

# Wickford Sailing Association Parent Handbook



**MISSION STATEMENT:** Our mission is to train students in the art and skill of sailing. Through hands-on experience and class instruction, we hope to produce well-rounded sailors who are at home aboard a sailing dinghy, a cruising sailboat, or a racing boat. Above all, our goal is to have our students safely enjoy their time on the water.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

WSA President: Skip Whyte Email: [Wickford.sailing@gmail.com](mailto:Wickford.sailing@gmail.com)

Mailing Address: 165 Pleasant St, North Kingstown, RI 02852

Head Instructor: Rodrigo Benvenuto Email: [headinstructor@wickfordsailing.org](mailto:headinstructor@wickfordsailing.org) (effective 6/19-8/25)

**LOCATION:** Wickford Sailing Association operates out of Wickford Yacht Club located at 165 Pleasant Street, Wickford, Rhode Island 02852

## WSA Board of Directors

Skip Whyte - Board Chair and President – [Wickford.sailing@gmail.com](mailto:Wickford.sailing@gmail.com)

Doug Nannig – [doug.nannig@gmail.com](mailto:doug.nannig@gmail.com)

Cam Lewis – [sailmb@aol.com](mailto:sailmb@aol.com)

Kim Quagan – [kquagan@yahoo.com](mailto:kquagan@yahoo.com)

Chris Moore – [the.strategic.directive@gmail.com](mailto:the.strategic.directive@gmail.com)

Charlie Wolpensinger – [cwolpensinger@yahoo.com](mailto:cwolpensinger@yahoo.com)

Kerri Bamford - [kabamford@cox.net](mailto:kabamford@cox.net)

## ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL:

**Arrival:** Students may begin arriving 10min before their class start time. Drop offs in the WYC lot are permitted as long as the driver remains in the car and departs promptly. Drop offs at the end of Pleasant Street are preferred. Verify that your child is checked in by their instructor. If your child is going to be late please notify the head instructor by text.

**Dismissal:** Students must check out with their instructor when getting picked up. Please notify the instructor if someone else other than parent/guardian is picking up your child. **Please do not pull into the WYC lot** but meet your sailor at the end of Pleasant St where there is room to turn around.

**LUNCH:** Each student (except for Minnows) must bring their own lunch. Please keep in mind that students will not have access to a refrigerator or microwave. A small snack for the end of the day is also suggested.

## SUPPLY LIST: (**Bold** indicates equipment that is required for participation)

- **US COAST GUARD APPROVED PFD (person flotation device) Type I, Type II, or Type III (non-inflatable)**
- **Close-toed shoes (old sneakers work great!)**
- **Refillable water bottle**
- **Sunscreen**
- **Mask**
- Swimsuit
- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Towel
- Change of clothes
- Gear bag
- Sailing gloves
- Rain jacket

**Junior Sailing Class Schedule:** Our junior classes begin June 27th and end August 19th. Class schedules are found at: <https://www.wickfordsailing.org> : Our junior race program starts June 21st and ends August 13th.

## Information and Obligations for Racing Sailors:

Race teams have the opportunity to travel to regattas governed by the Narragansett Bay Yachting Association (NBYA). Regatta participation will be determined between race coaches, sailors, parents, and head instructor.

**There may be additional fees to travel to regattas.**

- Families are responsible for NBYA entry fees. These fees are nominal. Families may be asked to assist with logistics associated with NBYA events.

**NBYA Schedule** <https://nbya.org/>

**SWIM CHECK:** All students will complete a swim “check” at the beginning of the session. Students must float comfortably with their jacket for 3 minutes and swim a distance of 30 yards.

**VOLUNTEER:** Wickford Sailing Association relies on the participation and enthusiasm of our parents and guardians. There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer with the WSA, such as boat maintenance, communication, marketing. If you have a particular skill you would like to provide, or simply want to donate your time please let us know. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the president or head instructor for more information.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:** In the unlikely event that your child has a medical emergency, immediate action will be taken to assure their safety. The student will be assessed and either treated onsite or taken to the nearest medical facility. You will be contacted using the emergency contact information you provided during registration.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER:** Unfortunately, weather conditions do not always allow for on the water lessons. Safety is our number one priority. If inclement weather conditions are forecasted, we may cancel the class by sending out an email the night before. However, shoreside classes will be held on most days when sailing is restricted. We typically sail on rainy days unless there is excessive wind.

**CODE OF CONDUCT:** Wickford Sailing Association foundation strives to provide a fun and safe environment in which to educate the next generation about the skills and joys of sailing. In order to do so it is of the utmost importance that we maintain a physically and emotionally safe educational environment. In order to do so the students must conduct themselves accordingly:

Students....

- Will respect their instructors, adults, members, and fellow sailors.
- Will listen to the directions given to them by an instructor.
- Will treat WSA equipment as though it were their own.
- Will display good sportsmanship at all times.
- Will not act in a way that endangers themselves or others. Safety first.
- Will conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on both themselves and WSA
- Will not use cell phones or other electronic devices during class

**CELL PHONE USE & ACCESS:** We ask that you discuss cell phone use with your child in advance of summer classes. We don't want sailors on their phones unless it is for emergency use or to call for a ride home in case of inclement weather. All cell phones that come to class must be stored in the student's bag in the WSA storage area. Phones that are found in use without permission from a staff member will be held until the end of the day. Multiple offenses will require that the student turn over the phone to a staff member ashore each morning.

**USE OF EQUIPMENT:** Damage or loss of WSA equipment that exceeds normal wear and tear (staff discretion) will be reported to the WSA head instructor. At that point the cost of repair may be charged to the family. If damage is done to a double handed boat, the boat responsibility will fall on both the skipper and crew. WSA is not responsible for damages done to privately owned or charter boats/equipment.

**PHOTOS:** WSA will be working on creating a photo library this summer. Photos taken during sailing sessions, organization functions may be included for your viewing pleasure. If you do not consent to the use of your child's image, please notify the WSA in writing.

**GUESTS AT WICKFORD YACHT CLUB:** We are very fortunate to be located at Wickford Yacht Club and wish to continue the positive relationship we have built over the years. We ask that your sailor respect and follow these guidelines: Sailing school participants are required to follow the WYC house rules. Junior sailors have access to the following areas:

- Downstairs restrooms and outdoor shower
- Pavilion
- Junior Room
- Great Room only when accompanied by and instructor.
- **Junior sailors are not permitted on the upper deck or the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the clubhouse.**

Junior sailors will store their personal belongings only in the areas designated for sailing program use.