

MIT SAILING

SUMMER 2021



An OASIS

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With your continued support, the pavilion remains an oasis of relaxation and was essential to the mental health and wellness of the MIT community.

*“Thank you all so so much for supporting MIT Sailing! It’s been one of, if not, the best things about my MIT experience so far”
-Grace Mao ‘23*

YEAR IN REVIEW

We want to bring you up to date on what a tremendously successful and challenging year it has been at your favorite MIT hangout. We were one of the first athletic facilities to open during last summer due to the critical role we play as a physical and social outlet for our students.

We installed a ramp from the Cambridge seawall down to our docks to create an entirely outdoor sailing experience and rec sailing was done by an appointment system to manage traffic and physical interactions.

By Fall, Seniors were back with all other classes returning in spring of 2021. We were hobbled without our loyal volunteer instructors but taught as many classes as we could in evenings and weekends.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We added catboat PE and racing classes to our normal schedule to increase physical education offerings for the students stuck alone in their dorm rooms. We sailed catboats, tech dinghies, fireflies and lasers

Over the winter we offered PE classes in catboats with 2 people per boat. It was a tremendous success with gigantic smiles all around and lots of students used their new skills to come down and go sailing in the evenings and on weekends.

Like all other MIT varsity teams, our sailing team was not permitted to compete against other schools this year and the MIT distancing guidelines meant that we were limited to 1 student per boat. While this was initially a daunting challenge, we refurbished our Laser fleet with 4 new hulls and new sails and rigging to get to 8 evenly matched radials as well as lots of cat rigged FJ's for very competitive practices.

Our crews were displaced from their normal position in the front of the boat but they all adapted quickly and gained tremendous skills as skippers. After the first few weeks, it was impossible to tell who was traditionally a crew and skipper! Our team emerges from the COVID restrictions well prepared for competition and with a tremendous class of sailors joining us this Fall.



The Year Ahead

We've got big plans to renew our aging fleets and hope we can rely on your support to replace our aging fleets. Our new fleet of 30 brand new Tech dinghies is newly complete. Our plan is to replace our 2012 Fireflies with a fleet of brand new 420's and replace our 2014 FJ's with a new fleet of FJ's.



THANK YOU

Your support allows our many programs to thrive: From our gorgeous 1902 Herreshoff designed Mashnee to our foiling moth and UFO sailboats, there is a wide range of amazing adventures for every MIT student who crosses Memorial Drive!

Naming Opportunities Available!

- 18 New FJ's and 18 new 420's***
- Available for sale now 24 fireflies, available Winter 21: 24 FJ's***
- Click here for information or visit <http://sailing.mit.edu/>***