

# CHRISTOPHER C. SEGERBLOM

266 Palmer St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627

July 6, 2011

Dear Newport Harbor Sailing Foundation,

Thank you so much for making it possible for my team and I to compete in the Chicago GoPro Match Cup A Event at the Chicago Match Race Center last month. Your generous support allowed us to gain valuable experience racing against world class sailors.


The Chicago Match Race Center, located in Belmont Harbor on Lake Michigan, has evidently recognized match racing's exciting head-to-head format and media accessibility. Its abundant resources allow the center to host world class events that can be appreciated by racers and fans alike. In fact, the actual match race center facility is a two-story houseboat that allows the hosts to bring their office right to the race course as well as provide on-the-water spectating from the upper-deck. In addition to the fully outfitted facility and live commentary they provide, the particular event that we did happened to be sponsored by GoPro. This tech brand provided HD cameras to be mounted on individual boats for center-of-the-action footage. All of the media coverage along with top quality boats and resources gave the event a professional atmosphere that isn't always present at youth events. Not to mention the fact that numerous professional sailors were there competing.

Over the course of the event we experienced almost every possible condition, from puffs above 20 knots on the practice day to on-land postponement on the final day due to lack of wind. Although the race course's close proximity to land made for extremely shifty conditions, the weather on day one was most cooperative and allowed the race committee to complete an entire round robin and part of the consecutive rounds. Unfortunately on day two the sun and clear skies were not accompanied by great breeze and the committee fell one flight short of completing the final rounds.

We were a little disappointed to miss the final four by a mere tie-breaker at the end of the first round, but ultimately this regatta was a great tune-up for Connor Bathen, Brooks Clark and I as we prepare for the Governor's Cup. Overall I consider the lessons learned at the GoPro Match Cup to be significantly more important than our actual final result. However, while we endured some disappointing losses, it was encouraging to look back and also recognize that we came away from the racing with wins against four out of the five teams that finished ahead of us overall.

In the end, our trip to Chicago was undoubtedly more than worthwhile and the experience will hopefully pay dividends two weeks from now at the Governor's Cup, as well as further down the road in our match racing careers. Thank you again for your support! I can't express strongly enough the great number of events like this that I would be unable to do if it weren't for the Newport Harbor Sailing Foundation.

Kindest regards,



Chris Segerblom