

Dinghy Instructor Clinic Update #2 – April 14, 2020

Ontario Sailing has been busy determining what this situation means for delivering instructor training for the 2020 season. We remain committed to running instructor training in 2020, should it be deemed safe to do so by the relevant authorities.

Due to the recent updates Ontario Sailing has determined that we cannot run any of our Instructor Clinics as they are currently scheduled. We have been working on a contingency plan that would allow us to deliver province wide training in a shorter time span. This means that we have to prioritize certain courses to allow us to do so given our current capacity to deliver training. In order for this to work, the entire schedule is being redone to accommodate the new timeframe and priorities.

I have provided more details on what our plans are below and included some relevant links to keep you updated.

Also note Sail Canada has provided provisions around instructor certification and prerequisite extensions <https://www.sailing.ca/sail-canada-instructor-certification-accomodation/>. You can stay updated on other information from Sail Canada here: <https://www.sailing.ca/covid-19-updates/>.

In Ontario, for candidates signed up for 2020 dinghy instructor courses, the following accommodations/changes are taking place:

Fundamental Courses: all fundamental courses have been transitioned to an online format and are currently all running as normal. If you are in need of a course and have not completed one, please contact me ASAP.

Technical Courses (1&2, 3&4, Advanced, 5&6): we have approved the following alternate delivery methods and established priorities for scheduling.

- a. Ontario Sailing will prioritize the delivery of technical clinics for **new instructors first** so clubs can meet their staffing needs when the state of emergency is lifted.
 - a. CANSail 1 / 2 and 3 / 4 clinics for new instructors only, will be delivered in an alternate delivery method approved for this year only. Details on the Alternate Delivery are further below.
- b. Ontario Sailing will schedule the balance of technical clinics to be delivered in their usual format once the priority delivery is accommodated. Should further delivery considerations be required we will address those at a later time. This affects candidates in the 5&6 clinic, Advanced Instructor Clinic, Wetfeet, and candidates that are registered in a 3&4 but already have another instructor level.
- c. The timeline for delivery of in-person will be monitored and decided by Ontario Sailing with the information from all relevant authorities. We will share timeline updates as they are available. Thank you in advance for your patience as we work through this.

Alternate Delivery of CANSail Technical Courses (1&2, 3&4 for new instructors only)

- a. We have approved a blended learning format for technical clinics. This involves moving approximately half of the technical content into an **interactive** online format with the balance delivered in a one weekend in-person format when the state of emergency is lifted, and it has been deemed safe to deliver. **Safety and our commitment to a high standard and quality of program delivery remains our top priority.**
- b. We are intending to have the content ready for the online courses to start running mid-May, and I will contact registered (and waitlisted) candidates about how to sign up for the different sessions when I have put together the schedule. The structure of the course will be 4 online interactive sessions, each running 2 hours long with mandatory assignments in between sessions. Anticipate that these courses will likely run on the evening during the week.

Boat Safety Courses: Due to the need to prioritize training for new instructors, we have worked with Sail Canada to offer prerequisite extensions for those with current but lapsing certifications. <https://www.sailing.ca/sail-canada-instructor-certification-accomodation/> is where you can find details of how to apply for this extension. Those that are eligible and receive the extension will be refunded and removed from the course as they no longer need it for this season.

We intend to schedule new boat safety courses for those that are taking this course for the first time (or were not eligible for the extension). The courses will run in their normal 1 day in person format when it is safe for us to offer them again.

SCHEDULE/ACTION ITEMS

The new schedule has NOT been posted yet, and there are NO ACTION ITEMS for you at this time. I have sent this email to provide transparency and information in our decision-making process.

I will contact all registered and waitlisted candidates when I have posted a new schedule, and will provide instruction on what you need to do in order to register for the new offerings. I hope to have more information to share early next week, in the meantime I appreciate your patience and understanding as we try to work through this together.

If you have any questions please reach out by email, I will do my best to get back to you as soon as I can. Please understand there is a high volume of emails and work that may delay my response.

Regards,

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