

# Michigan Sailing Club

## Club Rules 2017

Adopted July 4, 2017

### GENERAL

1. No person shall make use of any Club facility or Club boat unless he or she has signed a waiver of liability. A parent or other responsible adult must sign on behalf of individuals under 18.

### 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.
- 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 not be open for 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. 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. If taking a paddlecraft or motorboat off of Baseline Lake they shall indicate their destination and when they expect to return. A safety boat going out to a rescue, to provide assistance, or to support racing need not be signed out.

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.
  - a) Club motorboats may be operated only under the supervision of a Member who has passed the safety boat requirement of the Key rating.
  - b) Club boats may not be used for any towed water sports - including, but not limited to, tubing, water skiing, parasailing, or aquaplaning.
  
9. 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.
  
10. 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) for each occupant.
  - 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) boats shall stay clear of all swimmers and skin divers. The presence of divers in an area is indicated by either a red flag with a diagonal white stripe (Michigan usage) or by the International A (left half white, right half blue with triangle cutout).
  - e) boats shall adhere to all applicable nautical right-of-way rules.
  - f) 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)
  
- Note: this is not an exhaustive list, and is based on the regulations as they exist in 2014.
  
11. All boat school participants must wear a USCG-approved life preserver (PFD) while in the boats.
  
12. When a red flag is displayed on the flagpole, all occupants of sailboats and sailboards shall wear USCG-approved life preservers (PFDs).
  
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.
  - 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 Michigan Sailing 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.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- 21. To request assistance:
  - a) lower the main sail, or
  - 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.

## ON SHORE OPERATIONS

- 24. Members may use the Club property (land/shoreline/dock/etc) for recreational or leisure activities including but not limited to swimming, under their own authority, at any time. However, the boathouse may be locked and unavailable when there is no Key or Skipper present. Overnight camping requires advance permission of a Club Officer.
- 25. Alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine, are prohibited at the Club.
- 26. In accordance with University of Michigan policy (SPG 601.04) smoking is prohibited on the property, including Club buildings, docks, and boats.
- 27. No pets are allowed at the Club.
- 28. Private boats or gear may be stored in the Club buildings 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 re-instated upon rejoining. If more than a year, his or her Rating (and any Dependent's Rating) shall be re-instated 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.

#### AMENDMENTS

36. These rules may be amended or modified by majority vote of the Members at a Business Meeting.

#### 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 the Michigan Sailing Club, the University of Michigan Sailing Team, or 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.

*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.

Rules as amended July 4 2017