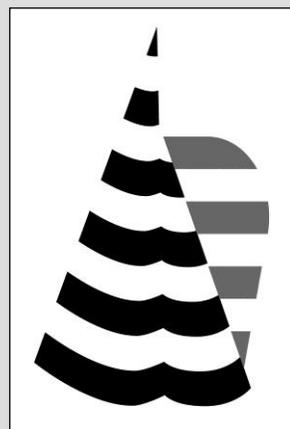


Milwaukee Community Sailing Center

Celebrating 41 Years of Service!



2020 Membership Handbook



Milwaukee Community Sailing Center 2020 Membership Handbook

Welcome to the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center (MCSC)! Thank you for joining one of the premier community sailing organizations in the United States. We hope you find sailing at MCSC to be a fun, rewarding experience.

Your Membership Handbook contains information about MCSC and its programs. It is your responsibility to understand and comply with the information provided. Please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the handbook. It should answer many questions you may have about MCSC, including the fleet and rating system. You'll also find information on Open Sailing, special events, volunteer opportunities, and year-round social activities.

If you have questions regarding the courses or programs available at MCSC, please call the MCSC office at 414-277-9094 or e-mail MCSC at info@sailingcenter.org.

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Your MCSC Membership

Your membership is valid for 1 year from the date that you begin sailing with MCSC and entitles you to:

- register for MCSC sailing classes.
- access the MCSC fleet at no additional cost.
- participate in regattas and social activities.
- volunteer instruct or give rides at special events.
- weekly updates in your email about upcoming MCSC activities.

MCSC Information

Address: 1450 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr. Milwaukee, WI 53202

Office: 414-277-9094

Fax: 414-277-9124

E-mail: info@sailingcenter.org

Website: www.sailingcenter.org

Weather Line (Prevailing conditions and current flag)

Available via Website: sailingcenter.org/weather.php

Phone: 414-277-9272

Twitter: @MCSC Weather

Office Hours:

April – October, Weekdays - 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

April – October: Weekends – 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Winter Hours: Weekdays - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Open Sailing Hours:

Monday - Friday: 10:00 am to Sunset

Saturday & Sunday: 1:00 pm to Sunset

MCSC Board of Directors

President	Jamie Bargaquast
Vice President	Paul Baldino
Secretary	Mel Flamer
Treasurer	Jane Larson

Jean Gabriel	Tom Holman	Caroline Joyce	Dick Kinney	Robert (Bob) Heil
Robert Levine	A. Eugene Neyhart	Ronald (RC) Zingler	J.F. (Jack) Price	

MCSC Staff

MCSC has three full-time, year-round, staff and nearly 40 seasonal staff members. Staff members can be identified by their blue staff shirts.

MCSC year-round staff:

Holly Davenport
Director



Jared Drake
Fleet Manager



Teresa Coronado
Program Manager



About MCSC

The Milwaukee Community Sailing Center (MCSC) is a private, non-profit 501(c)3 organization located north of downtown in the heart of Veterans Park at McKinley Marina. MCSC provides educational and recreational sailing programs to those who wish to gain access to Lake Michigan and learn to sail regardless of age, ability or financial concerns. In 2019, MCSC celebrated its 40th year of teaching sailing in Milwaukee.

MCSC owns and maintains more than 60 boats and members have no-charge access to the fleet after successfully demonstrating basic sailing skills and earning a rating. For separate fees, MCSC also offers private boat owners 24-hour access to the lake, year-round boat and dinghy storage, mast stepping, boat launching, and haul out services.

Each summer, MCSC partners with local organizations to provide sailing opportunities to many at-risk and economically disadvantaged youth, the physically challenged, and others. MCSC collaborates with numerous community-based outreach programs as well. These programs provide sailing opportunities to those who may otherwise never get the chance to sail on Lake Michigan. Programs include the MAST (Milwaukee Area Sailing Teens) program, sailing events for physically and financially disadvantaged, and the nationally acclaimed Prams in the Park program.

MCSC is a membership-driven organization. MCSC's programs and outreach are funded through membership dues, class fees and winter and summer storage fees. MCSC is not run by Milwaukee County, nor does it receive funds from Milwaukee County. We lease the property from the County. A small percentage of our budget is derived from donations and fundraising events such as the annual Lobster Boil.

THE SAFETY OF MEMBERS, GUESTS, AND THE FLEET IS MCSC'S PRIMARY CONCERN.

The fleet is owned by MCSC and shared by all members. Please do what you can to help keep the fleet and grounds in great condition.

MCSC History

MCSC was founded in 1977 when a group of local sailors and county officials formed a unique organization that strives to make sailing accessible to all in the community. After incorporation and construction of the offices and maintenance facility, MCSC opened with lessons and rentals and an enthusiastic staff of 10 and a humble fleet of Tech Dinghies, Volants and a safety boat. As membership began to grow, so did the staff, fleet and course offerings. Basic adult and youth courses annually brought hundreds of new members to learn to sail on Lake Michigan. The nationally renowned "Prams in the Park" program began in 1984 and continues to bring sailing and water safety to Milwaukee County Park lagoons, offering scholarships to economically disadvantaged and providing the opportunity to learn to sail.

Through generous donations from fellow sailors throughout the United States and through fleet purchases, MCSC now owns and maintains nearly 80 boats, including 30 Pearson Ensigns, one of the largest such fleets in the United States - as well as two C&C's, Solings, J24s, 420s, Catalina 14.2's, Zim Blue Dragons, and Access Dinghies.

The instructional programs have also expanded. MCSC offers a full range of basic, intermediate and advanced adult and youth sailing courses. But the growth had placed unprecedented demands on the offices, classrooms, fleet, dockhouse and maintenance facility. In 2009, an updated facility was built in order to continue to offer our high quality programs and to meet increasing demand.

The Fleet

The Ensign

Made by Pearson, the Ensign is a stable and comfortable 23' keelboat that handles well in various wind and wave conditions. Great for the beginner or the experienced sailor, the Ensign can fit four adults comfortably or can be handled by just two sailors. The Ensigns have been fitted with Harken Roller Furling Units for the jib which makes rigging quick and easy. The Ensign is used in Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Courses as well as Open Sailing and the Enrichment Program.



The Soling

An Olympic Class race boat, this sleek and narrow 27' racing sloop is very responsive and challenging to sail. The Soling has many sail trim and rigging adjustments, making this a very performance-oriented, technical race boat. It is used in the intermediate and advanced courses, open sailing and Wednesday night racing. The Soling sails well upwind and is equipped for spinnaker use on downwind runs. Sailed with 2 or 3 crew, it is a fun, fast boat!

The J-24

The most popular one-design boat in the world. It is versatile for racing or cruising; MCSC has four J24s. J24s are used for Open Sailing, Wednesday Night Racing, Sunday Racing and the Women's Offshore Racing Team. The J24 is technical and challenging because of its unique design and multitude of sail and rigging controls. You can sail a J24 with a crew of two, or race with a total of four or five.



The Catalina 14.2

Brand new to MCSC in 2019, the Catalina 14.2 is a centerboard boat that is comfortable for three or four adults and youth sailors alike!



The Club 420

Another Olympic class race boat, the 420's are very fast and ultra responsive boats which offer youth and adult intermediate level sailors the opportunity to use spinnakers, hike out, and trapeze using a harness. They are two-person centerboards that are very athletic and are great fun to sail.



The Zim Blue Dragon

Fun and durable, these 8' dinghies are designed for kids to sail easily. These sturdy, light-weight boats are used in Discovery World harbor in MCSC's nationally acclaimed Prams in the Park program for 8 - 11 year olds.



C&C 27' and C&C 29'

MCSC owns two cruising-type sailboats: *Misty* and *Reliance*. Members may learn the basics of cruising, including boat systems, handling under power, anchoring, docking and slip work. Members can attain ratings on these boats up to Medium Air.



Performance Evaluations, Ratings and Flag System

Performance evaluations incorporate MCSC course curriculum and US Sailing’s requirements on sail theory, boat handling, and decision making in various wind and wave conditions. To ensure a safe sailing environment and to accurately evaluate one’s sailing abilities, members must demonstrate proficiency in wind conditions stronger than their evaluated level. For example, if you would like to test for a medium air rating (which would allow you to take a boat out open sailing in winds up to 15 knots) the wind speed must be between 14 and 17 knots.

Members evaluated for any rating are expected to position and rig the boat properly, inspect and identify nomenclature, depart and return to the dock safely and demonstrate proper sailing maneuvers and sail trim using correct terminology. Right of Way knowledge, Crew Overboard procedures, knot tying and appropriate decision making are also evaluated.

Additional Performance Evaluation Information:

In the basic courses, students generally receive a performance evaluation (weather permitting) during the course. For other evaluations, the Weather Line (414-277-9272) will have the prevailing weather conditions. If the wind conditions are appropriate, call the MCSC office to verify staff availability and to schedule an evaluation. Each evaluation takes approximately one hour.

For a Heavy Air evaluation, you must sign up in advance for a Heavy Air sailing session. If you receive a Plan of Improvement, you must allow at least four weeks for practicing and improving your sailing skills before another evaluation can be scheduled.

Wind conditions are posted at the MCSC office, the dockhouse (using flags) and on the Weather Line. Dockmaster decisions regarding whether to allow boats out on the water are final. MCSC members must comply with these decisions and/or directions.

<u>Wind Speed</u>	<u>Flag at dockhouse</u>	<u>Evaluation requirements</u>
Light Air • 1-10	White Flag	Light air evaluation requires 9 – 12 knots.
Medium Air • 11-15	Yellow Flag	Medium air evaluation requires 14–17 knots.
Heavy Air • 16-20	Green Flag	Heavy air evaluation requires 19 – 22 knots.
No Sailing • 21+	Black Flag	No Open Sailing or Evaluations.
White, Yellow or Green flag along with an	Orange Flag	Sail in Area A ONLY – Changing conditions.

Open Sailing

Rated members are eligible to use MCSC boats at no charge during Open Sailing once they have successfully passed a performance evaluation and received a rating. No one may sail MCSC boats solo. All boats are required to have at least 2 people onboard at all times. Members must have a rating (light, medium or heavy) for the prevailing wind conditions and boat type (centerboard, keelboat, etc.) they wish to check out. If you don’t have a rating for the wind speed or boat type, you will not be allowed to check out a boat at that time.

The Weather Line (414-277-9272) has the prevailing weather conditions, rating requirements and other important daily information. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon sailing on Lake Michigan with your family and friends and you’ll be taking advantage of the best sailing deal around – “no charge” use of the MCSC fleet!

MCSC Open Sailing regulations & boat check-out procedures

1. MCSC Skippers must be rated for the prevailing wind conditions and the boat type they wish to use. Members will not be permitted to check out boats in wind conditions they are not rated for.
2. MCSC skippers must speak with the Dockmaster and receive verbal and written (via the checkout form) permission to check out a boat, and skippers should not leave the dock until such permission is granted. This ensures that the Dockmaster knows who is out at all times.
3. There must be at least one rated MCSC skipper AND at least one crew on each boat. No one may sail MCSC boats solo. There must always be at least two persons on every vessel. Crew must be at least 14 years old or they need to be accompanied by an additional adult. Dockmasters reserve the right to restrict, or not allow, skippers to check out boats based upon their crew and other factors.
4. MCSC skippers must complete a check-out sheet at the dockhouse. Skippers are responsible for developing a safe sail plan for the mooring basin, indicating a sailing area and ensuring that their guests have signed and dated the guest waiver. There is no charge to take guests sailing.
5. Personal Floatation Devices (PFD's) must be properly secured and worn on MCSC docks and boats at all times. MCSC supplies Type III PFD's for you and your guests (ages 8 to adult). You may use your own US Coast Guard approved Type I, II & III. Self-Inflating Type V PFD's can be used with the exception of the "Fanny Pack" Type V.
6. All skippers and guests using MCSC boats must be capable of swimming at least 75 yards. Skippers and guests are required to sign the waiver on the reverse side of the check-out sheet stating such.
7. Sailboats may be checked out for a maximum period of two hours. If no other sailors are waiting for a boat (you must still check in), you may be approved by the Dockmaster to sail for additional time.
8. All MCSC boats must be at MCSC docks ½-hour before sunset. Skippers are responsible for ensuring that they are at the dock on time. The time of sunset is posted at the office and dockhouse. MCSC boats do not have lights. Failure to be at the dock on time may result in a suspension of all sailing privileges. Plan ahead!
9. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on MCSC boats. Use of alcohol before or during utilization of MCSC boats will not be tolerated and will result in a suspension of sailing privileges. Smoking is prohibited on the boats and dock, in offices and in or around the maintenance facility.
10. Everyone must remain seated and inside the cockpit area at all times while underway – and ***especially while docking!*** No sitting on, lying on or standing is permitted on the decks (fore or aft) or the gunnels.
11. MCSC skippers must report ALL accidents, injuries and collisions to the dockmaster. Skippers are responsible for "checking in" by signing the bottom of the check-out sheet. Failure to report any incidents may result in suspension of privileges. Staff must complete an Incident Report for documentation purposes. If you are involved in ANY type of collision with a boat, wall or other obstruction, you must report it to the Dockmaster – ***no matter how insignificant you believe it was.*** Incident reports will be reviewed and may require additional action on the part of MCSC staff including possible loss of ratings and/or sailing privileges.
12. In order to minimize sail area and potential damage and to maximize safety, jib sails are prohibited in the mooring basin and are to be kept furled while in the mooring basin. They should be taken out only when past the entrance to the marina and furled in upon entrance to the marina.
13. Except in an emergency, MCSC skippers are not allowed to dock anywhere other than MCSC docks.

14. All boats should be brought in alongside the dock. No boat should ever be brought in with its bow pointing at the dock in T-bone fashion – even in an easterly wind. When docking, please bring your boat alongside the dock and walk it to wherever it needs to go.
15. MCSC skippers are responsible for their guest’s behavior and safety. Unruly, boisterous and/or dangerous behavior may result in the suspension of the members’ sailing privileges. Respect all safety rules and the rules of the road.
16. Each MCSC skipper is responsible for his/her actions and will be held liable for damage or collisions caused by their use of a MCSC boat. Be sure to check your insurance coverage if you have questions. Students enrolled in classes are generally covered under MCSC's insurance policy.
17. Skippers are responsible for sailing in the sailing area they have indicated on the check-out sheet. In case of fast moving weather systems, fog or other situations, dockmasters refer to the check-out sheet to locate boats on the water. Stay in the sailing area that you have indicated.
18. **Sailing Areas** (see pg. 15 for a diagram of the MCSC Sailing Areas) - Light and Medium rated sailors are generally not allowed to Open Sail outside the breakwall. You must have a Heavy Air rating to Open Sail outside the breakwall. Boats outside the breakwall must stay within a 1-mile radius of the Main Gap. You may sail outside the breakwall if you are in a class and are being directly supervised by the sailing instructor. Centerboard boats are not allowed outside of the breakwall at any time.
19. **Off Limit Sailing Areas:** There is no sailing allowed inside the Discovery World Lagoon (Schooner Harbor), the main shipping channel that leads to the Hoan Bridge, any of the rivers or the South Shore Yacht Club/Bayview harbor area. You must also stay at least ½ mile off of Bradford Beach area due to shallow rocks.
20. The Dockmaster MAY occasionally decide to allow Medium Air rated members to sail outside the breakwall on light and medium air days. This is not a “green light” for all Medium Air rated members to automatically sail outside the breakwall every time they go sailing. You must get verbal and written permission from the dockmaster each time you want to sail outside the wall.

Please read and understand the following information about regulation #20

- MCSC owns and maintains the fleet and is responsible for providing a safe sailing environment. Dockmasters on duty will decide if Medium Air sailors are allowed outside the breakwall on an individual, case-by-case basis.
- You must have written and verbal permission from the dockmaster on duty. The dockmaster must initial your check-out sheet if you are allowed outside the breakwater at that time.
- There are many factors that staff considers before making this decision. Factors such as prevailing and forecasted wind conditions, wave size, current/tide conditions, your experience, your crew, time of day, staff availability, how busy the facility is and many other factors. Sailing conditions can change dramatically and quickly.
- The Dockmaster’s decision is final. Do not try to circumvent this decision or challenge it.
- Keep in mind that even Heavy Air rated sailors are sometimes restricted from sailing outside the breakwater. Safety of the crew and the fleet is MCSC’s first and highest priority.
- If you sail outside the breakwater without permission, or intentionally break any other rule or regulation, your sailing privileges or your rating may be suspended and/or revoked. If your rating is revoked, you must re-evaluate for that rating.

We want to continue to offer Medium Air sailors the opportunity to sail outside the breakwater on light and medium air days, but only if sailors respect this policy and the decisions made by MCSC staff. If not, MCSC will simply revoke this policy.

21. Appropriate shoes and sailing attire must be worn at all times. Non-skid, soft-soled, close-toed shoes are important for personal safety. Open-toe shoes of any kind are not allowed.
22. Pets are not allowed on MCSC boats or docks. Animals on MCSC grounds must be leashed and supervised. You must clean up after your pets.
23. Please use common sense. It is impossible to list every rule that governs sailing and water safety in this handbook. MCSC needs to monitor and limit certain behavior to ensure the safety of all participants and local boat owners. If you are unsure about any aspect of MCSC, please ask the staff.
24. Boats are available on a first-come, first-served basis. MCSC classes and special events may limit boat availability. No boat reservations are accepted. Before leaving the dock, carefully inspect your boat for potential equipment failures and notify the dockmaster if you are unsure about anything. When you are finished sailing, secure the boat properly on the Mediterranean Mooring System, flake or fold the sails properly, stow all lines and gear and use the sail covers. Clean up any items or garbage. Please assist others if they need a hand docking or securing boats. Hang up your PFD's and complete the "Check-In" portion of the Check Out sheet.
25. To minimize damage and reduce loss of use for members, all member ratings on Reliance and Misty will be kept to Medium Air only.
26. Anyone wanting to attain a rating on Misty or Reliance who was born after January 1, 1989 must have a Wisconsin Boating Safety Certificate. It can be attained through Boaterexam.com

MCSC takes pride in the quality and safety of our programs; therefore, it is inherent to the continued safety of all concerned that MCSC staff is able to respond quickly and confidently to changing weather conditions and/or dangerous situations. MCSC members must comply with the decisions and directions of MCSC staff. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Cancelling sailing classes, open sailing or other on-the-water programs.
- Restricting sailing areas or sail plans (requiring reefed mainsails and/or reduced jibs).
- Requiring MCSC sailors to return to the dock or accept a tow.

Directors, Dockmasters and/or MCSC staff retain the right to limit, suspend and/or revoke any ratings, membership or sailing privileges in the event of MCSC rules or procedures violation. This includes checking out a boat without permission, not being at the dock by sunset, sailing outside the breakwater without permission, sailing outside the permitted 1 mile range and dangerous or risky sailing that jeopardizes the safety of the crew, fleet or other boats in any MCSC program. If you feel that you have been treated unfairly, please respect the decision of the staff and comply at that time. You may set up a meeting with executive staff or representatives from the Board of Directors to further discuss the matter at a later date.

Emergency situations and guidelines

Along with the fun of sailing comes the possibility of emergency situations. Fast moving weather systems, equipment failures, sea conditions and injuries are among these possible situations.

Fast moving weather systems – MCSC uses live Doppler radar images to predict the movement of weather systems. Staff will not jeopardize the safety of the students or fleet by sailing in precarious or unstable weather, wind or wave conditions. If you see an approaching weather system, prepare by furling your jib, releasing your traveler and heading back to MCSC docks. Dockmasters may tow boats back or allow members to sail in.

Current, wave or weed conditions – Each of these underwater forces can cause a loss of maneuverability and steerage. Anticipate these conditions by watching other boats to see where the trouble spots are. If you are caught in weeds, luff your sails and use a paddle to push the weeds away from the rudder or keel. Secure your boat to a mooring and a dockmaster will be out to get you.

Equipment failures – During your check-out, thoroughly inspect the boat to ensure that all standing and running rigging is in good shape. Ask the dockmaster if you are unsure about anything. If something breaks on the water, do your best to compensate for the broken equipment and report it to the dockmaster as soon as possible.

Sailing injuries - The severity of sailing injuries can range from small cuts or scrapes to violent blows to the head or a crew overboard in frigid waters. Guidelines to follow in the event of emergencies are covered next.

Emergency guidelines

- Try to anticipate situations before they become emergencies. Many situations can often be prevented. Get the boat under control, prevent any additional injuries or boat damage and try to reduce further risks.
- Be pro-active. “Doing nothing” often results in the deterioration of conditions. Make and execute your decisions with the safety of the crew and the boat in mind.
- If you are having trouble or have equipment failures in the mooring area, try to keep the boat moving forward (you lose steerage and control if water is not moving over the rudder) and get to a dock or an open mooring. If you are having trouble on the open water, go into the Safety Position, reduce sail area or heave-to to keep the boat under control.
- Get the attention of MCSC staff. If needed, hail a nearby boat and have them radio the Sailing Center safety boat or office by using their VHF marine radio or cell phone. You may accept a tow from vessels other than MCSC staff in the event of an emergency.
- Assess the situation and try to resolve any equipment problems. You may be able to sail back to the dock depending on the condition of the boat or type of equipment failure.
- For minor sailing injuries, use the safety kit located on each boat. Again, you may be able to sail back to the dock and get medical attention depending on the condition of the injured. However, in the event of an emergency, hail assistance immediately.
- All MCSC members are required to notify MCSC staff in the event of any sailing accident, injury or equipment failure. Staff must document all accidents and injuries.

Lincoln Memorial Drive Closures

There are special events that limit access to MCSC. These include, but are not limited to: July 3rd Fireworks, various walks and runs, land, water, air and other events. For most of these occasions, your MCSC membership card will provide access to MCSC grounds. Without your card, you may have to pay for parking. The Weather Line (414-277-9272) will have updated daily information. Your membership card will not allow you to park on MCSC grounds on July 3rd or during some other special events. You must have special parking permits for these events. Contact the office for information.

MCSC has picnic tables, restrooms and plenty of open space. Reservations are required for groups of 10 or more and a facility fee may be charged. Contact the office to arrange your next outdoor get-together at MCSC.

Milwaukee Community Sailing Center Class Registrations and Cancellations

Class registration and student placement are managed on a first paid, first enrolled basis. Actual class assignment and space will be reserved only when we have received a *completed registration form* and *all required fees*. Should something arise that prevents the student from attending a class for which they are registered, we will attempt to accommodate a schedule change in the best practical manner, subject to our refund and cancellation policy, as detailed below.

Your registration is confirmed only when you have received a written confirmation via email, if you have provided us with an email address, or via mail, if you have provided us with a US Postal Service mailing address. Should any changes to the scheduled class dates, location, and/or time occur, we will notify you by email or telephone at the number you provided on the registration form.

Class Cancellations

The Milwaukee Community Sailing Center reserves the right to reschedule, change class dates, or times, or cancel classes. In the case of a schedule change or class cancellation, we will make every attempt to accommodate you in a comparable class meeting at a different date and/or time. If a class for which you have registered and have received confirmation is cancelled for any reason, you will be notified at the email or phone number you have listed with us during registration.

Milwaukee Community Sailing Center Class Refund Policy

Due to the popularity of sailing classes at the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center (MCSC), the restricted class size, and our short sailing season, MCSC generally cannot provide refunds after a class has filled and/or closed. If a student is unable to attend a class once registration is completed, MCSC will make every attempt to find another student to fill the spot. MCSC will reschedule the student into another class at a mutually agreeable date and time. If you are unable to attend a program, please let us know as soon as possible.

Inclement weather: In the event of inclement weather, camps will proceed indoors. No refunds are issued. Adult courses may be rescheduled, if practical. No refunds are issued. MCSC develops its programming with the understanding that the weather may prevent on-the-water class time, so it is prepared to instruct even in cases of inclement weather.



MCSC Special Events and Social Activities

MCSC hosts numerous special events and social activities throughout the sailing season and winter. You are always welcome to attend any of these with your guests. Some of the “can't-miss” events include:

- Full Moon Sails
- 3rd of July Fireworks
- Paint Night
- Holiday Party

Full Moon Sails

Each summer, MCSC puts together two full moon sails with local boat owners. This is a fun opportunity to have a potluck dinner at the Sailing Center, sail on someone's private boat after sunset to watch the rise of the beautiful full moon, and meet new friends. These events are always limited in size and require registration. Sign up for one of these events with a friend and enjoy a great evening of sailing.

The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

MCSC volunteer instructors are encouraged to join us to celebrate at this catered, casual, summer wrap-up dinner. We send out our “Thanks” to the many volunteers who have helped to make summer lessons possible. The Hank Feiertag Memorial “Volunteer Instructor of the Year” Award and the Doug Drake “Love of Sailing” Award are also given this evening.

Members are encouraged to support MCSC events through attendance, product or service donations, or by volunteering on committees.

Volunteer Opportunities

MCSC has a unique Volunteer Instructor program. Volunteer Instructors sail with new students in the Adult Basic Courses to lend a hand and reinforce basic sailing concepts. In 2019, volunteers logged more than 3,800 hours. Volunteers are also needed to help with sailboat rides during special events and Friday boat rides for people with disabilities. And if helping on the water isn't your forte, MCSC has other volunteer opportunities on the Ambassador Corps. Please watch the weekly updates for announcements if you are interested in further volunteer activities and opportunities at MCSC.



Host Your Next Event at the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center

MCSC is the perfect venue for a variety of corporate, social or family events. The Windhover Community Room, Sullivan Deck and the Center's two classrooms, Challenge and Integrity, can be rented individually or in total for larger functions. Because of its location within a Milwaukee County Park, all park hours, rules and governing laws apply to MCSC. We encourage you to read the space contract thoroughly before entering into an agreement.

Windhover Community Room and Sullivan Deck

The Windhover Community Room is a large multi-purpose room that can be used for a variety of functions from business presentations to formal dinners and receptions. Surrounded by glass on three sides, there is no venue in Milwaukee that offers the same commanding views. The room can accommodate up to 150 for theater style presentations or receptions and 120 for sit-down dinners. The Sullivan Deck is an extension of the Windhover Community Room and can provide a beautiful, outdoor, pre-function gathering space for receptions, a break-out space for meetings or its own unique space for a break or a bar. MCSC does not have tables and chairs or audio/visual services on premises, although we can direct you to rental companies for these items.

MCSC offers catering services through our partner Zilli Hospitality Group. Zilli has a proven track record providing hospitality services to a number of Milwaukee area venues including the Public Museum, County Zoo, Coast Restaurant, and Mitchell Park Conservatory and Domes. They have earned the distinction of being rated as the #1 Caterer by Milwaukee Magazine, M Magazine and Wisconsin Bride Magazine and Wisconsin Meetings Magazine. From simple box lunches and picnics to complete themed buffets and formal multi-course sit-down dinners, Zilli has a wealth of experience and is capable of working within budgetary and space requirements.

The Sailing Center offers special venue pricing for members. Pricing is dictated by time of year with the prime summer season running from May through September. Please contact the office for further information or to arrange for a tour of the facility.



Outdoor Picnic Area

MCSC has a large picnic area available for special events such as field trips, group picnics or corporate outings. There are several picnic tables, restrooms and plenty of open space. Reservations are required for groups of 10 or more and a facility fee may be charged.

Contact the office to arrange your next outdoor get-together at the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center.

Milwaukee Community Sailing Center
Membership Handbook

McKinley Marina mooring basin sailing plan

Leaving the dock and exiting the mooring basin.

ZONE 1

This is the primary sailing area when entering or exiting the basin.

ZONE 2

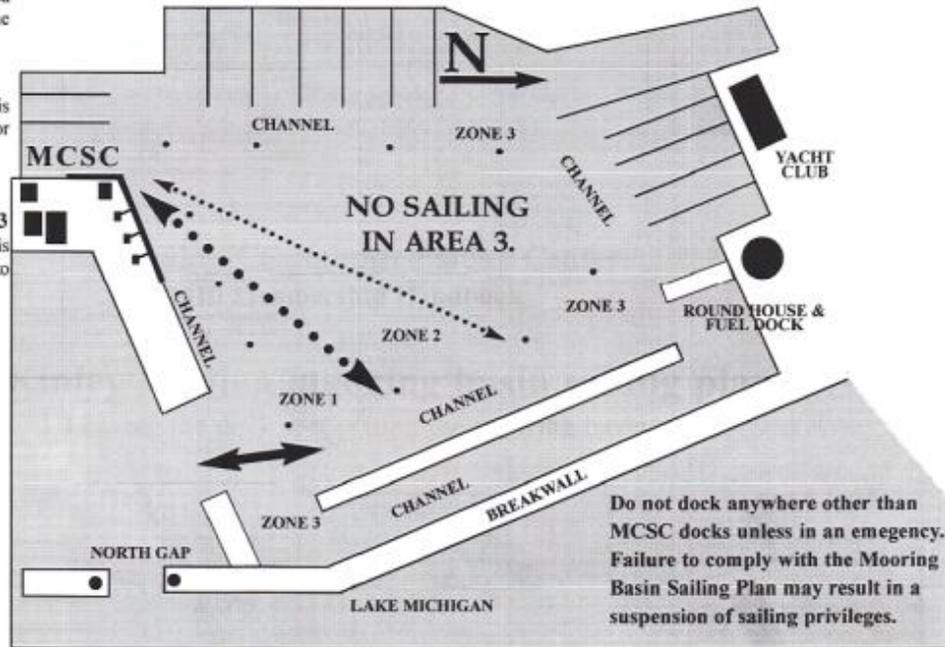
Secondary sailing area. Use this area if there is channel traffic or you have to tack.

ZONE 3

DO NOT SAIL IN ZONE 3

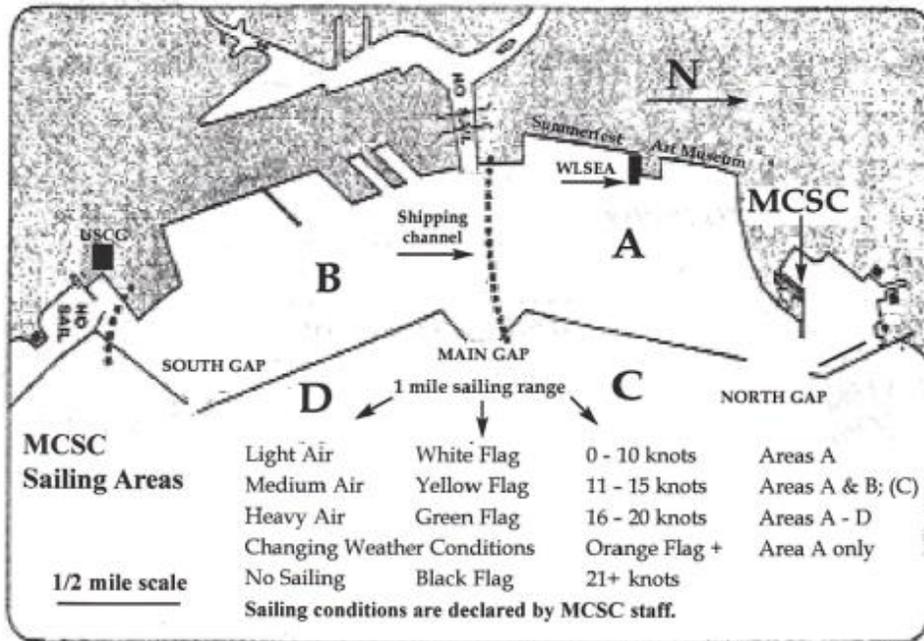
There is no need to sail in this area when leaving or returning to the dock.

1. Develop a sail plan before leaving the dock or entering the mooring basin.
2. Your plan should incorporate the safest, shortest route alongside or in the channel while leaving or returning when possible.
3. Make good sailing decisions and avoid collisions in the mooring basin.
4. Skippers must report any incidents or injuries.



Do not dock anywhere other than MCSC docks unless in an emergency. Failure to comply with the Mooring Basin Sailing Plan may result in a suspension of sailing privileges.

Milwaukee Community Sailing Center Sailing Areas



Additional notes:

MCSC boats allowed outside of the breakwall must stay within one mile of the Main Gap.

Centerboard boats are not allowed outside the breakwater.

Keep clear of commercial traffic near the gaps and the shipping channel.

Keep a safe distance away from Summerfest grounds, the Schooner and the Art Museum.

Always sail in a safe and courteous manner.

M C S C