



Saltspring Island Sailing Club

Summer Sailing School Information & FAQ

When and where?

Sailing school runs from 9 am to 3:30 pm, Monday to Friday ***except holidays.***

All courses take place at the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club at 152 Douglas Road.

What should I bring / wear?

- Personal Flotation Device (i.e. lifejacket) approved by the Ministry of Transport of Canada, that fits properly and is correct for your child's weight.
If you don't have a PFD, you can borrow one for the course
- Closed toed, non-slip shoes that can handle immersion in salt water.
No flip flops or open toed shoes please!
- Weather appropriate clothing including layers.
- A change of clothes and towel (kids will get wet!).
- Waterproof sunblock.
Please apply before arriving and bring for additional applications.
- Refillable water bottle
- A facial mask or well-fitted cloth face covering (optional).

What are the drop-off/pick-up procedures?

Due to COVID-19 restrictions there will be a specific path/process for drop off and pick up. When entering the parking area please follow the signs and directions of staff and volunteers. Parents/guardians are asked to leave immediately after drop-off/pick-up (unless they engaging in other Sailing Club-related activities).

How much time will we be on the water?

Sailors will be on the water as much as possible. Students will need to be comfortable getting wet, being solo or in pairs (depending on COVID guidelines) in a small boat, following instruction and occasionally being in the water. Sailors must always wear a lifejacket on the docks and on the water.

It is windy! Why is the class not sailing?

Our Instructors gauge the wind intensity, direction, and puffs to decide if the sailors can safely go out. Too strong of wind may overpower or capsize the Optis or Dinghies. Too many boats capsizing at once compromises safety and is not a good way to instill a love of sailing. Our goal is to always spend as much time sailing as possible, but if conditions do not allow we will often do safe capsizing drills off the dock or land lessons.

Does the Sailing School have a COVID-19 Protocol?

Yes! It is available for download on our website. Parents are required to review and accept the Protocol before registering their child/children.

A lot of work has gone into creating and implementing the Protocol to ensure we can safely operate the Sailing School this summer. It is important that parents/guardians understand and are prepared for the Protocol that will be required every day of the program. Please ensure your child/children are also aware prior to the first day.

My child is over 5'1 and 110lbs, but has no sailing experience. Can they enrol in the Dinghy Program?

Yes, they can begin their sailing experience in the Intro to Sailing course in the Dinghy Program. If they are under 13, please confirm with the Sailing School

Can my child fulfill CanSail levels in the Opti Program?

Yes, they have the opportunity to complete CANSail program levels.

I have more questions. Who do I ask?

Please review all the information on the Sailing School website before contacting our volunteer Sailing School Coordinator. Any remaining questions should be directed to: school@saltspringsailing.ca