



SAIL CAMP 2020 CANCELLATION – Pandemic Implications and Potential Options

Dear Sail Camp Parents and supporters

I hope your family are all staying safe and well in these unusual and trying times. As we draw ever closer to the summer, I wanted to let you know where things stand with our sail camp operation this year.

The far-reaching effects and continuing uncertainty brought about by the pandemic, has taken us into uncharted territory. The evolving and prolonged Covid-19 response, containment and mitigation strategy has made delivering a program like ours, a veritable mine field of challenges and one fraught with dilemma this season. As an organization, we have pledged to be guided by fact and science, and we are committed to remaining in step with all Dept. of Health, MD State and local restrictions and guidelines.

We have had to give very careful consideration to the welfare and safety concerns of all campers, staff, club members and families, as well as the potential legal, insurance and financial implications of delivering our regular program. As a result, the NERYC Board of Governors and Junior Program Committee, have made the decision to cancel our sail camp program this summer. This decision was one of the hardest we have ever had to make, and it weighs heavily on all our hearts.

All camp fees paid will be refunded. We will begin issuing checks in the coming weeks.

All may not be entirely lost, however. The Junior Committee team is exploring the possibility of being able to put together an abbreviated program of instruction, which will allow manageable social distancing in very small groups and give our sailors the opportunity to get out on the water. As an example – a series of Mini Clinics lead by members of our senior instructor staff offering a week of 4 x 4 hour sessions either morning or afternoon, with a limit of 4 students to 1 Instructor. This would be open to intermediate and advanced level sailors initially. We may later consider opening it up for beginners. Provided we have enough demand, we will endeavor to make this happen. Our race team coordinator, Mike Wagner, is also working on an abbreviated program to keep our racers active and out on the water. More detail on that will follow to team participants.

Please indicate the level of interest in your sailor/s participation in any abbreviated program this summer by replying to me ASAP.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we make the best of this difficult situation.

Sharlene Wilkins
Program Director
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