



The Regatta Report

July 12, 2011

420 Race Team

Pete Hazelett, Head 420 Race Coach

Bemis Qualifier: July 6-7, 2011

On July 6th and 7th, 2011, Adam Ceely and Emma McGrath represented the NCS 420 race team at the US Sailing Area A Bemis Qualifier. There were over 65 boats and the fleet was very competitive given the nature of the event (New England area qualifier for US Junior Double-handed Championship.)

On the first day we were on fog hold until noon. We got our first race off around 1330 due to the fact that the racing area took an hour to sail to. The RC was only able to get off three races that day due to a 1600 time restraint. Adam and Emma had great starts in all three races, but had a tough time getting into phase, and maintaining good boat speed and point. We assessed the day at Adam's cousin's house that evening and determined that our issues derived from a lack of looking up the course and properly committing to a side after the start.

The second day began with zero breeze and intense sun. The RC sent us out to the race area anyways in anticipation of a sea breeze filling in. Sure enough, it filled around noon, and we got our first race off a little bit before 1300. We had moved our pins to our "super light" setting, from "medium" the day before. Unfortunately, we did not have time to properly speed test with other boats before the first race. After a good start it was very apparent to me in the coach boat that Adam and Emma were having a tough time holding the same angle and boat speed with the boats around them. Although they made relatively good tactical decisions upwind, they still were losing ground on the boats around them. After that race, we decided to tension the jib halyard a bit more, due to the flat conditions, allowing them to point higher because they didn't

need to constantly keep powering up the boat. Unfortunately, they still struggled to hang with the boats around them. Before the third race, we decided to move the pins and loosen up the shrouds past our "super light" setting. After a short speed tuning session, it was clear that we had made progress towards solving our boat speed/point issue. Even after a bad start, Adam and Emma were able to work back into the front of the fleet, finishing in the top 20. Finally, feeling competitive again, we went into the last race with a good start. Aside from one poor tactical decision after rounding the windward mark, Adam and Emma had a great last race and finished well within the top 15 boats.

Overall, it was a tough regatta to be shaking the dust off, but a good indicator that we need to rewrite our tuning chart.. Approaching NBJR this weekend, we plan to retune all the rigs and have the kids speed tune extensively before the start of the first race each day.

Adam Ceely/Emma McGrath: 27/69

New Bedford Junior Regatta: July 9-10, 2011

On July 9th and 10th, Adam Ceely, Emma McGrath, Bryce Turner, James Roggeveen, Matias Sejersen and Richard Oates headed off to New Bedford for the New Bedford Junior Regatta (NBJR); it was a new experience for four of our six sailors, as this was the first large fleet regatta they had ever attended.

We arrived at the NBYC early Saturday morning and rigged up our boats. After tuning the rigs and attending the skippers' meeting, we launched our

boats and headed out for the day. The weather forecast was for a north westerly, with a slight possibility of a sea breeze filling in later in the day. At about 1130 we got off our first race in less than ideal conditions. It was very light, and due to the fact that our boats were better weighted for heavier conditions, it provided a frustrating playing field for the NCS team. Regardless, we kept our focus and did our best in the tough conditions.

After a short break, the race committee started off the second race, which proved to be the strangest of the weekend. Halfway through the race a sea breeze began a drawn out battle with the northerly causing boats to hoist and douse their spinnakers several times on one leg. But due to the necessity to get races off, the RC did not abandon the race. After resetting the course in the expectation that the sea breeze was going to continue to fill, the RC scrambled to try to get another race off to ensure that they would complete four races that day before we reached the afternoon time limit. Unfortunately, this proved to be a poorly thought out tactic. As they attempted to shorten a course to a finish to allow for the fourth race, they miscalculated their set up time, and executed the Charlie very poorly. This lack to follow procedure required that they abandon the third race for both 420 fleets. Moreover, the anchor winch on the RC boat failed, leaving them with no option but to abandon racing for the rest of the day.

After a relaxed night of burgers, movies and a debrief on the day, we were fresh for day two of NBJR. There was no breeze in the morning, but the forecast was scheduled for a sea breeze to fill. In anticipation, the RC sent us out to the race area. Sure enough, around noon the sea breeze came in and we kicked off the day with a W4. Adam and Emma had a great race, ending up in the top ten. James and Matias continued to improve on the topics we had talked about the night before, and achieved their best finish of the regatta. Although Bryce and Richard still finished in the back of the pack primarily due to their weight disadvantage, they had improved their upwind boat handling significantly from the day before. As we approached the second race the RC decided to run a shorter course in an attempt to get a third race in that day to allow for a throw-out. So, after a quick change of marks, the 2nd race of the day was

started. The NCS team continued to maintain focus and finished in similar positions to the first race even through the breeze oscillations had significantly increased. It was apparent as the boats approached the finish that there we had passed the time limit for racing for the day, and that the NBJR was quickly coming to a close. As we headed in, spirits were high because we knew that improvement had been achieved and that the team maintained composure and had done their best. Looking toward the next regatta, we will continue to work on boat handling specifically from a tight fleet race perspective, and take any opportunity to improve our skills in light wind conditions.

Adam Ceely/Emma McGrath: 26/87

Bryce Turner/Richard Oates: 75/87

James Roggeveen/Matias Sejersen: 83/87

Opti Race Team

Morgan Russom, Head Opti Race Coach

Stage Harbor Opti Regatta: July 8, 2011

Five Opti racers headed off-island last Thursday night to attend the Stage Harbor Opti Regatta: Evan Cabre, Abigail Turner, Westby Caspersen, Olivia van den born, and Lucas Shapiro.

The regatta started out on Friday with heavy Chatham fog and very light wind, which lead into a vicious thunderstorm. After the AP flag was raised, the five sailors and two coaches (and one parent chaperone!) dropped the Opti rigs and hunkered down in the van for the worst of the storm. The initial harbor start of 0930 was delayed until approximately 1300.

Finally, after lunch on shore, the fleet of almost 90 boats headed out of Stage Harbor to Nantucket Sound. Three races, on two courses (Green and Championship) were completed, with breeze initially around 10-11 knots, and building to about 14. All of the NCS sailors competed on the Championship line, in the Blue Fleet. Starting with about 60 boats on the line was great practice for the sailors, who

improved each time; Abigail and Olivia in particular put forth great effort to maintain a front row start. The team learned a great deal about maintaining clear air throughout the races and the importance of speed off the starting line. The sailors also gained experience calling lay lines in big breeze with current.

For the next event, we will look to improve upon making sure our sail trim is appropriate for the conditions- especially when sailing up wind, in addition to gaining comfort with boat handling in heavy air.

Blue Fleet:

Abigail Turner: 7/32
Lucas Shapiro: 19/32
Evan Cabre: 32/32
Westby Caspersen: 29/32
Olivia can den born: 9/32



J/105 Racing

Pat Ryan, Head Keelboat Instructor

‘Round the Island Race: July 9-10, 2011

This weekend was awesome! Clio sailed over to Edgartown on late Friday afternoon with a group of NCS instructors: myself, Nick Aswad, Brooke Assad, Morgan Russom, Michelle Hernandez , Eric Schwarm and Mark Miedama (NYC.) Everyone had a blast and learned a lot about big boat sailing. On Saturday, the ‘Round the Island race began, hosted by Edgartown Yacht Club. The race was 57.5 miles long and took us about 10 hours to complete. The wind started out NE on the north of the island, switched to SW on the south side and then switched back to the NE by the finish. We finished 6th place out of 12 in PHRF B Division. There we about 45-50 boats total. All in all it was an awesome weekend and the event photographers snapped some great pictures of us sailing, check out: <http://www2.macdougalls.com/gallery/p/220/2011-Round-the-Island-Race/11458/> for pictures.

The results can be found here: http://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_regatta_results.php?regatta_id=3537&show_manufacturer=1&show_crew=1

Congratulations to all of our sailors- what a huge accomplishment to compete off-island!

Stay tuned for the next edition of the regatta report!