

Michigan Sailing Club
Club Rules
(Adopted July-2021)

GENERAL

- 1) No person shall make use of any Club Property (e.g. land, boats) unless that person has:
 - a) signed a waiver of liability; and
 - b) agrees to follow Club rules, Club policies, and local laws.

A parent or legal guardian must sign the waiver on behalf of individuals under 18.

The use of the Club Property implies agreement with the waiver and consent to be bound by the rules, policies, and local laws.

BOATING OPERATIONS

- 2) Open Sailing:
 - a) Rated Members may sail Club sailboats and sailboards during periods of Open Sailing.
 - b) Boats owned by the University of Michigan Sailing Team may be sailed only by Team members, or with permission of the Team Captain(s).
 - c) Open Sailing shall be indicated by a sign on the boathouse, as determined by the Skipper(s) and Key Member(s) present.
- 3) Requirements to open the Club for Open Sailing:
 - a) There must be a Key or Skipper Member present on the Club Property or Baseline Lake to monitor the boats on the lake and provide assistance as needed;
 - b) A safety boat must be ready for use (see rule #7); and
 - c) In winds over 15 knots:
 - i) there must be a Skipper on Club Property or Baseline Lake; and
 - ii) a Member who has passed the safety boat and capsize requirements of the Key rating must stand by on Club Property or in a motorboat on Baseline Lake to provide assistance as needed.
- 4) Sailing at times other than Open Sailing:
 - a) Skippers may sail Club sailboats and sailboards at any time without opening the Club for Open Sailing.
 - b) During races, regattas, sailing team practice, instruction, or testing, the Club may be closed to Open Sailing.
 - c) In either case, requirements under rule 3 must be met unless there is a Skipper aboard each Club sailboat or sailboard.
- 5) A Rated person must be aboard each Club sailboat or sailboard at all times. This requirement may be waived with the explicit permission of a Skipper, however the non-Rated person must obtain this permission each time – blanket permission will not be given.
- 6) Boat Sign-Out:
 - a) The person responsible for taking out a Club Boat must sign it out on the sign-out sheet and sign it back in upon returning.
 - b) If taking a paddlecraft or motorboat off of Baseline Lake then they shall indicate their destination and when they expect to return.
 - c) A safety boat going out to a rescue, to provide assistance, or to support racing need not be signed out.
 - d) Paddlecraft used in the immediate vicinity of the dock and swim raft need not be signed out.

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- 7) A safety boat is ready for use when:
 - a) the gas tank has been filled to at least one-half its capacity;
 - b) the motor has been unlocked, test-started, and checked for free steering;
 - c) the following items are aboard: 6 life vests, oars, a fire extinguisher, a whistle or horn, a USCG-approved throwable (type IV) ring buoy or cushion; and
 - d) an anchor is secured to a buoy or the boat.
- 8) Club motorboats may be operated only under the supervision of a Member who has passed the safety boat requirement of the Key rating.
- 9) Club boats may not be used for any towed water sports - including, but not limited to, tubing, water skiing, parasailing, or aquaplaning.
- 10) All persons, including Guests, who have not passed the swim requirement of the Basic rating must wear a PFD while under way in any Club boat.
- 11) Members and Guests must follow all applicable federal, state, and local boating laws, including, but not limited to:
 - a) boats shall carry at least one USCG-approved life preserver (PFD) of the proper size for each person on board;
 - b) children under age 6 must wear a USCG approved Type I or Type II PFD while in a boat;
 - c) a sailboat or motorboat that is 16 feet in length or longer shall carry at least one USCG-approved throwable floatation device (Type IV) such as a ring buoy or cushion;
 - d) PFDs required above must be readily accessible and not enclosed in plastic bags or other containers;
 - e) boats shall stay clear of all swimmers and skin divers;
 - f) boats shall adhere to all applicable nautical right-of-way rules; and
 - g) all persons born after July 1, 1996 must have a boating safety certificate and carry it with them to operate a motorboat. (NREPA 324.80141).
 - h) Note: this is not an exhaustive list, and is based on the regulations as they exist in 2017; compliance with most current regulations is required.
- 12) All boat school participants must wear a USCG-approved life preserver (PFD) while in any boat.
- 13) Except with explicit permission of the Executive Board, or the Team Captain(s) in the case of team-owned boats:
 - a) Club sailboats and sailboards may sail only on Base Line Lake;
 - b) Club sailboats and sailboards shall not be sailed out of sight of the Club dock; and
 - c) Club sailboats and sailboards shall not land at any place other than the Club, except in case of an emergency.
- 14) Spinnaker and trapeze gear shall be used in Club boats only with a Skipper or Key rated member in the boat, or with explicit permission from a Skipper.
- 15) Exemptions for UM Sailing Team members, during team practice and regattas:
 - a) they may sail without obtaining a rating;
 - b) they do not have to sign out their boats; and
 - c) they may sail in winds above 15 knots without a skipper present.
- 16) The Club shall be open for Open Sailing during weekly Club racing.
- 17) The last person to use a Club Boat shall unrig it and put it away.
- 18) Skipper and Key members may deny boating privileges at their discretion.
- 19) The Club recommends that all persons wear a life vest (PFD) while in boats or on the dock.
- 20) Members may use Club paddlecraft, under their own authority, at any time.

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COMMUNICATIONS

- 21) To request assistance, perform one or more of the following:
 - a) lower the mainsail;
 - b) repeatedly raise and lower both arms outstretched to each side; or
 - c) make a continuous sound with a whistle.
- 22) All Club sailboats and sailboards shall immediately return to the dock when any of the following signals are given:
 - a) five blasts of the horn or whistle;
 - b) five rings of the bell; or
 - c) at night, the blinking of lights on the flag pole.
- 23) When a striped maize-and-blue flag is displayed, each Club sailboat or sailboard shall be unrigged when it returns to the dock.

ONSHORE OPERATIONS

- 24) Members may use the Club Property for recreational or leisure activities including but not limited to swimming, under their own authority, at any time. However, use of a Club Boat requires compliance with all other rules, and Club Facilities may be locked and unavailable when there is no Key or Skipper present. Camping requires written permission of a Club Officer.
- 25) No Alcohol -- Alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine, are prohibited at the Club.
- 26) No Smoking -- In accordance with University of Michigan policy (SPG 601.04) smoking is prohibited at the Club.
- 27) No Pets -- Pets are prohibited at the Club.
- 28) Private boats or gear may be stored at the Club only with the permission of a Club officer.
- 29) No grinding or sanding of fiberglass shall be done in the Club buildings.
- 30) Trespassing on the University of Michigan property west of the Club is prohibited.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 31) Only Members and Dependents of Members may hold Club Ratings. Minors must have their rating criteria evaluated by non-family related certified instructors.
- 32) Members must be 18 years or older to hold the Club open for sailing.
- 33) If a rated Member lets his or her membership lapse for one year or less, his or her Rating (and any Dependent's Rating) shall be reinstated upon rejoining. If more than a year, his or her Rating (and any Dependent's Rating) shall be reinstated at a level one rank lower for each full year of inactivity, with "no rating" being one rank lower than the Basic Rating.

RULES FOR MINORS

- 34) Children under age eighteen shall be supervised by a parent or other adult at all times. University of Michigan Students under eighteen who are Members are exempt from this rule.
- 35) All children under age 6 must wear a USCG approved Type I or Type II PFD while in a boat as required by law.

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AMENDMENTS AND VIOLATIONS

36) These rules may be amended or modified by majority vote of the Members at a Business Meeting. Violations of the Club constitution, Club rules, Club policies, or local laws may result in reprimand, discipline, suspension, revocation of membership, or other remedies on either a temporary or permanent basis as permitted by the Club constitution, Club rules, Club policy, or law.

DEFINITIONS:

- A “**boat**” means a sailboat, sailboard, canoe, kayak, motorboat (safety boat), or stand-up paddleboard.
- A “**paddlecraft**” means a canoe, kayak, or stand-up paddleboard.
- A “**club boat**” means a boat that is owned by: (i) the Michigan Sailing Club; (ii) the University of Michigan Sailing Team; or (iii) one owned by a member who has designated it for general use by all Club members, when the owner is aboard it is not considered a club boat.
- A “**club officer**” is someone who is elected (or appointed) to a current term on the Michigan Sailing Club board.
- A “**club property**” means the real property (e.g. land/shoreline), and the permanent structures on land (e.g. clubhouse), or temporary structures on water (e.g. dock), or personal property (e.g. boats, equipment, tools, firewood) that are owned by, leased by, or managed by the Michigan Sailing Club.
- A “**club facility**” means, a subset of Club Property, that includes the inside spaces of all buildings, the fixtures (e.g. stove), the equipment (e.g. tools, grill), and other personal property (e.g. boats, firewood) owned by, leased by, or managed by the Michigan Sailing Club.
- “**Camping**” means sleeping anywhere on the Club Property, or in any Club Facility, for any duration between dusk and dawn.
- A “**Rated**” and “**Rating**” refer to the Club’s rating system, i.e. a person holding a Basic, Key, or Skipper Rating is said to be Rated.
- Other terms that are defined in the Club Constitution shall utilize the same meanings in the Club Rules.