WINDSURFING CLUB 2016/2017

The University of St Andrews Windsurfing Club started the year full of enthusiasm after a restful summer holiday. The Fresher’s Fayre went well, attracting 96 signups to the mailing list. The number of signups affirms the interest in this exciting but lesser- tried sport. We commenced the year by improving our social media presence; with our Instagram @SaintsWindsurfing.

We continued to run Wednesday training sessions at Monikie Country Park, allowing both Freshers and existing members to experience the sport. Two committee members currently have windsurf instructor qualifications, and were able to put these to good use to teach beginners. The typical Scottish weather did not deter us and all who attended these sessions thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Training sessions run at a cost of £10 per member, which covered equipment hire, safety cover and petrol.
When sessions were concluded for the winter the club continued its presence with various social events throughout the year, promoting comradery within the club. Our Freshers BBQ was a particular success and allowed new members to integrate into the club. Our joint social with sailing was also very popular and provided the opportunity to mix with other water sport enthusiasts. We look forward to collaborating further with other clubs in the future.
We are extremely excited about our upcoming windsurf trip to Vassiliki, Greece on 4-11th June. This eagerly-anticipated week away will give us a well-earned break from the cold Scottish waters and will provide ideal conditions for members to proceed from absolute beginners to windsurf pros. We were able to negotiate a student discount to the outstanding center Club Vassiliki, due to the fact we have built a good relationship with them over the past few years. We will endeavor for the trip to be continued in summer 2018 as it provides an excellent platform for windsurfers of all levels to hone their skills and bond as a team, as well as giving us the chance to mix with windsurfers from all over the UK and beyond.

In terms of development it would be great to see beginners sessions continue at Monikie to boost interest in the club and in windsurfing as a sport. Getting beginners interested in windsurfing is of high priority, given that the majority of St Andrews students have not tried windsurfing before. Additionally, with many members improving fast it would be beneficial to purchase equipment which would allow us to run sessions for both beginners and advanced members alike here in St Andrews.