



SHEBOYGAN

YOUTH SAILING

CENTER

Sheboygan High School Sailing 101

How long is the season?

There are two high school sailing seasons – Spring and Fall. Practices for the Fall season will begin in late August, just before school starts, and lasts (weather dependent) until the week before Thanksgiving. Spring season begins when the ice goes out and lasts until the second week of June. Sailors do not need to compete in both seasons.

What kind of gear will I need?

Sailors are required to wear PFDs while on the docks and on the water. We can provide PFDs, but we recommend having your own for comfort and safety! We also require close-toed shoes (sneakers) and recommend neoprene boots, gloves, warm fleece, spray gear and/or a drysuit for chilly sailing conditions, especially in the spring. Those items can be found online in a variety of places. Discounts are offered through many vendors. APSltd.com, westcoastsailing.net, westmarine.com are a few websites to check out. We do have some sailing gear for sailors to borrow as they are just trying out the sport in the beginning.

What and when are regattas?

Regattas are essentially like soccer tournaments, but on the water! They are almost exclusively held on weekends and are either one or two days long, depending on the event and venue. They consist of a series of short races, and in high school and college sailing each team consists of two divisions (A & B), where there is one boat (min. 2 sailors) per division. The teams rotate every two races and the regatta is scored by combining the points of each team.

Our 'area' of the Interscholastic Sailing Association (ISSA) is the Midwest Interscholastic Sailing Association (MISSA), which includes Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio. Our 'area' in MISSA is the WEST district, which is comprised of Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin.

Transportation to regattas will be provided by parent volunteers. Usually the coach will be responsible for coordinating loading and towing the trailer of boats, if any are needed for the event. Housing arrangements at regattas will typically be made by parents driving to the event and the sailors they take with them. Sometimes you can cut down on this necessity by leaving early in the morning. At regattas, parents are responsible for getting their sailors to the regatta site on time and supervising off-the-water activities in the evenings for their sailors.

Where are the practices and parent meetings?

Nearly everything we do will be held at the Sheboygan Youth Sailing Center (SYSC) at 619 Broughton Drive (adjacent to the Sheboygan Yacht Club). Practices will be held twice a week, pending the sailor's schedules. One practice day will typically be Wednesday (due to early release days). Parent meetings will often be held at SYC.

Who can participate?

EVERYONE! High school sailing is a no-cut sport and has no gender restrictions. 7th and 8th graders, home-schooled students, public and private school students are all welcome. For most events, you need 4 sailors hailing from one school to compete as that school, but if you are the only sailor from your school, you can practice and compete as a member of 'Mixed' Team at certain events until your team becomes large enough!

What is the cost of joining the high school sailing team?

There are a few different costs associated with high school sailing, though we will do our best to keep these prices as low as possible in order to encourage participation. As the group grows, we will work to standardize team dues to cover the following costs fairly between sailors: MISSA team dues (\$125/team, once a year), coaching and fuel fees for practices and regattas, boat and facility use and team gear. There are usually entry fees associated with regattas which typically fall between \$20 and \$50 and often include breakfast, lunch and a t-shirt. Sailors and parents will be responsible for their entry fees and covering their own travel and travel housing costs. We will continue working with parents and sailors to have a good number for team dues that cover all costs. **For the Fall 2018 Season, dues will be \$125/sailor.**

High School Sailing teams are student-driven, student-run and student-led! We are excited to be able to offer the facilities, coaching, equipment and knowledge to help start a sailing team right here in Sheboygan. Parents should do everything they can to support their sailors in starting, growing, practicing and competing in high school sailing as sailing is a passion and sport that can last a lifetime.

Learn more about High School Sailing at:

ISSA: hssailing.org

MISSA: miss.hssailing.org

SYSC Info email: hsteam@sheboyganyouthsailing.com