

CYC Junior Sailing Program FAQ's

Who is invited to participate?

- Children ages 8 thru 16 interested in learning how to sail are invited to participate.
- You do not have to be a member of Cambridge Yacht Club to participate, however, members receive a price discount.
- All participants are required to know how to swim (swimming assessment is on the first day).

What will my child need to bring to class everyday?

All students should bring:

- A properly fitting U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket. (We check this the first day)
- A water bottle (water refills will be available)
- Sunscreen (it is best to arrive with it on, and re-apply at lunch)
- Sunglasses and a hat - looking forward to many sunny days!
- Wear a bathing suit or something you don't mind getting wet.
- Towel and extra change of clothes just in case.
- A packed lunch and extra drink, lunch is not provided.
- Water shoes - closed toed shoes like crocs are the best.

Does my child need to bring their own boat?

We sail Optimist dinghies and Laser Sailboats in our program. The club maintains a small fleet of each. While you do not need to supply a boat, we encourage students to bring their own boat as our class size becomes limited when our "fleet is full." Students who have sailed with us a few years and see themselves continuing to enjoy the sport are especially encouraged to bring their own boat. Discounts are given to those students who bring their own boat.

What is a typical sailing class day involve?

Students are placed in a class depending on their skills and instructional needs. Students arrive at 9 am, check in at the pavilion and begin rigging their boats and meet with their instructor who will outline the activities

for the day. If the weather is good, we will be out on the water as much as possible. Lunch is at noon, followed by a return to the water for afternoon instruction. Students de-rig boats and put away equipment for pick up by 3:00. Sometimes, we will have an end of the day swim off the docks.

What is so special about Thursdays?

Class hours on Thursdays are from 12:00 until 6:00, and weather permitting we have our family race night. Our more experienced students must be invited to participate in the races by an instructor, but all students are encouraged to stay and watch to see what racing is all about. Family members may participate too if boats are available. The club serves a family style buffet at a nominal cost, so families can meet each other, watch the races and enjoy dinner.

What if it rains?

Generally speaking, we will have class even if it rains. We have plenty of on land activities. However, in the case of several days of inclement weather, severe storms, or a hurricane, we reserve the right to cancel class. You will be notified by phone if class is cancelled.

Do you have a racing program?

We provide racing instruction for those students who have the desire to learn how to race. While racing is not the primary focus of our program, we recognize it as an important part of the sailing world and encourage those students who enjoy racing and have the necessary skills to participate in a few local regattas. Our racing coaches are experienced competitors and have the skills and knowledge to train young racers.