

NCCS Sailing FAQ:

How much does it cost to rent a sailboat?

North Coast Community Sailing does not rent or charter boats. We do youth classes only at this time.

How can my child start sailing with North Coast?

It's easy! All you need to do is sign up for one of our available courses at bayfieldrec.org/sailing , we currently have classes for ages 4- 18

What/When is Open Sailing?

This program no longer exists, it was too cost prohibitive

My child is 11/12 and is x height and x weight - what class should they take?

We recommend Optis for sailors under 5' tall and 110 lbs and 420's for sailors over 5' tall and over 110 lbs. The 13 year-old cut off is designed with this in mind. The height and weight cutoff is for physical control of the boats we'll be using.

What kind of boats does North Coast have?

We currently have 3 different boat types.

Sonars are for any age. A Sonar is a keelboat, is 23 feet long, has two sails, and can be sailed by anywhere from 2-8 people. They are keelboats and do not capsize or flip, and are our recommended boat for beginning adults. Their large size means that it is easy to work on one particular skill without worrying about others. This is the boat we take our Kindersailors on to get them used to the wind and waves.

Optis are for small children, generally ages 8-12. They are 8 feet long, have a single sail, and are designed for 1 person. Optis are the classic boat to introduce youth to sailing and are used worldwide.

420's are for youth and adults. They are 14 feet long, have two sails, and are designed for two people.

What should my child bring?

Sailors should come to class with a swimsuit, a water bottle, **shoes that can be worn in the water without falling off**, as well as anything they need to be comfortable for the day. This may include a rain jacket, sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, a towel for after they're done sailing, a cozy change of clothes, etc.

What's the potluck/sail-by?

The end of the week sail-by and potluck are only for Optis and 420s. Kindersail does not have one. The potluck happens at noon on Friday and parents and families are all encouraged to come and bring a dish to share. The sail-by occurs 45 minutes before the end of the final class, also on Friday, and is a boat parade for sailors to show off the skills they've learned to their families.

Should a parent be present for the lessons?

A parent does **not** have to be present, in fact we prefer that they are not as it allows students to be more fully engaged in sailing if their parents are absent. Parents are invited to an end-of-week potluck at noon on the last day of class, as well as a sail-by 45 minutes before the end of the last class of the week. 11:15 or 3:15 depending upon if their child is signed up for a morning or afternoon session.

What about cancellations?

We don't ever cancel, so no worries! In the case of rain, we sail anyway! In the case of thunderstorms that pop up unexpectedly, we hang out under the pavilion nearby and wait at least 30 minutes after the last lightning or thunder before we touch water. In the case of expected thunderstorms, we either have parents drop kids off at the library in the morning (we'll let them know as they arrive), or we'll walk to the library if the storms aren't supposed to come until later in the day. In the case of high winds, we normally walk over to the bigger boats and take one of those out from the Washburn Marina, but we're always back to Thompson West End (or the library if thunderstorms) by pick up time.

Where do I go to drop my kid off?

420 and Optis are down at **Thompson West End Park** near the boat ramp at the two blue sheds.

Kindersail meets at the pavilion nearest the boat launch ramp at **Washburn Marina**.

How will Highway 13 road closure impact sailing?

The closure of Hwy 13 this summer diverts traffic closer to our cozy boat launch, but this shouldn't interfere with navigating to class at all. Please be aware of the increased traffic and count on a potentially longer commute.