

**Alamitos Bay Yacht Club
Junior Sailing Summer Program
Frequently Asked Questions**

Q. What are the dates of the ABYC Junior Sailing Program?

A. The program runs from June 21st through August 6th for all classes. Most classes run Monday through Friday with the exception of Sea Urchins which is Tuesdays & Thursdays and the Intro to Sailing course which runs Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Q. How old does my son or daughter have to be to participate in the ABYC Junior Sailing Program?

A. The youngest students must be at least 5 years old by the program start date to participate in the Sea Urchin Program. Students who are 6 or 7 years old on the program start date are eligible for the Sea Urchin *or* Intro to Sailing Program. Students 8 years old and up are eligible for all of the other programs available.

**Sea Urchins – 5, 6 or 7 years old on program start date
Intro to Sailing – 6 or 7 years old on program start date
All other classes – 8 years old and up on program start date**

Q. My student is 7 and a half, may he/she jump into the “Beginning Sailing” course?

A. No. The Beginning Sailing program is for students who are at least age 8 by the first day of the sailing program. We unfortunately cannot make exceptions to this rule. The same rule applies to students who are not 5 years old that would like to be included in the Sea Urchins class and students who are not 6 years old who would like to be included in the Intro to Sailing Class.

Q. Will the Sea Urchin class and Intro to Sailing class be doing any actual sailing?

A. Yes. The Intro to Sailing class is sailed primarily in sabots and students need to have their own boat by chartering or bringing their own. The Sea Urchin class will sail as groups in Lido 14's with an instructor and some in pairs in Sabots, but will also spend time simply around the water to make them more comfortable. The Sea Urchins are not required to have their own boat.

Q. We will be taking a family vacation during the summer. Can my child still participate in the summer sailing program?

A. Yes. We realize summer is traditionally the time that many families make vacation plans. Missing some sailing lessons is not generally a problem and students usually can catch up easily with what they have missed.

Q. My child does not get out of school until after the first day of the program. Can I still sign them up for the summer program and how much will they miss?

A. Yes. We recognize not every school schedule is the same and therefore we take a more relaxed approach to the first week of sailing. We repeat the swim test for new students when they arrive and try to put specific instructors with them to catch them up on what they have missed. Due to the smaller group that comes late, they are able to get caught up very fast and fall right in with the rest of their class.

Q. Do we need to have our own boat for this program?

A. Yes. Either a privately owned boat or rented boat is required for all classes with the exception of the Sea Urchins. We have Lasers and Sabots for rent (explained in detail in another question) but do not have rental 420's.

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Q. What is the difference between a “Laser”, a “420” and a “Sabot” and how do I know which one my child should sail?

A. A Sabot is a small boat, approximately eight feet long and shaped similarly to a bath tub. These boats are phenomenal learning boats and usually are good for students weighing 50 -125 lbs. The majority of our students sail Sabots.

Lasers are about 14 feet long and are a more high performance boat. Optimal sailing weight is 125 lbs and up for these boats. The Laser takes considerably more physical strength and size and is recommended only for sailors who have outgrown the sabot.

420's are a two-person boat with one skippering and one crewing position. They are high performance boats requiring fairly advanced racing and boat handling skills. Parents should inquire as to whether their sailor is ready to be a part of the 420 program. We do not have any 420's for charter.

Q. What if my child wants to sail a combination of boats? (i.e. 420's/Lasers, 420's/Sabots, Lasers/Sabots)

A. If your sailor is signed up for a program, they can sail any combination of boats they like. The 420's and Lasers will be sailing together every day this summer, so regardless of what boat he/she is sailing they will have the same coaches. If a sailor wants to sail Sabots some afternoons but also try Lasers some afternoons that is fine too. If they want to do all day sailing in two different boats, they will have to sign up for both a morning and afternoon program.

Q. Where can I find a Sabot, Laser Radial, or 420 for sale?

A. There are bulletin boards in most yacht clubs with boats for sale or you can go to the ABYC junior website www.fleetracing.net and check the listings there. If you have a boat you are selling or are looking for one, you may email the description to jrprogram@abyc.org and we can post it to the junior website. Also, simply using an internet search engine will sometimes bring up some good information.

Q. I have a Sabot / 420 / Laser! Where do I store it for the summer?

A. We have storage available on a first come-first serve basis for members and non-members alike within our yard. To apply for member year-round storage of your privately owned Sabot or Laser, please contact the main office of ABYC and ask for a “*Request for ABYC Dry Storage Space*” form. There is a \$10 processing fee and the rack costs between \$10 and \$15/month. Once the form is entered into the list, you are officially in line for a Sabot or Laser rack space. Non-members may request seasonal storage on the junior sailing temporary racks. These are available to members for \$75 and \$100 for non-members for the summer season (June 1st through September 1st). The charge is requested at the beginning of each seasonal program. Because the rack space tends to be at a premium, it is very important to turn in your requests as early as possible for this. Chartered boats have permanent storage and do not need to pay for or apply for rack space.

Q. How do I rent/charter a boat?

A. If you do not have your own boat and would like to rent a boat for the summer program, we do have some charter boats available (12 sabots and 4 lasers) for a rental fee of \$300 & \$100 deposit. They become your boat for the summer meaning you may use it whenever you would like and also meaning maintenance and care become your responsibility. They are reserved on a first come-first serve basis by notifying the junior sailing director and submitting a payment (payments are held until the program starts and are required to officially reserve a charter boat). If you would like more information on a charter boat, please call the junior sailing office at (562) 434-9955 or email to jrprogram@abyc.org.

Q. What is the focus of the ABYC Junior Sailing Program?

A. We focus on three things in this order: Safety, Fun, & Skills. This is the summer time and the chance for these children to build lifelong friendships and memories. We try to do that by instilling and teaching the love of sailing in a safe and fun environment with the knowledge that if a student loves sailing and makes friends, they will continue on with this wonderful sport for a long time to come. We constantly try to teach them new skills in a fun and exciting way so that it doesn't become routine or boring and makes the experience for these young sailors one of the best they will ever have!