

Adult Learn to Sail Programs at PCYC

Adult Dinghy

Dinghy sailing is a fantastic way to learn to sail and our Adult Dinghy program is catered directly to those that are new to sailing. This course is recognized by Sail Canada and allows you to achieve your CANSail levels 1 and 2.

All courses are taught using our Fleet of RS Zests. Small and responsive, these boats are fast, exciting and a great work-out. With an experienced Sail Canada instructor as your coach, you will develop the fundamental concepts of: balance, propulsion & direction as well as the knowledge required to safely sail a dinghy in moderate wind and sea conditions.

As it is an introductory sailing program, there are no pre-requisites required to sign up and by the end of this 4-week course you should develop knowledge of the fundamentals of sailing.

Courses are offered in June, July and August on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-9pm.

What to do next? Upon completion of this course you'll have a great base of sailing knowledge that will be useful in some of our other courses. The best directions to consider would be our Basic Cruising course or our Adult Learn to Race course.

Women on the Water

Our Women on the Water dinghy course is catered to the women of PCYC and their friends that are looking to learn to fundamentals of sailing while having some extra fun on the side. Like the Adult Dinghy course, Women on the Water is also an introductory course that requires no pre-requisites.

Although this course is not recognized by Sail Canada, you will still develop similar skills and knowledge taught by our experienced CANSail instructors. Women on the Water is taught on our fleet of 420s and with a partner you will take turns helming and crewing on this double-handed dinghy.

Like the Adult Dinghy course, you will learn balance, propulsion & direction as well as the knowledge required to safely sail a dinghy in moderate wind and sea conditions.

To finish off each lesson, participants are invited to the clubhouse to enjoy some social time and a free beverage.

Courses are offered in June, July and August every Wednesday.

What to do next? Upon completion of this course you'll have a great base of sailing knowledge that will be useful in some of our other courses. The best directions to consider would be our Basic Cruising course or our Adult Learn to Race course.

Adult Learn to Race (keelboat)

A new course in 2023! This course is perfect for those that have completed any one of PCYC's introductory sailing courses or equivalent. It will be taught by Katie Nicoll using our fleet of J24s and will cover: racing rules, sail trim, starting line tactics, practice starts, upwind and downwind strategies.

Courses will be offered in June and July every Tuesday from 6-9pm

What's next? If you already have your own keelboat but didn't have any racing knowledge, please now join us on Monday and Wednesday race night! Otherwise, consider crewing on race nights. Our racers are always looking for crew with a little bit of racing background.

Start Keelboat

The ideal course for the first-time sailor. Learn the basics of crewing in this 18-hour introductory program on a sloop rigged keelboat, 6 to 12 metres with an outboard motor in 5 - 20 knots of wind. You will receive instruction in sailing terms and definitions, marine weather, knots and the duties of skipper and crew. During the course you will be learning how to safely depart for a day, handling the boat under both sail and power, including emergency situations.

This course is offered in June, July and August on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-9pm. With enough interest, we could also offer this course on a weekend.

What's next? Upon completion of this course you will have a great base of knowledge for sailing on a keelboat, which would provide you with several options. You could further develop your skills in our Basic Cruising program, or get into racing through our Adult Learn to Race program or by crewing on our Monday & Wednesday race nights. To get into crewing on a member boat for race nights, please contact learntosail@pcyc.net

Basic Cruising

While this course is an introductory course for beginners, we consider it to be more intermediate especially when compared to our Start Keelboat course. Through this course, you will gain the knowledge, seamanship and boat-handling skills required for sailboat cruising. This 24-hour course is taught by Sail Canada certified cruising instructors who will provide a safe and stimulating experience. Upon the successful completion of this course you will be able to enjoy a day sail, safely and efficiently in moderate wind and sea conditions. This course teaches the fundamental skills and theory required to meet the Sail Canada Basic Cruising Standard.

Being our most popular adult course, it is offered in May, June, July, August and September on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6-9pm as well as weekends (Saturday and Sunday from 9am-4pm).

What's next? Upon successful completion of this course you should be ready to sail a keelboat on our own in safe conditions. This means that you would qualify for our Boathub Program (see below for more details). Alternatively, you could consider purchasing your own boat and becoming a member at PCYC! Finally, you would have the option of crewing on member boats for Monday and Wednesday race nights (please contact learntosail@pcyc.net for more information).

Boathub

Boat Hub membership gives you access all season long to the PCYC owned and maintained J/24 sailboats. Hone your nautical skills on a great performance boat that's easy to sail, learn the ins and outs of boat ownership and join a community of like-minded people who want to get out for some fun and camaraderie on Lake Ontario.

Pre-requisites include the following: Completion of the Basic Cruising program (or equivalent), associate (or Senior) PCYC membership, valid PCOC and VHF license.

For more information, please contact Tristan Bourelle at learntosail@pcyc.net