

# **Membership Guidelines: Volunteering and Committees**

2024 Season

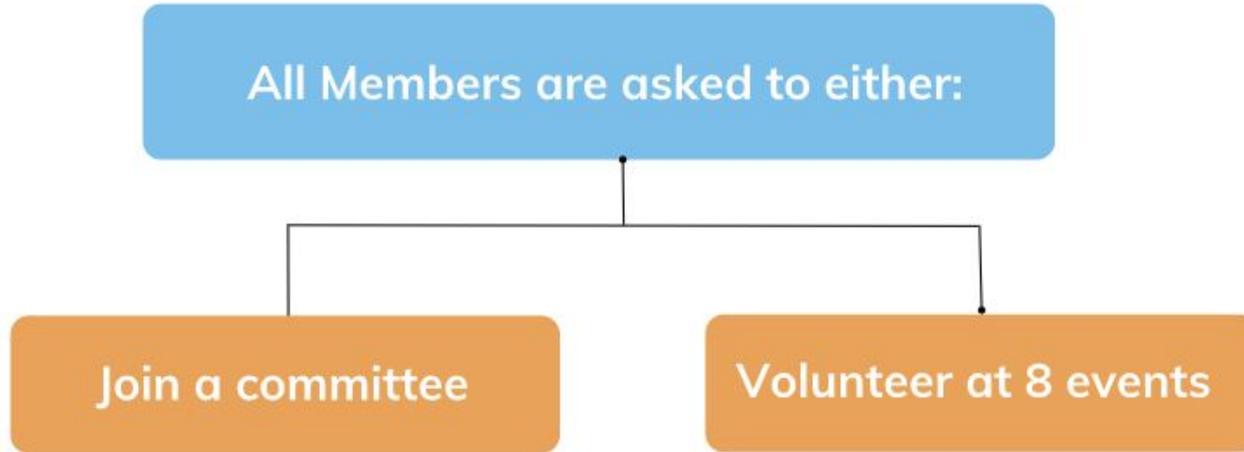
# About the Downtown Sailing Center (DSC)



- ★ The Downtown Sailing Center, a non-profit organization, relies on the support of our community of volunteers to fulfill our [mission and uphold our values](#).
- ★ Our primary focus is on delivering high-quality educational and life-enriching programs.
- ★ We are dedicated to creating an inclusive and accessible environment, particularly for youth, individuals with disabilities, and those with limited opportunities.
- ★ We believe everyone can have access to the Inner Harbor and are committed to equity in sailing.

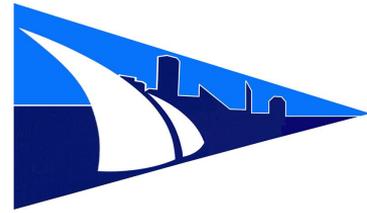


# Membership Expectations



# Why Join a Committee?

- ★ Committees are the best way for you to support the Downtown Sailing Center! There is a committee for each part of the organization, and we think you'll discover a committee or two that aligns with your interests.
- ★ By harnessing the collective strength of our community, we can keep membership fees affordable, maintain our fleet and facilities, and continue the growth of the sailing center!
- ★ Descriptions of the committees are provided below.
  - No prior experience is necessary, as training will be provided by your team and supervisor.
  - All DSC members are encouraged to volunteer at 8 events per year or actively participate in a committee! Feel free to choose a combination of both if you have the time!
  - Further details and guidelines, based on membership levels, are outlined in the charts below.



# Benefits of Volunteering

1. Becoming part of a close-knit sailing community
2. Sailing education
3. On-site Training
4. High School Service-learning hours are available
5. Meeting really cool people and making lifelong friends!
6. A chance to give back to youth, persons with disabilities, and those with limited opportunities
7. Hours spent volunteering will be reported to donors and grant providers with the aim of securing additional funding!

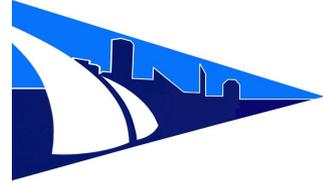


# Volunteer Event Examples



DOWNTOWN SAILING CENTER  
**NEW MEMBERS**

**We are so excited you are here!**



- Most of our events are beginner-friendly! If an event requires experience, the description will clearly mention it.
- Volunteering is an excellent opportunity to get more involved in sailing and the community! Frequently, skippers share their sailing expertise with crew during events!
- Discovering your niche, whether it's through work parties, member sails, outreach events, etc., is the most effective way to engage with the community. Attend events regularly to build connections.

# Event list



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Take partner organization members out to sail
- Help with Accessible Saturdays
- **Roles:** Skipper, Crew, Hoyer lift operator, Greeter, Hansa Rigger



## MEMBER SAILS

- Meet up with members to work on foundational sailing skills
- Member Sail Workshops
- **Roles:** Skipper and Dockmaster



## MENTORING UPCOMING SKIPPERS

- Coach members who are interested in becoming skippers
- Assist with skipper checkout skills (POB, Docking, Reefing, etc.)
- **Role:** Skipper



## WORK PARTIES

- Work alongside our community to repair and maintain boats
- Work will be conducted in an indoor facility or outdoors, weather permitting
- No experience needed



## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Skipper at open houses
- Coach for adult education
- Coach for team building events
- Staffing information tables at local events
- Set up/break down for socials

# List of Committees



- Cruising Boat Managers
- Boat Maintenance Team
- Facilities Team
- Canvas Repair Team
- Hansa Orientation Team
- Kayak Orientation Team
- Dockmasters
- New Member Welcoming Committee
- Social Committee
- Ya Gotta Regatta Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Marketing/Communications Committee
- Community Outreach Events Committee \*
- Race Council
- Hansa Adaptive Race Team \*

\*Requires a background check to join

# Cruising Boat Managers



- Each cruising boat will be assigned a small team of managers.
- These teams will conduct regular inspections on each boat to monitor maintenance needs.
- The boat managers will supervise the inspection process and coordinate any necessary repairs.
- Repair coordination will be done in collaboration with the Boat Maintenance Team.
- Training will be provided.



# Boat Maintenance Team



- The Boat Maintenance Teams will collaborate with boat managers to carry out repairs on the cruisers and day fleet.
- While we prefer team members with some prior experience, individuals without experience can receive training.



# Facilities Team

- This team is responsible for maintaining the sailing center's grounds, which includes tasks such as clearing trash on the docks, inspecting for misplaced lines, ensuring the proper derigging of boats, and tracking issues with the docks.



# Canvas Repair Team

- Sails will undergo inspection, tagging, inventory management, and repairs.
- While the majority of this work is scheduled for the off-season, we request periodic inspections and repairs throughout the sailing season.
- Volunteers coordinate the repair process and training will be provided



# Hansa Orientation Team

- The Hansa team will coordinate orientations periodically throughout the season.
- Each orientation will train members on how to properly rig, sail, and de rig Hansa dinghies.
- Each member of this team will be trained on how to properly use Hansa dinghies!
- The Hansa Team will be tasked with reporting which members have successfully completed their orientation and now have access to taking out Hansa dinghies.



# Kayak Orientation Team

- The Kayak team will coordinate orientations periodically throughout the season.
- Each orientation will train members on how to splash kayaks.
- Each member of this team will be trained on how to properly use kayaks.
- This team will report which members have successfully completed their orientation and now have access to taking out kayaks.



# Dockmasters

- The dockmaster will serve as the welcoming presence at each member sail.
- Dockmasters will organize boat groups according to skill levels and goals.
- Dockmasters will be equipped with a guide on effectively coordinating a Member Sail.
- Committee members will both serve as dockmaster as availability permits and recruit other members to volunteer as dockmaster.



# New Member Welcoming Committee

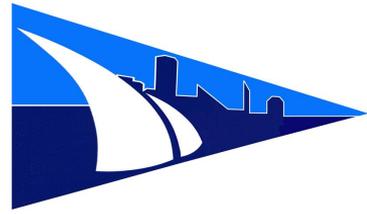


- This committee serves as a platform for pairing seasoned members with new members.
- Mentors for new members will keep them informed about upcoming events, help them find volunteer opportunities, and help them find sailing buddies to meet their personal sailing goals!
- Mentors will answer any questions that new members have about the Downtown Sailing Center.



# Social Committee

- This committee will be tasked with facilitating events for members to come together and get to know one another.
- They will plan and host monthly member socials!
- They will coordinate informing members of the events and arrange all aspects of each social!



# Ya Gotta Regatta Committee



- The team will oversee the coordination of the Ya Gotta Regatta party planning, timeline, social media presence, and communications.
- Their preparations for the September regatta will commence in January.



# Fundraising Committee

- This committee will assist with fundraising activities, including calling potential donors, staffing fundraising events, generating fundraising ideas, and sending thank you notes.



# Marketing/Communications Team

- The Marketing and Communications team will be responsible for shaping the public image of the sailing center.
- Their duties include photographing events, developing and implementing social media strategies, tabling activities, marketing for camp, promoting private events, and overseeing press releases.
- Experience in Social Media is a plus!



# Community Engagement Events Committee



- Volunteers will attend community events and help as either a skipper, crew, or dockside assistance.
- Will be trained on how to operate the Hoyer Lift and how to rig/use Hansas



\*Requires a background check to join

# Race Council

- Race council coordinates the pre-season education events, develops the protest process, ensures smooth racing throughout the season, and plans the end-of-season party.



# Hansa Adaptive Team Committee



- Volunteers for the race team will provide assistance on Thursdays and Saturdays, aiding in the rigging and derigging of Hansas, dropping marks, and ensuring the safe transition of race team members onto boats.



\*Requires a background check to join

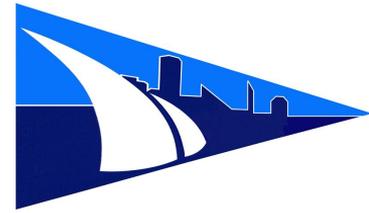
# Mentoring Committee

- This committee will facilitate connections among existing members to assist them in achieving their sailing goals.
- This group will collect names of individuals willing to mentor, along with their specific skills. Also, gather names of those seeking mentorship and specify their mentoring needs.
- The team acts as matchmakers, pairing mentors with mentees based on skills and mentorship preferences



# How will my contributions be tracked?

- Sign up for events on the website, and be sure to sign in on the clipboard at the actual event!
- For volunteering that isn't an event on the website (e.g. mentoring, a committee meeting, putting together a social media campaign), we will have a simple online form where you can submit your contributions. Much like submitting your days on the water to the Spinsheet 100.
  - Use this form:  
<https://forms.gle/f6BeVwj3Q6BFD65p8>
- We hope everyone can contribute towards the success of the DSC. There are no individual "penalties" for not volunteering, but we cannot fully carry out our mission and make this a fantastic community without YOUR help!



# How to Volunteer/Join a Committee

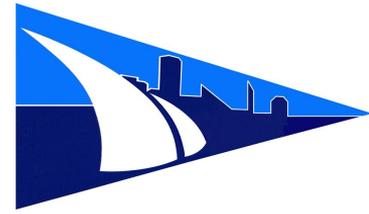


1. Sign up for volunteer [events](#) here!
2. To join a committee, you can select which committees you are interested in within your membership profile.
3. Alternatively, you can use this google form:  
<https://forms.gle/h3uocLFfpwLRxPFU8>
4. Once you have indicated your interest, we will reach out to you!

**All Members are expected to volunteer!**



## Questions?



A Town Hall meeting will be conducted in January to address any questions regarding membership. The Town Hall date will be announced in an upcoming newsletter!

If you are unable to attend the Town Hall, please reach out to [info@downtownsailing.org](mailto:info@downtownsailing.org).