



Basic Cruising Challenge **New for 2021**

The Downtown Sailing Center is pleased to offer a 1-day Basic Cruising Challenge as an alternative to the Basic Cruising 4-day class. The **Basic Cruising Challenge** is intended for those individuals with Daysailing and Cruising experience. Candidates will be evaluated on the water and tested to demonstrate their knowledge and skills are consistent US Sailing Basic Cruising Certification standards. The candidates should understand the challenge is an evaluative course and the candidates are expected to fully demonstrate skills and knowledge with little or no coaching.

Basic Cruising Certification Prerequisites:

- US Sailing Basic Keelboat Certification
- *Maryland Safe Boaters Certificate or equivalent

*If born after July 1, 1972 must also provide proof of valid [Maryland Safe Boater Certification](#) (or equivalent), which can be earned at no cost to you through Boat US Foundation's program.

Why Take the US Sailing Basic Cruising or Basic Cruising Challenge?

- When US Sailing confers certification to a Candidate, it vouches for that person's training and skill to perform the essential prescribed duties as outlined in the course description.
- By doing so US Sailing lends its name and reputation to the credentials.
- US Sailing does this to provide uniform standards on which you, your crew, charter companies, and everyone may need to rely.

About the Challenge

The Basic Cruising Challenge tests candidates on general nautical knowledge, the sailing and cruising basics covered in the Basic Cruising 4-day class and Basic Cruising textbook. The Practical and Knowledge requirements are detailed in the link to the US Sailing course description at the US Sailing website. ([Basic Cruising Certification Course](#)). The Basic Cruising Textbook is available online at the US Sailing Store and is not provided as part of the Challenge package.

The Basic Cruising Challenge will be performed aboard a suitable DSC Cruiser, candidates private vessel, or aboard MAKANI, a Bavaria 38. The evaluation will be done in parts

- *80 Question Multiple Choice Test (passing 80% required for Certification)
- Practical Skills and Knowledge (on the water) Meet Standards for Certification or Plan of Improvement

*At the candidates request the test can be administered prior to or after the on the water evaluation. Contact the DSC for further details.

Recommendations for Challenge Candidates

The following are recommendations for Candidates to prepare for the Certification course and included:

- familiarity with materials covered in US Sailing Basic Cruising textbook, including glossary, weather, safety regulations and recommendations, docking/departing, POB, heavy weather sailing, anchoring, and sailing maneuvers.
- meaningful experience as skipper/crew of 27 to 40 + ft cruiser
- graduation/completion of the DSC's Cruising Skipper Development program.
- Familiar with USCG COLREGS Rules of the Road



Certification

US Sailing Certification is nationally recognized Basic Cruising Certification means that the graduate has, upon completion the challenge, successfully demonstrated the ability to responsibly skipper and crew and auxiliary powered cruising sailboat, during daylight hours.

Upon successful completion of the test and evaluation the candidate will receive a US Sailing Basic Cruising Certification Sticker, US Sailing Logbook, and a One (1) year membership to US Sailing with all its benefits.

Cost of Challenge

Basic Cruising Practical Challenge OTW	\$ 250.00
<u>Basic Cruising Challenge Testing</u>	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
US Sailing Basic Cruising Challenge Cost Total	\$ 350.00

For additional details and to schedule a challenge email Graham at graham@downtownsailing.org and The DSC will contact you in regard to scheduling your Basic Cruising Certification Challenge.

For the On the Water evaluation the Candidate should consider bringing a crew member to assist and for crew level coordination.

Practical Skills

Preparation to Sail:

Crew Operations and Skills:

Leaving the Dock or Mooring:

Boat Control in Confined Waters:

Navigation:

Boat Control in Open Water:

Heavy Weather Sailing:

Overboard Rescue Methods:

Safety and Emergency Procedures:

Anchoring Techniques:

Returning to the Dock or Mooring:

Securing the Boat Properly:

Knowledge

Crew Operations and Skills:

Sailing Theory:

Leaving the Dock or Mooring:

Navigation:

Navigation Rules, International & Inland:

Boat Control in Open Water:

Overboard Rescue Methods:

Safety and Emergency Procedures:

Anchoring Techniques:

Returning to the Dock or Mooring: