

Dear Team, Parents, and Alumni of Drexel Sailing;

I would just like to friendly remind everyone that Drexel Sailing Annual Banquet is this Saturday, May 2nd at 6 PM. The event is at Corinthian Yacht Club of Philadelphia. If you have not already, please RSVP online and view the full invitation on Evite at the following link: tinyurl.com/c3jvao. Also, if you are interested in participating in the Camden County Team Race held at Cooper River Yacht Club on Sunday, please email [Craig Priniski '02](mailto:Craig.Priniski@Drexel.edu).

Last weekend, Drexel Sailing was honored with the chance to compete in the first annual Fordham 2-on-2 Team Race Regatta hosted at the Morris Yacht & Beach Club on City Island in New York. Team racing is very different from fleet racing, which is the typical format of a regatta. Team racing involves using the rights-of-way in sailing to force the other team to finish last. Likewise, in a 2-on-2 setup, a team that has boats finishing in first and fourth loses to a team that finished second and third. Drexel Sailing President Andrew Bergan and yours truly, Tyler Drown, skippered our two boats at the event. Our crews were freshman Jen Mislinski of Connecticut in my boat, and sophomore Annie Mercurio and junior David Schubert alternated in Drew's boat. Congratulations are in order to Jen and Annie, although they are both experienced sailors in their own right, it was their first collegiate regatta where they crewed. Drexel Sailing would like to thank the Mercurio family for their overwhelming hospitality, they went above and beyond providing a simple place for us to rest. Below is a regatta report by yours truly and Andrew Bergan.

Fair winds and a following sea,
Tyler S. Drown
Alumni Relations Chair
Drexel Sailing Team

April 25-26, 2009

Fordham 2-on-2 Team Race
City Island, New York

Saturday morning, we left Westchester County for a short drive to the unique New York enclave, City Island. A mile-and-a-half long island and small seaside town transplanted into the five boroughs of New York City, City Island is on the western edge of the Long Island Sound and lies in between Pelham Bay and Eastchester Bay. When we arrived at the Morris Yacht & Beach Club's parking lot, we couldn't find the clubhouse or where to go. Tragically, the club's 155-year old clubhouse burnt down three years ago. Before we walked down to the water, we could see the conditions: fog as thick as clam chowder, a dearth of wind, and a chill which made you rethink wearing shorts and put on a thick wool sweater. We gathered for the skippers meeting and the regatta organizers tried to explain the intense sailing courses, perhaps better described as mazes with all-starboard mark-roundings. The fog burned off and visibility went from 40 feet to being able to see the architectural details of midtown Manhattan skyscrapers. The same sun which so kindly burned off the fog, also increased the temperature nearly twofold. With little wind, the water in the morning was as flat as pint of stale beer and likewise, when the regatta began not only was it comfortably hot, there was little wind to cool us off or effectively sail.

The wind slowly built up and our first race was off to a great start, with yours truly first around the windward mark, but Fordham's team managed to outmaneuver us by the end. In later races, the wind built until it was quite strong. We pulled off a strong win in a race against the future military leaders of the United States from West Point. The rest of the races reminded us of the importance of being aggressive in team racing, particularly during starts. The mentality of avoiding conflict, sailing the fastest course, and not bothering other boats is antithetical to team racing and knowing the rule book solidly is paramount to winning and remaining safe. All-in-all it was a great experience, Fordham put on a fantastic regatta and served us some of the best clam chowder and freshly baked bread that I've ever had. Drexel Sailing is looking forward to participate in more team racing events, such as the upcoming Army 2-on-2 at West Point.

-Tyler Drown, skipper

Drexel sailors arrived to City Island in fog on Saturday morning. The fog burnt off quickly but the wind didn't fill in as the temperature soared in the high 80s! The regatta began in very light winds and after only a few races we were back in postponement. We took the time to indulge in the clam chowder and Italian bread which the Fordham team provided for lunch. Soon the wind filled in from the south providing picture perfect sailing conditions (though the water is still quite cold in New York). We were back on the water to finish up the single round robin immediately after we finished eating.

Practicing team racing techniques for the past couple weeks prepared us for the event well. Our lack of experience at team racing showed occasionally but we were always in the race fighting it out around the course. Tyler Drown '09 with crew Jen Mislinski '11 and Drew Bergan '10 with crews Annie Mercurio '12 and David Schubert '10 represented Drexel well in the event.

Thanks to Annie's parents for graciously housing the team for the weekend! They provided us with not only beds but lasagna, root beer floats, and breakfast.

-Andrew Bergan, skipper

To remove yourself from this email list, please send an email to remove@drexelsailing.com, if you only would like to opt-out of receiving regatta reports, please note it.

LOCALE: Morris Yacht & Beach Club, City Island, Bronx, NY

DAY & DATE: Saturday, April 25, 2009

PARTICIPANTS: Army, Drexel, Fordham I, New York Maritime, U/Penn, Fordham II (RAMS)

WITHDRAWALS: Ocean County College, prior to two-week cut-off; Queens & Monmouth, after two-week cut-off

Due to early morning fog and minimal breezes, only four races were held prior to the lunch break. By early afternoon, however, a 6-10 knot southerly filled in and a full round-robin rotation of 15 races was completed. At that point, the scores were:

	W - L
1. Fordham	5 - 0
2. NY Maritime	3 - 2
3. U/Penn	3 - 2
4. Team RAMS	3 - 2
5. Drexel	1 - 4
6. Army	0 - 5

Drexel & Army were awarded fifth and sixth place respectively and a six-race sail-off was conducted to determine the winner. At the end of six races, Fordham, NY Maritime & U/Penn were tied 2-1 while Team Rams was 0-3. To break the tie, scores from the preliminary round were added to those from the sail-off and the final results were:

	W - L
1. Fordham	7 - 1
2. NY Maritime	5 - 3 (Tied)
2. U/Penn	5 - 3 (Tied - each team beat the other once)
4. Team RAMS	3 - 5
5. Drexel	1 - 4
6. Army	0 - 5

We should have conducted a tie-breaker sail-off between NY Maritime & U/Penn for second place but this was the first time that we had hosted a Team Race Regatta and we blew it.

Kudos to Fordham sailors Matt Badila '10 and Sarah McKay '12, who did an outstanding job keeping the teams moving expeditiously as they swapped boats throughout the regatta, and assumed most on-shore and on the water responsibilities. As always at Fordham regattas, participants were well fed with Juice, Bagels & Cream Cheese upon arrival; New England clam chowder & loafs of hot Italian bread at lunch, and sinfully delicious NYC cheesecake at the conclusion of the regatta.

In closing, we want to wish Major Justin Platt of the United States Military Academy all the best as he, his wife and three small children head off to a three-year tour of duty in South Korea. Major Platt has coached the Army team during the past three years and has been an asset to West Point and College Sailing. We wish him well and Godspeed!

Joe Sullivan

Coach

Fordham University Sailing Team