



Quissett Yacht Club  
quissettyachtclub.org

February 2012

Hello Parents and Sailors!

Welcome to summer 2012, if only for a moment! This is a very big year for Quissett Yacht Club as we celebrate its centennial. There are many exciting festivities planned for the summer and we hope that all of the junior sailors will participate. There promises to be something for everyone.

The centennial committee has been actively planning events for this summer in hopes that we can all celebrate the very special thing that is Quissett Yacht Club. The weekend of August 3<sup>rd</sup> will be an exciting and colorful one at Quissett Harbor this year. As part of our centennial celebration the club is hosting a regatta for the junior sailors on Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> for both Optimists and 420s. We hope that everyone will join in. On Sunday August 5<sup>th</sup>, the club will be having a Parade of Sails. Please encourage your children and yourselves to take part. It will be something beautiful and special.

Our sailing club operates differently than some local clubs. Rather than require each student to own their boat QYC provides boats to the program. This policy requires considerable capital investment. At our most recent QYC Board of Directors meeting it was brought to our attention that the club lends approximately \$250,000 worth of boats and equipment. Operating these boats in safe condition requires hefty maintenance costs each year. Fortunately, last year our maintenance and repair costs were several thousands dollars less than prior years. This reduction reflects the instructors' considerable efforts in enforcing safe sailing practices by all of the students especially the very young ones. The focus on caring for our shared property is one that we will continue to stress and hope that you as parents will reinforce.

As you may notice the class fees have increased this year. QYC has always promoted a love of sailing wanting all interested students to have an opportunity to participate. To encourage as many as possible to sail the club has offered classes at rates well below costs subsidizing its sailing program through its membership fees. Although the club is still willing to subsidize the program we have adjusted the fees to reduce the annual deficit. Based on a recent review of local sailing programs we are confident that QYC continues to charge rates that are less than other programs.

Our classes will change just minimally this summer. Firstly, please be aware that the classes are starting **15 minutes earlier this year**. Please review the schedule carefully. The addition of the 420 Intro class was a big success and will continue to be a part of our program. However, offering an introduction to 420s allows us to modify the 420 Prep class. The prep class will change its name and structure. The class will now be referred to as the 420 Jr. Race Team. This class will meet Monday through Friday and will include class races. There may be opportunities for these students to participate in the beginner regattas held at local clubs. The

new 420 Intro class and the changes to the Jr race team are the result of recommendations from parents and students. We hope that you continue to offer your feedback.

**Parents of Opti Racers– we particularly depend on your help and support.** We plan to continue the exciting progress we've made with the Opti racing team, as well as the **Junior Herreshoff racing**. To do so, we need your help. Traveling to Unkie Cup races and regattas requires much logistical support. We need help loading and unloading boats for each race and coordinating carpools for the students. In addition, we will be hosting the QYC Unkie Cup race on July 18<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up to help with registration, breakfast or lunch. None of the jobs is overwhelming.

**420 Racers** must also be aware of plans for attending regattas and be prepared to **handle registration on a timely manner**. This includes each member of the 420 team registering with SMSA by early summer. 420 racers and parents must be aware of the transportation challenges regarding regattas. Towing of multiple 420's on a trailer requires capable volunteer drivers. **Parents with vehicles with trailer hitches, or those available for loan to the Club to be driven by capable drivers will facilitate the regatta schedule.** Quissett instructors and racers will oversee the loading and unloading of 420's onto trailers.

Enclosed you'll find descriptions of our classes, schedules, fees and registration materials. As always, registration is handled on a first-come, first-serve basis, so please send in your registration forms with payment by the March 30<sup>th</sup> deadline to ensure a place in the appropriate class.

Review the information sheet. Check our website ([quissettyachtclub.org](http://quissettyachtclub.org)). Send in your registration and medical forms! We're looking forward to an exciting season with your children!

Sincerely,

**Doug Jones**

Junior Program Co-chair

**Mike Garfield**

Junior Program Co-chair

**Maureen Lynch**

Junior Program Co-chair