

Membership Explained

Overview

The Downtown Sailing Center (DSC) offers diverse membership options. All of our membership levels offer social and community engagement opportunities and all members are expected to contribute to the DSC through service and volunteerism. **Membership dues *DO NOT* cover the full value of what the membership offers:** like a community co-op or religious institution, those who *CAN* give charitably are expected to give as they are able, in addition to their membership dues and volunteer service.

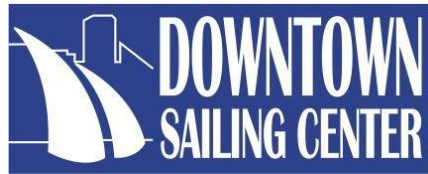
Beyond the basic membership options, additional “crew” and “skipper” add-ons are available for the [Racing](#) and [Cruising](#) programs. Youth, Crew, and all Skipper Level members receive discounts on [sailing lessons](#).

Please note: all memberships are valid for a calendar year and END on December 31. See Website for current membership rates.

[Crew Level Membership](#)

“Crew Level” membership is our best value for those just getting into sailing or returning to sailing after a long absence. “Crew Level” members get access to our member sails as well as our Hansa/Access Dinghy fleet and our kayaks. Crew also receive discounts on lessons and one complementary “[Taste of Sailing](#).”

[Member Sails](#) occur every Wednesday evening and most Sunday afternoons. They are social sail opportunities for skippers and crew to enjoy the elements and improve their skills. We use the J/22s and Sonars as our primary vessels. Most member sails include sailing out past Fort McHenry and most skippers turn the helm over to crew for a bit. Paid staff and member volunteers work together to get everyone on the water with a good pairing. Most skippers started off as crew, so there is a positive culture of paying it forward.



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[Skipper Level Membership](#)

“Skipper Level” Members must be able to rig and safely sail a daysailing keelboat without assistance, including departing and docking without an engine. For more information on our Skipper Requirements and checkout process, click [HERE](#). Skippers are responsible for the boat and must pay for any damages that may be incurred.

Skippers have the opportunity to reserve boats for private reservations on a first-come, first-serve basis. With the exception of member sails and Thursday Night Racing, boats are typically available. Skipper members can sail with non-members whenever they want, except during member sails. For more details about the skipper level membership, visit our [FAQ](#) page.

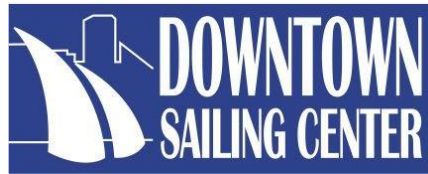
Skippers are expected to be engaged in our [member sails](#), our [adaptive sailing program](#), or other volunteer efforts. **Member sails cannot run without skipper support.**

[Volunteer Level Membership](#)

Our Volunteer Level Membership is geared toward community members who want to be involved in our adaptive sailing program through our Monday evening events or our Saturday “[Access-ability Saturdays](#).” Volunteer members are rockstars in our Out-of-School-Time programs, too.

We hope all of our members volunteer, and the DSC staff truly includes volunteer level members in our esteem. Our Access-ability Saturdays and other community programming *cannot run* without volunteer support. We love volunteer members!

All Volunteer Level members - and ALL MEMBERS who volunteer - who work with people must complete an online background check and/or a Federal & State Background check (depending on the program). Click [HERE](#) for more info on Background Checks.



Membership Explained

Youth Membership (<18 yrs. old)

Youth Membership is for youth under 18 years of age. Youth members (and their parents) will have access to youth member sails on Wednesday evenings during the summer. The youth member sails will utilize the RS Fevas, the Hansa/Access Dinghies, kayaks, and other boats that are not being used in the traditional member sails.

Youth Members who have full adult-level proficiency and demonstrate sound judgment will have full member privileges, subject to parent approval and an authorized staff person present.

Junior Skipper Membership (18-26 yrs. old)

Junior Skipper Membership features all of the perks and responsibilities of the regular skipper membership price but at a more affordable rate for college aged persons and young professionals.