

From: Scott Norman
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2003 2:39 AM
To: Thomas P. Monkus
Cc: Scott Norman
Subject: Eckerd College Sailing Conditions

Tips on Sailing at Eckerd College:

The sailing venue at Eckerd College is located on lower Boca Ciega Bay between just west of campus and north of Indian Key. The waters are protected (waves less than 1 foot in big breeze) with minimal current that is consistent across the entire course. The winds are not difficult to figure out for first timers. Keep the following things in mind:

- Sea-breeze direction is West / Northwest typically at 5-10 knots.
- In November, the prevailing winds are typically out of the North / Northeast and can range from 5-20 knots. If the weather is warm, clear skies, and light morning Northerly, you can expect the wind to shift left gradually around 1-2pm. When the wind is due North, the shifts on the course can be big, especially near the top end of the course (close to houses / sea-wall).
- If the wind in the morning happens to be from a southerly direction, you can expect a similar outcome, only to the right. The shifts are less noticeable out of this direction. If the wind is light in the morning out of the South / Southeast, there is a good chance that the sea-breeze will cancel the prevailing winds near the middle of the day. Sea-breeze typically wins the battle and will fill in from the West / Northwest at 5-10 knots.

Those looking to train for this venue should concentrate on sailing on flat water venues with steady breeze. Work primarily on boat-to-boat speed tactics and technique. Try to find an area where the shifts are gradual and oscillate frequently.

A map of the Eckerd College sailing venue can be viewed at <http://www.eckerd.edu/waterfront/sailing-regattas.php>

Best of luck,

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Head Coach
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