

Austin Suvari  
Hoofers Sailing Club  
Commodore Elections  
03/19/2021

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Austin Suvari, and I am eager to be running for the position of commodore of the Hoofers Sailing Club. I am a sophomore in the College of Engineering studying to graduate with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering. I was born in Pasadena, CA and moved to Evanston, IL when I was a child. My sailing story began one fateful summer at a sleepaway camp, where I began to learn to sail a sunfish. After that summer, my passion for sailing only grew with time. I quickly began to learn to sail in a competitive setting at my local yacht club. I continued to sail through high school where I eventually became my team's captain. Being in a leadership role where I got to partake in an activity I loved and cared so much about was a dream come true. I was able to help guide my peers and foster a team environment that was inclusive and fun for everyone. This experience in high school made me eager to join the Wisconsin sailing team and continue my competitive sailing journey.

In addition to sailing in college, I've become involved with the ICSA's TIDE (The Inclusivity, Diversity, and Equity Taskforce) Committee. I serve as a member on the TIDE Education board, where we are dedicated to improving and fostering a diverse and inclusive sailing community where all members are respected and supported. In our mission we are committed to strengthening connections within the sailing world, developing infrastructure, creating informational resources, and establishing strong and long-lasting relationships with our surrounding communities. The work I've done on this committee has helped me improve my leadership skills and has given me an opportunity to give back to the community I care so deeply about.

I believe that my experience qualifies me as an excellent candidate for Commodore of the Hoofers Club. If I were to be elected I would aim to bring aspects of the work I do on the ICSA TIDE committee to the Hoofers Sailing Club. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic the Hoofers Sailing Club is in a unique position to reposition themselves as a driving force to foster community growth and individual relationships among its participants. I would love to see in my time as Commodore the Hoofers Sailing Club become the 'bees knees' in the Madison community. Where students, staff, and community members alike are eager to come down and learn to sail on our beautiful Lake Mendota. I believe with an aggressive media campaign, and a stronger connection with the University's W.I.N. (Wisconsin Involvement Network) we can tangibly achieve this goal.

I am eager to hear back from you in the near future, and look forward to seeing all of you in and around the Union in the near future!

- Austin Suvari