heavy crews a chance to stretch their legs after being excellent shore crews all season at the light air regattas. After an extremely long day of 42 races, sleet, hail, one resail and a few capsizes, the team reconvened at Jordan Big Ten's for a lively evening of bonding with their families, as it was also Parent's Weekend. Sunday morning rolled around very soon, and everyone was thrilled to see the weather was



even worse than it was the day before. The fog was thick and the wind was up and down, which gave the light crews a chance in the boats. The Wisco Sailors struggled somewhat on Sunday, winning two races and losing four, but were able to maintain a qualifying spot, ending in second behind Northwestern. Huge thank you to Noah Janssen and Tommy Groskopf for running an exceptional event as Regatta Coordinators, and another thank you to Whitney Kent, Kirsten Reeser, Mark Prange, and every other judge and official that helped us pull it off. Sailing for Wisconsin were skippers Charles Bocklet, Charlie Kutschenreuter, and Kate Klement and crews Erik Elliott, Maggie Houtz, Alex Blair, Olivia Staruck, Thomas Kelly, and Korina Hendricks. We're super excited to have qualified! Go Go Wisco!

## Meet our New Captains: Katy Zimmerman and Charlie Kutschenreuter

*On the evening of April 20th, the entire team gathered to elect new Captains for next year, as Korina and Tate's tenure comes to an end after Nationals. Charlie Kutschenreuter, Noah Janssen, and Katy Zimmerman threw their hats in the ring, and after numerous hours, many good points made, and one tie in the voting, Charlie and Katy were elected. Great job and thank you to Noah for all his contributions to the team, and congrats to Charlie and Katy! There really wasn't a bad decision to be had here, and all three of them would have been excellent, but we can't wait to see what Charlie and Katy have in store for us!*

**Wisconsin Sailor Newsletter:** Why did you run for captain and why do you want to lead the team?

**Charlie:** I felt as though becoming captain was the best way for me to help the team going forward. The team is truly special to myself and everyone on it, and I believe that I have the proper skill set and leadership experience to ensure that it continues to be both welcoming and competitive.

**Katy:** I ran for captain because this team has been a huge part of my college experience and I want to work on continuing to keep us competitive and make sure we have fun while doing so!

**WSN:** What are you most excited about about being captain?

**Charlie:** I am most excited about the opportunity to try and leave my mark on this team and its future. I am hopeful that after my term as captain I will have put the team in the best possible position for future success, so that successive captains and team members can continue to have great experiences and form great memories.

**Katy:** I'm mostly excited to be a resource for team members. If they have questions or concerns, I want to help make sure everyone is getting what they hoped for out of this team

**WSN:** What are some changes you're looking to implement next year?

**Charlie:** A large focus of mine going into my captainship will be on the finances of the team. This past year I served as treasurer for both the team and the Hoofers Sailing Club Board of Captains. I think that my experience with the budget paired with innovative ideas from fellow team members will make it possible for me to enact financial change which could greatly benefit the team in the long run.

**Katy:** I'd like to develop a way to make sailors more accountable for their own successes, part of this has to include an off the water fitness aspect to make sure we are able to perform at a higher level. This might include adding some team runs in the Fall and Spring, and possibly even tryouts of some kind to give sailors a shorter term goal to reach.

**WSN:** What is a strength you see on the team right now and how will you work to keep it strong next year?

**Charlie:** I think that a large strength of our team is its size and the amount of members who are truly committed to it. Being able to put as many boats on the water as possible is crucial for improving skills and simulating the atmosphere that sailors will experience at regattas. Recruiting will have to continue to be a priority in order to maintain this strength in the future.

**Katy:** Practice attendance has been getting a little light recently. By keeping practices fun and getting everyone more invested in their own sailing success I think attendance will improve.

**WSN:** What's your favorite memory of the team?

**Charlie:** My favorite team memory was Streufert team race my freshman year. It was my first time ever team racing so it made for exciting sailing, but the best part was the delicious dinner served to us by the parents and the campfire sing along on Saturday night. That was a team bonding moment that I'll always remember.

**Katy:** The grillout we did at the beginning of this year was lots of fun, everyone had a chance to catch up from summer adventures and meet all the new freshmen



## In The Coming Month....

Calling all alumni! Mark your calendars for May 20th, and come on down to Madison for the annual alumni regatta! It should be an all around great time, beginning with racing on Lake Mendota in 420s and sloops, followed by the banquet and auction. This year, we decided to switch things up a bit, and are hosting the banquet at Brickhouse BBQ, where we will have a multitude of sandwiches to choose from, along with mini cheesecake bites for dessert. Please let Alumni Liaison Erik Elliott know if you plan on attending - you won't want to miss it! The very next day, our Women's team will be hitting the road for Charleston to compete at Women's ICSA Semi-finals beginning on the 22nd. The rest of our sailors will follow shortly thereafter and meet up with the Honey Badgers later in the week.

In the meantime, everyone on the team will be working hard to get ready for the Spring Championships. Friday team racing practices led by Coach Claire have become the norm, and Tuesday/Thursday practice attendance has remained stellar as the weather warms up and the season comes to a close. It's looking like the majority of the team is going to be sticking around after finals for two weeks to practice, and the captains as well as Coaches Dave and Claire think this time is going to be vital for preparing for nationals.



## Q&A with March Sailor of the Month: Kate Klement

**Wisco Sailor Newsletter:** What year are you in school and what are you studying?

**Kate Klement:** I am currently a senior and will be graduating in December (yay half a victory lap!). I am studying Interior Architecture. I'm hoping to go into the furniture industry and flip houses one day.

**WSN:** How long have you been on the team?

**KK:** I have been on the team since day 1 freshman year. For some silly reason I didn't want to do any regattas freshman fall, but was convinced to sign-up for Navy Women's. Long story short, it turned out to be one of the greatest weekends of my life, and committing to the team has been one of the best decisions I have ever made.

**WSN:** In your role as practice captain, what changes have you implemented?

**KK:** This year I implemented a new system for recording practice race day scores. We started logging race day scores on a Google doc so people can track their progress. It is also a helpful tool for making close roster calls. Over winter workouts we implemented a fun team ab circle which really brought everyone together during workouts. One of my jobs has also been keeping up on maintenance on the boats. This has been difficult due to the condition of our current fleet, but I created a repair record where repairs can be logged at the end of each practice. Major shout out to Noah [Janssen] and Tom [Groskopf] for keeping tabs on the boats and fixing a large majority of repairs, they have been awesome.

**WSN:** What do you like about being practice captain?

**KK:** My favorite part of being practice captain is keeping morale high. Now that my time on the team is coming to an end, I realize how important and special practice is. Hindsight is 20/20 and I now regret skipping practice because I thought I had too much homework...silly freshman Kate. I love seeing newer people sticking around and getting excited about the team, and other members finding their place. It warms my heart.

**WSN:** You're sailing all three nationals, what are you most excited for about this? How have you been preparing?



**KK:** This year I decided to try and go FULL SEND and work to make all three nationals. I figured it's now or never. I know it'll be tiring but I have a fear that if I didn't try to do all three, I would regret it. I decided to gun it for the team racing team somewhat late in the game so I am playing catch up. I've recently up-ed my practice time in order to have more time on the water. Once finals end I'll also have way more time to review calls. I thoroughly enjoy hitting the gym so I have been keeping up that regime on my own time. Within the last couple months I've been nursing a back injury, but I found a great massage guy who's been repairing me. Overall, I'm excited to give it our all and see what we can do, it's for sure going to be a WILD ride.

**WSN:** What's your favorite part about being on the team?

**KK:** My favorite part of the team has to be the people. Any time you're having a bad day of school or life, you can show up to practice and someone will instantly make you laugh. Everyone is just so cool.

**WSN:** What's your favorite memory on the team?

**KK:** One of my favorite memories is winning the last race at Navy Women's this fall during Hurricane Matthew. Korina [Hendricks] and I were for sure the smallest boat out there, but somehow we were able to hang and pull off a stellar set... while we both had bronchitis.

**Congrats Kate!**