BOATING OPERATIONS

1. No person shall make use of any club facility or vessel unless he or she has signed a waiver of liability. A parent or other responsible adult must sign on behalf of individuals under 18.

2. Open Sailing
   a) Rated members may sail club boats during periods of Open Sailing.
   b) Open Sailing shall be indicated by a sign on the boathouse, as determined by the Skipper(s) and Key Member(s) present.

3. Requirements to open the club for Open Sailing:
   a) There must be a Key or Skipper member present.
   b) In winds over 15 knots there must be a Skipper present.
   c) A safety boat must be ready for use.
   d) A Member checked out on the safety boat must stand by to keep watch and operate it unless:
      i. the wind is less than 15 knots and
      ii. a Skipper is present and thinks it is prudent to sail without shore support.

4. Sailing at times other than Open Sailing:
   a) Skippers may sail at any time at their sole discretion.
   b) During periods of races, regattas, instruction, and testing the club may not be open for Open Sailing; requirements under rule 3 must be met unless there is a skipper aboard each boat.

5. A rated member must be aboard each boat at all times. This requirement may be waived with the explicit permission of a Skipper, however the non-rated member or guest must obtain this permission each time – blanket permission will not be given.

6. The person responsible for taking out a boat shall sign it out on the sign-out sheet in the boathouse, and shall sign it back in upon returning. If taking a canoe or kayak off of Baseline Lake they shall indicate their destination and when they expect to return.

7. A safety boat is ready for use when:
   a) the gas tank has been filled to at least one-half its capacity;
   b) the motor has been unlocked, test-started, and checked for free steering;
   c) the following items are aboard: 6 life vests, oars, a fire extinguisher, a whistle or horn, a
   d) USCG-approved throwable (type IV) ring buoy or cushion, and an anchor. If the anchor is not attached to a buoy, it must be secured to the boat.

8. The safety boat may be operated only under the supervision of a Skipper, a Key-rated member, or a Basic-rated member who has passed the safety boat and capsize portions of the Key rating.

9. All persons, including guests, using club boats and sailboards must be able to swim fifty yards.
10. Members and guests must follow all applicable federal, state, and local boating laws, including, but not limited to:
   a) boats shall carry at least one USCG-approved life preserver (PFD) for each occupant.
   b) children under age 6 must wear a USCG approved Type I or Type II PFD while in a boat.
   c) a boat that is 16 feet in length or longer shall carry at least one USCG-approved throwable floatation device (Type IV) such as a ring buoy or cushion.
   d) boats shall stay clear of all swimmers and skin divers. The presence of divers in an area is indicated by either a red flag with a diagonal white stripe (Michigan usage) or by the International A (left half white, right half blue with triangle cutout).
   e) boats shall adhere to all applicable nautical right-of-way rules.

Note: this is not an exhaustive list, and is based on the regulations as they exist in spring 2014.

11. All boat school participants must wear a USCG-approved life preserver (PFD) while in the boats.

12. When a red flag is displayed, all occupants of the boats and sailboards shall wear USCG-approved life preservers (PFDs).

13. Sailboats and sailboards shall not be sailed out of sight of the club dock.

14. Sailboats and sailboards shall not land at any place other than the club, except in case of an emergency.

15. Spinnaker and trapeze gear shall be used only with a Skipper or Key-rated member in the boat, or with explicit permission from a Skipper.

16. Exemptions for Sailing Team members: during team practice and regattas
   a) they may sail without obtaining a rating,
   b) they do not have to sign-out their boats,
   c) they may sail without shore support, and
   d) they may sail in winds above 15 knots without a skipper present.

17. The club shall be open for open sailing during weekly club racing.

18. The last person to use a boat or sailboard shall unrig it.

19. Skipper and Key members may deny boating privileges at their discretion.

20. The Michigan Sailing Club recommends that all persons wear a life vest (PFD) while in boats or on the dock.

COMMUNICATIONS

21. Sails shall be lowered to request assistance.

22. All boats shall immediately return to the dock when any of the following signals are given:
   a) five blasts of the horn,
   b) five rings of the bell, or,
   c) at night, the blinking of lights on the dock.

23. When a striped maize-and-blue flag is displayed, each boat shall be unrigged when it returns to the dock.
ON SHORE OPERATIONS

24. Alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine, are strictly prohibited at the club.

25. No smoking is allowed in the club buildings, on the docks, or in the boats.

26. No pets are allowed at the club.

27. No private boats or gear shall be stored in the club buildings.

28. No grinding or sanding of fiberglass shall be done in the club buildings.

29. Trespassing on the UM property west of the club is strictly prohibited.

MISCELLANEOUS

30. Only Skippers, Key members, and members with explicit permission from the Executive Board may receive or possess keys to club equipment.

31. Club boats and sailboards may not be sailed anywhere except at Base Line Lake, except with explicit permission of the Executive Board.

32. Non-members do not hold club ratings. If a rated member lets his or her membership lapse for one year or less, their rating shall be re-instated upon rejoining. If more than a year, their rating shall be re-instated at a level one rank lower for each full year of inactivity.

RULES FOR MINORS

33. Children under age eighteen shall be supervised by a parent or other adult at all times.

34. No person under age eighteen may possess keys to the club or hold the club open for sailing.

35. All children under age 6 must wear a USCG approved Type I or Type II PFD while in a boat.

AMENDMENTS

36. These rules may be amended or modified by majority vote of the members at a Business Meeting.