



west vancouver
yacht club

Dear Parent / Guardian:

Your son or daughter has shown an interest in an exciting new school sailing team at Rockridge School where he/she will be training and competing in the High School Racing Circuit. High schools from around the North Shore are currently forming teams and the season will begin with weekly practices twice a week for five weeks starting April 26th, 2009.

Practices will be held Mondays and Wednesdays after school from 3:30 to 6:30 at the West Vancouver Yacht Club located at 5854 Marine Drive, West Vancouver. In addition, there is one regatta that will be held where all the participating schools meet together and compete in a round-robin team-racing event:

Point Atkinson Cup, WVYC, May 29th – 30th

Students don't need sailing experience to join the team. In fact, it is encouraged that only half the students on one team have sailing experience (even if it's just a little bit). The inexperienced sailors will quickly learn in practices as they won't be sailing by themselves. Besides, sailing is easy! The ideal team will have three experienced skippers paired with students with no sailing experience at all. The inexperienced sailors simply act as crew for the first while.

The teams will be coached by trained, experienced, and certified Canadian Yachting Association sailing instructors. They know how to make sailing fun, safe, and a rewarding experience for everyone involved. Risks are properly controlled through mandatory use of PFD's supplied by the yacht clubs (although students are encouraged to bring their own), appropriate clothing, and sufficient patrol craft with coaches along side them at all times. Parents or guardians are encouraged to meet with the coaches and may contact them directly if they have any questions.

Fee:

The fee for each student will be **\$250** includes coaching and use of the WVYC and covers the Point Atkinson Cup entrance fee which includes prizes and lunches on Saturday and Sunday. This is based on one weekend regatta – Point Atkinson Cup

Registration:

This year we are using an online registration program. Please register through the link at www.wvyc.bc.ca/learn_to_sail/teamracing.htm



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Volunteer opportunities:

Putting on regattas requires many volunteers in order for them to run smoothly. Duties include helping with starts on the water, finishing, mark setting, calculating results, and serving lunches. The regattas are as much fun for volunteers as they are for the sailors. In addition, this will give you the chance to watch up close your son/daughter compete in sailing! If you are interested in volunteering in either of the weekends, please contact the Sailing Director Graeme Clendenan at sailingdirector@wvyc.bc.ca.

What students should bring:

They will need to bring appropriate clothing for the weather and be prepared to get wet. Note temperatures on the water are often much cooler than on land, therefore, bring appropriate layers. A windbreaker jacket is strongly recommended no matter what the weather conditions look like. Also bring a change of clothes and rubber-soled shoes that can get wet and won't easily fall off (feet *will* get wet). Hat and sunscreen are recommended for sunny days. WVYC will provide lifejackets, however, students are encouraged to bring their own. Please note there are no stores or restaurant facilities available close by, so bring a snack if required.

If you have further questions, please contact your teacher sponsor or Graeme Clendenan, Sailing Director. @ 604-921-7575