

Secondary Schools Team Sailing Marlborough



Information for Sailors and Parents

2018-2019 Season

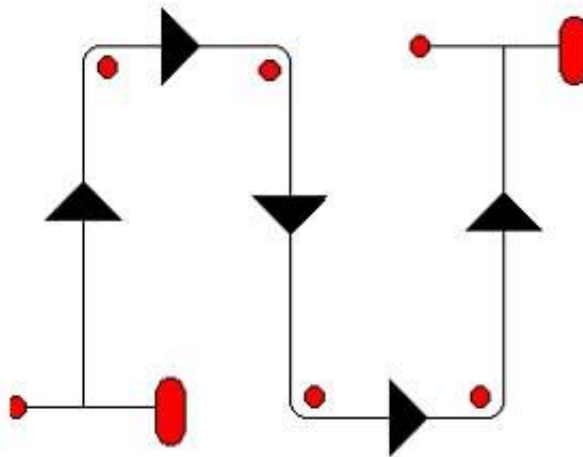
Welcome to Team Sailing. This Information sheet will provide you with some essential information and background to Secondary Schools Team Sailing in Marlborough.

So, what is Team Sailing?

Team sailing is an exciting sport where skills, tactics and working together as a team combine to make success. Each “Team” consists of three boats, each with two crew members – a helm who steers the boat and a crew, who controls the jib (the front sail) and calls out information on the position of other boats, wind conditions and so on. Working together is essential and both helm and crew have equally important roles.

Each team sails against another team of three boats. The idea is not just to get your boats over the line first but to get a “winning combination” of places. Each boat will receive a point score from 1 (first) to 6 depending on where they come in the race. If you team has a score of 10 or less, then you have won that race.

The races are usually quite short, around 10 minutes and are sailed on an S shaped course like this.



When you join team sailing in Marlborough, you will have a coach, just like in any other sport, to teach you the skills and rules that you need to know. As the team develops over many years, you will also be sailing with other students who have many years experience in sailing and in the sport of team sailing. They will also play a vital role in teaching you what you need to know



Team sailing at Algies Bay

What do I need to join Team Sailing?

Like in any sport there is some equipment that you will need to purchase or get hold of over time and some fees that you will need to pay.

You do not need to have sailed before as you will learn the necessary skills over the season but for obvious reasons you need to be water confident and be able to swim.

The Team Sailing Season:

The Team Sailing Season runs from October to April and you need to make a commitment over that period. It is important to “have a go” first to see if this might just be the sport for you – as they say – “Sail for life”

Training happens each Thursday after school and some Sunday afternoons. There is a coach and more senior team members available to help you learn the skills. Usually parents from the teams arrange transport to and from training. Each team organises this for itself.

There is a specialist coach is invited down for a **Training Regatta** to help the teams learn more specialist skills. This usually happens in December or January.

In March or April, we hold the **Regional Secondary Schools Teams Racing Regatta**. This involves the three local teams from Marlborough Boys College, Marlborough Girls College and Queen Charlotte College; Teams from colleges in Nelson, Christchurch and even Mt Aspiring.

In April (2018), the **National Secondary Schools Team Sailing Regatta** will be held in Algies Bay north of Auckland. The top three teams in this Regatta will be invited to take part in the Pacific Rim Team Sailing Regatta – a competition between Australia; New Zealand, Rarotonga and Cook Island. In 2018 this will be held in NZ.

Unlike other sports where you may play a competitive game each week or so, Team sailing involves training early in the season and competitive regatta's as the season ends so plenty of time to hone those skills.



Team working together to get boat speed

How is Team Sailing Organised?

In Marlborough, each of the three colleges, MBC, MGC and QCC have a Team sailing Team. At each college there is a nominated **Teacher in Charge** who help with communication and liaison with the school and the team. Each Team has a **Manager or contact** who helps to organise the team throughout the season.

This Season the Contacts are:

MBC – Chris and Polly Cuningchris@xtra.co.nz

MGC- Nicci Leitch onexy4xx@xtra.co.nz

QCC- Michelle Overend michelle.overend@xtra.co.nz

The **Marlborough Colleges Sailing Club (MCSC)** is the overarching organisation, which supports the development of team sailing in Marlborough. Viv Butcher is the Co-ordinator for this club and parents of sailors fill other positions and help.

The MCSC owns the 420 dinghies that are used in team sailing; apply for funding for equipment, coaching, accommodation and travel; organise regattas and specialist training clinics. Without the club, Team sailing would be much more difficult to organise but parent help is always welcome and encouraged.

Memberships/ Fees/ Costs.

To get started in team sailing you need to:

Become a member of the MCSC. This costs \$50 and must be paid at the beginning of the season.

Payable by Internet Banking to MCSC Account Number: 03 1710 0047959 00 -

Please include your name and school initials as a reference e.g. Jack Smith QCC.

Please let your team manager know when you have paid.

You will also need to be a member of a yacht club that is affiliated with Yachting New Zealand (YNZ). The New Zealand Team Sailing Association require all sailors to have affiliation with YNZ. If you are not already a sailor or a member of a Yacht Club, Queen Charlotte Yacht Club (QCYC) in Picton offer a special “restricted youth membership” for \$45. This covers the cost of your affiliation to YNZ and a use of facilities fees as the team sailors use the changing rooms and showers at QCYC at Shelley Beach in Picton on Training Days. This also needs to be paid at the beginning of the season.

Generally, there is no cost associated with coaching as MCSC applies for funding for this and to reduce the costs of the special training regatta and the Regional and National Regattas. Applying for funding is always something of an unknown though costs to each sailor can vary from year to year. The most significant cost is getting to the National Regatta. Throughout the year, both MCSC and each of the teams undertake fundraising activities to try and keep this to a minimum.

What equipment do I need?

It’s always best to “have a go” before investing in any equipment/gear. QCYC kindly lets us use their life jackets early in the season but you will need layers of warm clothing as the combination of water and wind can be cold. Layers of thermals/polypropylene are great. Many of the sailors in the team do sail regularly and so there is often second-hand equipment to be had. If you are keen to continue, talk with the other sailors to find out what they find the most essential items.



If you are interested in finding out more about team sailing, there are several videos on Youtube. Put Team Sailing Racing or Team sailing racing tactics in the search bar.