



# Detroit Community Sailing

## 2021 Annual Report



### 2021 Season Highlights

The team was excited to get back on the water this season with our youth program, Challenge the Wind and our new Adult Learn to Sail program. After the Covid delay we launched our expanded program with Adult Learn to Sail in partnership with the Detroit Boat Club. Yes, we are now officially the Detroit Community Sailing Center. The name change reflects our commitment to expanding sailing access to a much broader community.

Several other highlights for this season included:

**New Board Membership** – We welcomed new board members and recognized the contribution of several departing members.

**Five Year Plan** – The board has begun work on a new strategic plan that includes launching a Sustaining Fund drive. The plan will preserve the accomplishments of our 2011 Ten Year Growth Plan and define growth for the next five years.

**Premier Sailing League Partnership** – We are enjoying the use of PSL's 6 new RS 21 boats when they are not being used for the League's events. This is being done as a part of the PSL's commitment to supporting community sailing.

**Sailing Open House** - Non-sailors and their families attended an opportunity to learn about sailing, how to get started and next steps. Many of our guest signed up for a 'First Sail' experience.

I'll end with thanking our most important partners. Our results would not be possible without the support of our generous donors and long-term supporters.

Thank you,  
Harry Jones  
President, Detroit Community Sailing Center

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# Detroit Community Sailing Youth Program

## More Time on the Water for our Young People

Our youth program exceeded our expectations this season. With a waiting list, it was clear our participant families were eager to get their children on the water. This season included new elements. Some planned for 2020 but fell victim to the virus. Others were implemented because of the virus and resulted in positive changes we will make permanent. The net result was more time actually sailing ...and having fun on the water. Several families insisted that the youth learn to sail program will continue as “Challenge the Wind”. It will.

## 2022 Youth Program Plans

Our program has always focused on being more than just sailing. We emphasize teamwork, problem solving, confidence building and the science inherent in sailing. This year we started the planning to integrate Michigan STEM standards in our program. Doriene Thomas, longtime supporter and Detroit School System science teacher is leading the way on this initiative.

To keep the program accessible, we will maintain the same fee of \$100 for each 2-week session. That is the same amount we have charged for the last 11 years.

An important objective is to continue identifying and grooming participants to become instructors. We will add power boat training as a part of preparing our instructors to support the program.



Optimists



Club 420

## About Our Boats

**Optimist** - (AKA Optis) are great 8' boats for preteens and teens to learn sailing. With one sail, a solo sailor can easily learn the basics. They are designed to challenge sailors as they progress.

**Club 420** - Experienced youth sailors move into our 14' Club 420 boats. These boats have two sails and are sailed by a crew of two.

**Interlake and Flying Scot** – are 18' and 19' boats with larger sails and can hold up to six crewmembers. These boats are used to train older teens and adults with an instructor onboard.



## Youth Program Basics

**Beginner** – A two-week learn-to-sail session taught by US Sailing Organization certified instructors and volunteers with years of experience. We use US Sailing’s standard curriculum. Every participant learns to sail. The course emphasizes teamwork and the physics of sailing. The sailors are exposed to our rich local marine environment.

**Intermediate** - Runs concurrently with the Beginning program to advance the skills of returning participants and complete their “Skipper” qualification.

**Assistant Instructors** - as the returning sailors gain experience and achieve various certifications, they assist in coaching the beginners.

# Detroit Community Sailing

## Adult Program

### Growing New Adult Sailors

We are proud to announce that we taught over 30 new sailors in our inaugural Adult Learn to Sail Program. We had more demand than we were willing to accommodate so that we could safely and effectively manage the new initiative.

We targeted 3 groups to reach new adult sailors. The groups included, families of our Challenge the Wind participants, young people living or working downtown and the traditional DBC participants. Our inaugural class represented all 3 groups. Credit goes to the Detroit Boat Club and their instructor team. The DBC instructors quickly adapted to sailing at the Belle Isle Boat House while sharing their sailing passion with our new students. All participants receive a one-year DBC membership, so they can continue to enjoy the sport.

### 2022 Adult Program Plans

Our 2 big challenges for 2022 will be to accommodate the demand and to add programming for participant wanting to advance their sailing skills. We recognize these are good challenges and look forward to developing plans over the winter.



Millicent Austin (left) and DeAngela, made it a family affair. Millicent enrolled in the adult class and enrolled DeAngela in Challenge the Wind.

Nicholas Dowgwillo, facing the camera, lives in Detroit and regularly rides his bicycle to the adult class. Nicholas looked for a sailing class for a while and found most in this area were connected to yacht clubs. He found this program on the internet and it was more what he was looking for.

Asked what's next? "Continue to learn, maybe exploring dinghy sailing, cruising on a larger boat and membership in the Detroit Boat Club."



### Adult Program Basics

This is an entry-level class for participants who have little or no sailing experience. The course is designed to be an entertaining and simple introduction to sailing and water safety. Each sailor will learn the basics of sailing: parts of the boat, rigging (set up) sails, steering the boat, leaving & returning to the dock under sail, and water safety.

Participants are also introduced to basics of racing and will have opportunities for longer races on Lake St. Clair as the class progresses. This course is designed to build skills and confidence through time on the water, chats on shore, and focus on fundamentals of sailing, safety and boat handling.

# Detroit Community Sailing

## 2022 Growth

### Learn or Do More?

Visit [www.detroitcsc.org](http://www.detroitcsc.org) to learn more about us, explore an RS21 program, donate or volunteer. You can reach us by email [info@detroitcsc.org](mailto:info@detroitcsc.org) or phone (313) 473-7793

### Working to Secure Our Future

This year we thanked Ray Litt, Mike Litt and Bob DeClercq, as they stepped down from the board, for their many years of support and contribution to our growth. We've added new board members that will help us refine and execute our path over the next 5 years to increase accessibility and sustain the organization.

New revenue generating programs will help but it will not offset our increasing cost. We are kicking off a "Sustaining Fund" initiative to support our 5-year plan. Feel free to contact us if you would like to know more about our plans or how you can help.

### Premier Sailing League A New Partnership

In 2021 we kicked off a new partnership with Premiere Sailing League that gives us access to six of PSL's RS 21 sailboats.

The Premier Sailing League is a Detroit based organization that promotes "Stadium Sailboat Racing" programs. It is launching in both Michigan and Florida with plans to expand. PSL's plans also included supporting local community sailing programs in the areas where it operates. In our case PSL will allow us to use the boats when not being used for PSL events. DCSC was required to moor the RS21 sailboats out of the water when not being used. Thankfully, Grosse Pointe Yacht Club provided us, at a significant discount, the needed floating docks.

In 2022, DCSC will integrate the RS21 boats into our youth and adult programs as well as other new programs, such as team building and advanced racing strategy. We will also be able to accommodate special group training requests.

Contact us for more information.



# Detroit Community Sailing

## Our Valued Sponsors, Partners and Volunteers

Many support us financially, with wise counsel and with their time. We would especially like to acknowledge the following for their contribution to the program's continuation and expansion:

- *Grosse Pointe Youth Nautical Education Foundation*
- *Sun Sport Marine*
- *Detroit Boat Club*
- *Friends of the Detroit Rowing, Inc.*
- *Premier Sailing League*
- *American Sailing Institute*



# Detroit Community Sailing

## How You Can Help

### Donate or Volunteer

We are a 501(c)(3) Federal Non-Profit organization.  
100% of your tax-deductible donation goes to the program.

*“Give a young person an alternative this summer”*

Our fund raising is focused on sustaining our youth program. You can provide a life-changing experience for a Detroit area young person. Your contribution will help a participant learn the skill of sailing and use math, physics, problem solving, teamwork and conflict management skills.

### Donate

#### By Check

Made out to “Detroit Community Sailing Center” and it to:

Detroit Community Sailing Center  
PO Box 15488  
Detroit, MI 48215

#### By Credit Card or Paypal

(credit cards accepted at PayPal site with no extra fees)

PayPal site [www.PayPal.com](http://www.PayPal.com)  
email ID [Pay@DetroitCSC.org](mailto:Pay@DetroitCSC.org)

#### Stock Donations

Contact us at [info@sailingdetroit.org](mailto:info@sailingdetroit.org) for instructions



For more Information on donating or volunteering opportunities

Visit: [www.sailingdetroit.org](http://www.sailingdetroit.org)  
email: [info@sailingdetroit.org](mailto:info@sailingdetroit.org)



# Detroit Community Sailing

## About Us

Detroit Community Sailing Center, a 501(c)(3), was originally founded as Challenge the Wind Youth Sailing Program in 1994 by the Grayhaven Sail Club of Detroit. Its mission, then, as it is now, is to teach sailing to people who would not otherwise get exposure to the sport. In 2021 we changed the name to reflect our desire to broaden the community we serve and sustain our youth programs.

### Board of Governors

Name	Board Position	Professional Positions
Cliff Papin	Chairman	Retired, Engineer, Ford Motor Co.
Harry Jones	President	Retired, Director, Human Resources, Asia Pacific and Africa, Ford Motor Co.
Larry Breskin	Treasure	Owner and Attorney at Breskin Law Firm, past Commodore, Detroit Boat Club
Deneen Garrett	Volunteers	Founder & CEO of Deneen L Garrett LLC, Talent & Leadership Development at AT&T, Podcast Host
Tanagra Weaver	Secretary	Retired, HR Manager, Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order, Commodore, Grayhaven Sail Club
Graziano Galloway-Gooden	Member	Owner, Graziano Galloway-Gooden Design Team
Jon Aubuchon	Member	Owner and Attorney at Aubuchon Law Firm, Commodore Detroit Boat Club
Michael Dixon	Member	Retired, Commercial Banker, Author, past Commodore Detroit Boat Club
Gwen Gipson	Member	Owner, Chargwn Design
Ben Klatzka	Member	CEO, Premier Sailing League
Ellen Lewis	Member	President, Lewis Manor Homes, LTD, Regina Homes, Inc., Interlude, Inc.
Jim Neumann	Member	Youth boats and yachting equipment consultant, yacht manager and consultant, former Director of Membership and Marketing at Detroit Yacht Club
Tim Prophit	Member	President at Maren & Associates, Commodore Detroit Regional Yacht Racing Association, past Commodore Bayview Yacht Club
Dave Simon	Member	Chief Administrative Officer at Altair, past Commodore Crescent Sail Yacht Club



*Having Fun While Learning to Sail*



To:

*Sailing Detroit*

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