

Jackie Cappellini
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Dear Newport Harbor Sailing Foundation,

Thank you so much for your support in making it possible for me to sail in Chicago, Illinois for the 2011 Club 420 US National Championship and then in Ontario, Canada for the 2011 Club 420 North American Championship, where I placed 2nd. Flying alone and doing the whole round trip by myself, it was nice knowing I had not only my parents back at home, but you and all of the Newport Harbor sailing community supporting me.

My summer campaign was very successful thanks to your support. I had the lucky privilege to sail with Alex Curtiss, a local from Chicago, where Nationals took place, and we ended up 7th overall out of 71 boats. The conditions on Lake Michigan were quite fluky, yet we were blessed with a steady building pressure throughout the whole regatta. The regatta was very competitive and although we came in 7th, we were only a few points away from 3rd. Happy with our finish, we had confidence we could do even better.

The next week I drove up to Canada with the Chicago Yacht Club team to sail in the 420 North American Championship. We sailed out of the Buffalo Canoe Club on Lake Erie, which was a very beautiful place to sail, but also a very tricky place. We had days of no wind and days with extreme wind. The first day we had trouble staying consistent. The second day it was blowing over 25 knots with gusts of 30, and was so windy that it was basically survivor mode for us all, yet with these conditions we did fairly well. We were around top 10 – top 15 at the end of the second day. But by the third day we figured out how to stay consistent. The breeze was windy enough to hike hard, but not windy enough to trap. We were on fire, whipping out bullet after bullet and our worst race was a 3 that day. This launched us into 1st overall, but not over yet, the last day we were faced with unfortunate racing conditions where we were sailing upwind on the downwind leg and downwind on the upwind leg with hardly any wind. We almost won the regatta, but we ended in 2nd out of 113 boats, only losing our lead by a couple of points.

Overall, I had a blast sailing. Out of all the Midwest teams that finished at the top, I was so happy that I had the opportunity to represent my yacht club and sail under the NHYC burgee, and do so well in an international regatta. Thank you again for all the support you gave me. It really meant a lot and was so helpful to me in my 2011 summer campaign.

Sincerely Yours,



Jackie Cappellini