



MANHATTAN SAILING CLUB

CORPORATE SAILING LEAGUE

SUMMER 2012

For more information, please contact:
Commodore Michael Fortenbaugh
at 212-945-6363 or mike@myc.org



INTRODUCTION

Manhattan Sailing Club re-introduced recreational sailing to New York Harbor in 1987. One of the club's first major programs was a corporate racing series called the "Blue Chip Challenge." This program was run from the South Street Seaport.

Today, Manhattan Sailing Club is based at Dennis Conner's North Cove. This marina is located on the Hudson River in front of the World Financial Center in Battery Park City. The club is one of the largest community sailing organizations in the country with 750 members and a fleet of more than 35 J/24 sailboats. Manhattan Sailing School is the largest sailing school in the country, teaching more than 70 adults every weekend. The club and its affiliated organizations offer a rich variety of sailing opportunities from the prestigious America's Cup 12 Meter "America II" all the way down to Optimists dinghies in the junior program.

In 2011, the club re-introduced the Corporate Sailing League. If you are part of a company, you can enter a team and start sailing in the harbor.





PHILOSOPHY OF THE CORPORATE SAILING LEAGUE

The Corporate Sailing League is an amateur program designed to build teamwork and camaraderie among employees. The experience of sailing a boat together and sharing a relaxing evening in the harbor builds bonds among coworkers and strengthens communication. The emphasis at Manhattan Sailing Club is on camaraderie ahead of competition. The races are conducted in an informal and friendly manner with special rules such as “no touching” and no protests. A yacht’s finish is secondary to the fact that the crew works together and shares an incredible evening. This sailing league even offers spectator opportunities to increase the number of people in your company who can participate.

ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

The Corporate Sailing League is organized by Manhattan Sailing Club. During the six month sailing season from May through October, the club runs races almost every day in NY Harbor. The club provides race managers and race committees who administer the competitions. The overall vision and management of the Corporate Sailing League is provided by Commodore Michael Fortenbaugh, founder of the sailing club.



THE RACE BOATS

Your team will sail on one of the club's identical J/24 sailboats. These keelboats measure 24 feet in length and sail with a main and genoa or jib. Spinnakers may also be used. J/24s are considered the sports car of sailboats. They are fast and maneuverable and handle with ease. The club has a fleet of more than 35 J/24 sailboats. When boats are added to the fleet, they go through a top to bottom refurbishment and standardization. J/24s normally race with a crew of 5 people. However, you can sail with as few as 2 people and as many as 6 or more. The boats for the Corporate Sailing League have red topsides and are named after some of the great clipper ships which sailed in New York Harbor in the 1800s. Your team is assigned a boat which you sail every week. You also have right-of-first-refusal on this boat for subsequent series.

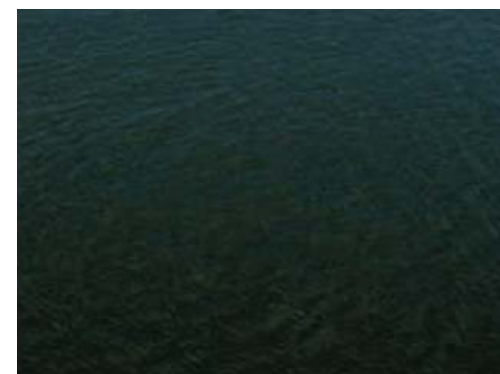
THE CLUBHOUSE

One of the great aspects of the Corporate Sailing League is the “Honorable William Wall,” Manhattan Sailing Club’s floating clubhouse in the harbor. This two-story barge offers spectator opportunities to your co-workers, customers and clients. They can come out, watch the action and cheer for your team. This increases the number of people who can participate in the program. The upper deck of the clubhouse features an open-air bar, varnished rails and stylish furniture. The main deck features the luxurious “Champagne Bar” with historical pictures and trophies. The Honorable William Wall is a USCG-certified vessel and can hold up to 150 passengers.

During the sailing season, the Honorable William Wall is anchored in the harbor just north of Ellis Island. Transportation to and from North Cove is provided by “Admiral’s Launch” or “Big Toot.” Both are former US-Navy vessels and now operate as USCG-certified launches.

HARBOR LOCATION

The Corporate Sailing League takes place in the Upper Bay of New York Harbor. You will see the Statue of Liberty, Ellis and Governors Island plus the skyline of Manhattan. All races start and finish from the floating clubhouse. This provides your spectators with excellent views of the action and excitement.





When your racing teams arrives at North Cove, they hop on their boat and head out to the starting line. When your spectator teams arrives at North Cove, they hop on the launch and ride out to the clubhouse. At the end of racing, your race team can ride out to the clubhouse to meet the spectators. Then you can relive the race and socialize with your cheering squad who were watching the competition.

RACE FORMAT

Races are run around short courses set near the floating clubhouse so spectators can see the action. Inflatable buoys are positioned by the race management team. Races can be windward-leeward or triangle courses. In normal conditions, races last about 30 minutes and multiple races are held each evening.

RACE DIVISIONS

Initially, the Corporate Sailing League will begin as one division. As participation grows and the program reaches 8 teams, the fleet will be split into a Gold and Silver division. The Gold will be for higher finishing teams.





At the end of each series, some teams will move up and down similar to English soccer. The top 2 teams in Silver move to Gold and the bottom 2 teams in Gold move to Silver. New teams will always start at Silver before earning the right to move up to Gold.

YOUR RACE TEAM

J/24s normally race with 5 people. On heavy air days, teams sometimes add a 6th person. A minimum of 2 people are needed to sail the boat and 6 is the suggested maximum. Unlimited crew substitution is permitted between weeks and you may invite clients, guests or anyone else to sail with your team.

Each corporate team should have one or two skippers who go through an orientation with the club race managers. These skippers will be briefed on club protocols and special rules like mandatory life jackets.

If you need assistance finding qualified skippers for your team, the club will put you in touch with the large pool of sailing instructors. You can interview instructors to find the right person to help you and your company.





YOUR SPECTATOR TEAM

Many people within your company will want to be part of this great outdoor activity. But not all will want to race on the sailboat. You probably have many co-workers who just want to watch the races from the clubhouse and cheer on their company team.

The floating clubhouse makes the Corporate Sailing League inclusive to everyone within your company. You can invite employees, clients and guests to watch the races from the clubhouse. Views are spectacular!

The clubhouse is certified for 150 passengers, so on most race days, teams can invite many spectators out to watch. Spectators traveling to the clubhouse pay a \$10 round trip launch fee which can be paid by credit card.

Occasionally, the clubhouse is rented for a private party or it could reach its capacity of 150 people. If capacity is reached on an evening, new spectators wait at dock until others come off the clubhouse. Reservations for the first 150 spots on the clubhouse are accepted to ensure a spot. Your company can also rent the clubhouse for a summer office party.



RACE SCHEDULE & ENTRY FEES

The Corporate Sailing League is held on Thursday evenings. The season is split into an early summer and late summer series. Each series is 6 weeks long. 2012 dates are as follows:

Early Summer Series: June 28, July 5, 12, 19, 26 & August 2

Late Summer Series: August 9, 16, 23, 30, September 6 & 13

Teams normally arrive at the club docks between 5:50 and 6:10 p.m. When you get to the docks, your race teams rig the boat and your spectator team rides “Admiral’s Launch” out to the clubhouse. The starting sequence for the first race is at 6:30 p.m. Several races are held each evening if weather conditions permit. Sailing is an outdoor sport and race days canceled due to weather are not rescheduled. After sailing, racers and spectators gather at the floating clubhouse for a prize ceremony. Drinks are served and dinners can be delivered to the clubhouse.

The entry fee is \$3,800 per series. Companies can get a 10% discount by signing up for 2 series. The entry fee is subject to NYS sales tax (8.875%). The entry fee covers the boat rental, all sails (except a spinnaker), race management, trophies and launch passes for 5 sailors every Thursday. Additional costs could be a corporate spinnaker, launch passes for spectators, and drinks and food purchased at the floating clubhouse.





SPECIAL RACING RULES

This racing series is conducted under the standard rules of sailing as modified by the sailing instructions. The club has a “No Touching Rule” and boats which touch at any point during a race must retire. This protects the equipment and significantly reduces collisions. Protests between teams are not permitted. The Race Management team provides on-water judging and discrepancies on the water between teams are decided on the spot whenever possible.

CORPORATE SPINNAKERS

Teams must provide their own spinnaker if they wish to fly one. You may race with any spinnaker which is J/24 class legal. Some teams have spinnakers emblazoned with their corporate logo. This advertising is encouraged at the Corporate Sailing League. Spinnakers with logos build company enthusiasm and make it easier for spectators to identify their team when they round the windward mark. You may use any sailmaker to make your spinnaker. In the past, some companies have used North Sails in San Diego because they have an affiliated graphics department.



INSURANCE & BOAT DAMAGE

The J/24 sailboats are all owned by Manhattan Sailing Club and the club carries a \$5 million P&I insurance policy which covers use of the boats. If two yachts are involved in a collision which results in damage to either boat, each team is liable for up to \$2,000 in repair costs. When damage occurs, both yachts involved in the collision are responsible for 50% of the repair costs, regardless of who was the stand-on and who was the give-way vessel. This percentage of responsibility can be altered based on mutual agreement of the parties involved. All repairs are made by the sailing club which has a full maintenance facility and staff.

SCORES & TROPHIES

Results are recorded for each race. Scores are tabulated by average finish with the total number of points being divided by total races. Teams not sailing in any race are given points equal to the number of starters. A team may drop one race for every 6 races sailed.

Daily trophy glasses are presented every evening. The ceremony is held at the bar on the floating clubhouse. Glasses are awarded for each race based on the number of starters. For 2 to 4 starters, 1 glass is presented. For 5 to 6 starters, 2 glasses are presented. For 7 to 10 starters, 3 glasses are presented. For more than 10 starters, 4 glasses are presented.



designed by: Nancy Herrmann

USE OF BOATS OUTSIDE RACE DATES

Corporate teams can rent a J/24 or another boat for additional practice or sailing through the new rental operations which will be run by the sailing school this summer. More information and rental costs will be available in the spring.



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ENTRY FORM

Company: _____ Team Representative: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Series entered: ☐ Early Summer ☐ Late Summer

Please describe your sailing experience: _____

Have you sailed at the club before, if yes, when? _____

What are your corporate goals for this program: _____

How can Manhattan Sailing Club help you at this time? _____



Return this form to mike@myc.org or fax to 212-786-1743.
Upon receipt of your Entry Form, we will send you an invoice.