

New Castle Sailing Club

NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Diana DiMattia

Commodore's Corner

Only two weeks left of 2020, and if you're like me I look forward to "kicking" 2020 out and welcoming in 2021. A HUGE thanks to all of you for making the best of the 2020 sailing season, we all know it wasn't easy. The pandemic caused us to think quickly



on our feet, go virtual for instruction, implement protocols for work days and sailing together (thanks to last year's Board for all their work), and still have a racing season, all while ensuring you, our Members, felt safe. Many other Clubs didn't have a sailing season, but we were able to prevail and though shortened, still launch, race, instruct and enjoy sailing. I'd even say the racing season had some of the best weather days, so that was a positive.

The beginning of 2021 may be similar for the Club as 2020, virtual instruction, sign-up sheets for work days, masks and social distancing. And we'll need to keep the fan on in the bathroom (sorry a little inside humor with the Board ☺)! Launch Day is still up in the air, all depends on a variety of

factors, but we will launch when it is safe to do so, and we are not counting out the end of April. I'm hoping that the boats get a lot of use next year, though they were used, it would be nice to see more out sailing, comfortably with others, and enjoying the season. We also look forward to social activities, remember those... I miss the awesome food made by many of the Club members.

Laura Fontana
Commodore
New Castle Sailing Club



Treasurer's Note:

Dues Reminder

Dues invoices have gone out to all Club members. Please make sure to pay your 2021 dues by the December 31, 2020 dues deadline. We begin spending to rejuvenate the fleet in late January and February so it is important that members pay their dues by the end of the year. If you are not able to locate your dues invoice, let the Treasurer know by sending an email to treasncsc@gmail.com

Thanks for your prompt payment.

Tom Gorman
Treasurer
New Castle Sailing Club

We are also hosting free “whiteboard” sessions from December - April to provide an informal overview of racing issues: rules, sail trim, strategy, tactics and boat mechanics. Sessions to be held select Tuesday evenings from 7pm - 8pm via a Zoom link; a calendar with exact topics will be circulated to you upon sign up. Open to all levels of experience.

Our first whiteboard sessions are scheduled for Tuesday, 22 December at 7pm and Thursday, 7 January at 7PM and will cover:

- Flags
- Starting Sequence
- How to Prepare Before the Race

If you are interested in either or both of the above, please email me at racingncsc@gmail.com so that I can add you to the circulation list for Zoom ID/PW info. Likewise filter any questions or suggestions via that email address - your input on how to augment our racing program is always gratefully received!

Hope to see/meet you via Zoom soon - in the meantime, enjoy a safe and peaceful holiday season!

Meg Farugia
Racing Director

FLEET

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Years!



I hope you all can find creative non-traditional ways to celebrate the traditional Holidays. Speaking of non-traditional, we will organize this year's fleet work sessions like last year's, in small groups by signup. We will rely on individual boat and equipment captains to coordinate. Tentative target date for Launch is Saturday, April 24, though we may launch in phases again, also.

Please save the following dates (also posted on the NCSC website calendar).

All sessions (except Captain's meeting) to meet at the Club House:

- Captains' meeting - Saturday, Jan 16 at 10am via Zoom
- First work session - Sunday, Jan 7
- Fleet Launch - Saturday, April 24

As you know, our Club relies on the work of volunteers, so please jump in and help with either a boat or equipment team. We need your expertise and effort to get the boats in launch condition and maintain them through the season. No special skills necessary, this is an all hands on deck effort.

If you're not sure about your fleet assignment, please contact me at fleetncsc@gmail.com or 302-893-1851).

Thank you in advance for your help.

I look forward to seeing you all on the water!

Clay Greer

Fleet Captain

Safety and Instruction:

Last year we started off great with providing classroom instruction mid-February, but then we got hit with COVID-19 in mid-March. Clay did a great job in moving instruction to Zoom a couple of weeks later. As the new Safety and Instruction Director, I will look to see how we can tailor all of our instructions sessions to accommodate Zoom. Also looking for volunteers to help with instruction sessions. Thank you to those that volunteered last year. I'll follow-up in a separate communication to recruit instructors.

I also plan to continue with the maintaining a list of assigned instructors to non-keyed members that Clay established last year.

In addition, based on my personal experience, I plan to expand some of the instructional material to include additional topics such as backwinding, detailed mooring instruction, heaving to, as well as updating rigging instructions for the Scot and the Thistle. Please reach out to me with any instructional material where you see a gap, either classroom or on-the-water.



I look forward to another great sailing year.

John Harder

Dir. Safety and Instruction

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