



DC Sail Programming and 2022 COVID-19 Protocols

DC Sail is dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of our members, students and their families. With the guidance of US Sailing, CDC, and local governmental health entities, we have developed strong sanitation and procedural protocols as we resume our operations.

Effective February 2022:

While COVID-19 and variants of the virus is still very much an issue, until further notice, the following operating protocols remain in place and will only be lifted or changed when health and governmental authorities issue an “all clear” notice. We hope that by the time our sailing season resumes, there will be improvements in the public health arena. We respectfully request that you honor our policies to keep you, our staff, your fellow sailors and their families in good health by taking precautions in the effort of reducing the transmission of the virus.

Fleet & Facility Sanitation Maintenance: We are sanitizing all boats, sails, tillers, lines, etc., via power washing after each usage. We have also placed on the docks several no-contact, foot-pump operated hand washing stations and encourage attendees to use them frequently (upon arrival prior to boat access and when departing the facility, etc.) Staff have been well trained in these and other safety initiatives. They will be also wearing face coverings/masks and will maintain social distance from attendees whenever possible.

Personnel/Member Management – Updated Face Coverings/Masks & Wellness Policy: Covid-19 has changed how we manage personnel engaging in lessons, rentals and our evening membership programs. Some of these restrictions include wearing of face coverings/masks while on the docks AND while sailing.

For those who are “Fully Vaccinated,” we strongly encourage wearing face coverings/masks at our facility. The CDC continues to recommend that both vaccinated and unvaccinated persons continue to use face coverings/masks for their safety and those around them when in close proximity to others. All our events and sails are of course outdoors, but physical distancing is reduced by the nature of available seating on the boats.

What if I am Not Feeling Well?: If you are feeling at all unwell, have tested recently positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone who has the virus, please do not attend without proof of a negative COVID-19 test. This is also applicable when attending the Membership evening events and schooner sails.

Life Jacket Policy: We have ceased the usage of shared DC Sail Life Jackets. (Life Jacket policy does not include *American Spirit* schooner sails, nor Private Charters. We will have Life Jackets available for those events on board the boat.)

Suggested Life Jacket Resources: [Please click here](#) for the West Marine website that sells the same Life Jackets that we previously shared with members/guests. It is less than \$25 and is perfectly fine and USCG approved. You're welcome to shop for “sportier” models too – just look for USCG approved inshore Life Jackets. You do not need the more expensive offshore/inflatable types of jackets. There is a West Marine store in Alexandria that is open for foot traffic. Other retailers may include REI or Dick's Sporting Goods as possible options. Recommend you contact their stores to inquire about available stock.



Adult Beginner Learn to Sail, Refresher Course, and Intro to FJs Course

Social Distancing: Before enrolling into one of our Adult Lessons, please be aware that while we have reduced the “normal” level of potential students attending lessons, you will be sailing with other students and your Instructor will be in the same boat with you when on the Flying Scots during the Beginner and Refresher lessons.

The FJ lessons will also have someone outside of your household on the boat with you (another student) unless you are attending as a couple or with a friend.

Single-Handed adult sailing is not permitted at DC Sail.

Monday Members Only and Wednesday Social Sails (The evening programs run 5:30 PM to Sunset, mid-May through mid-September)

For this year's programming, we will again require advanced online registration for adult members who plan to attend the evening Monday Members Only and Wednesday Social Sails, in order to maintain a reduced number of personnel on the docks and for COVID-19 Contact Tracing, should it be necessary. *(Please click the links in blue to be delivered to the web site pages.)* Registration will open on the day of the event at 12:00 Noon and will close at 4:00 PM. Please only register if you are 100% committed that you'll attend as you'll be taking the space from another member once we reach capacity. Frequent “no-shows” may hinder your ability to attend future events.

Online Registration: When registering for the Members Only and Social Sails, please select either the Flying Scot or Flying Junior registration type. Note that FJ registrations require previous FJ or dinghy-racing sailing experience. Members will be required to bring their own Life Jackets. Dock Management staff will assign you to boats on arrival.

Temporary “No Guest Policy” for Wednesday Social Sail Evening Programs: Guests and the public will not be permitted to attend the Social Sails, as was the case prior to COVID-19, for the foreseeable future. We have this policy in place in order to permit active/paid DC Sail members to attend, maintain the number of personnel on the docks to a minimum, and experience less congestion on the docks. We may be able to open up the Social Sails for guests later in the year depending on what DC restrictions may be in place and the status of the virus.

Weekend Boat Rentals (Rentals will Resume April 23rd through mid-October)

For the 2022 Sailing Season, please carefully review the following information prior to reserving a boat. By securing your Rental, you agree to follow our policies as posted below:

Before You Reserve a Boat: Make sure you have someone to sail with - they need not be a member of DC Sail, but should feel very comfortable on the water. You are permitted to bring up to a maximum of three guests for Flying Scot Rentals. One guest for FJ Rentals. [Please click here](#) for further Boat Rental Policies.

District of Columbia Boating Safety Certification: Please have your District of Columbia Boating Safety Certification card with you. You may be requested to present this document upon arrival.

Mandatory Face Coverings/Masks: All members and guests are required to wear face coverings/masks on the docks. Once underway during a Rental with your guests, you may remove them until returning to the docks.



Life Jackets: Privately-owned Life Jackets will be required by the Member and their guests. We will be unable to share our Life Jackets in Rental situations due to sanitation/health concerns. Please be advised that if you or your guests do not arrive with Life Jackets, which are always required to be worn while on the boat, your Rental will be automatically cancelled.

Boat Rentals & COVID-19 Contact Tracing: Boat Rentals will require full contact information for your guests and will be limited to a DC Sail Member on the boat with no more than three guests joining them in a Flying Scot or one in an FJ. **Important: Registrations that do not include guest contact information will be cancelled.**

American Spirit – Schooner Ticketed Events and Private Charters

[Please click here](#) to explore the *American Spirit* programs.

We have limited the number of passengers to under 30 for the time being, but most likely through the season. The schooner is USCG licensed to carry up to 40 passengers though we will host the reduced number of passengers to provide a little more space to spread seating out on the deck. Other restrictions will apply such as mandatory face coverings/masks upon entry to the marina and only removed after departing the facility, for the exception of while actively eating or drinking while out on the water.

Schooner Sunset Sails and other public ticketed events will resume mid-May and will also be restricted to a maximum of 30 passengers. Unlike our small boat sailing programs and frequency of usage of shared Life Jackets in normal conditions, passengers on the schooner are not required to wear Life Jackets for the duration of the sail based on the safety railings and other factors. (The exception for this policy is during Educational Charters where children are on board,) We have a full inventory of Life Jackets on the boat should passengers request to wear one and of course in the event of an emergency need arise to issue them to passengers.

DC Sail Members: Remember that part of your active/paid DC Sail Membership permits you to purchase up to four tickets for the Sunset Sails at just \$25/per passenger and now there will be a little more space on the boat for you and your guests.

We look forward to welcoming you to DC Sail and providing the opportunity to engage in the beauty of the sport of sailing!