

Michigan Sailing Club  
Club Rules – New Draft  
April 4, 2009

This document is a new draft of the Rules of the UM Sailing Club. It is intended to replace the rules as published in The Michigan Sailor, as augmented by rules passed by various Executive Boards since The Michigan Sailor was last printed.

It was approved on April 2, 2008, by a club meeting of 17 members. We mailed postcards as for a business meeting, but a quorum of 21 members did not attend.

## BOATING OPERATIONS

1. No one may sail unless:
  - a) A skipper or, in winds of fifteen knots or less, a helm-key rated member, is present;
  - b) a member checked out on the safety boat is available to keep watch and operate it;
  - c) a safety boat is ready for use.
2. 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 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.
3. The safety boat may be operated only under the supervision of a skipper, a helm-rated member, or a crew-rated member who has passed the safety boat and capsize portions of the helm rating.
4. The safety boat provides assistance at the discretion of members trained in its operation. Joy-riding is prohibited.
5. All persons, including guests, using club boats and sailboards must be able to swim fifty yards.
6. Except with explicit permission of a skipper:
  - a) No boat shall be sailed without a rated member aboard;
  - b) No boat shall be sailed without a person eighteen years or older aboard.
7. Each boat shall carry at least one USCG-approved life preserver (PFD) for each occupant.
8. Each boat that is 16 feet in length or longer shall carry at least one USCG-approved throwable flotation device (Type IV) such as a ring buoy or cushion.
9. All boat school participants must wear a USCG-approved life preserver (PFD) while in the boats.
10. When a red flag is displayed, all occupants of the boats and sailboards shall wear life preservers.
11. Sailboats and sailboards shall not be sailed out of sight of the club dock.
12. Sailboats and sailboards shall not land at any place other than the club, except in case of an emergency.
13. Trapeze gear shall be used only with a member who has passed the trapeze portion of the Skipper rating in the boat, or with explicit permission from a Skipper.
14. Spinnaker gear shall be used only with a Skipper or Helm--rated member in the boat, or with explicit permission from a Skipper.
15. The club shall be considered open for open sailing during racing. If only one safety boat is rigged and

available the operator shall monitor all club boats, whether racing or not, and shall provide assistance at their discretion.

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

17. Skipper and helm-key members may deny boating privileges at their discretion

#### COMMUNICATIONS

18. Sails shall be lowered to request assistance.

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

20. When a dotted maize--and--blue flag is displayed, no person shall sail longer than 45 minutes.

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

#### RULES OF THE ROAD

22. Club sailboats and sailboards shall stay clear of other community boats and boards at all times. They shall adhere to the nautical right--of--way rules described on page~\pageref{`rowrulestoc`}.

23. Club sailboats and sailboards 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).

#### ON SHORE OPERATIONS

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

25. No smoking is allowed in the boathouse, 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 boathouse.

28. No fiberglass work shall be done in the boathouse.

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

#### MISCELLANEOUS

30. Only Skippers, Helm--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 becomes a non-member for four full terms (approximately 16 months), he or she may be reduced one rank by the executive board.

#### 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. All children under age 6 must also wear a PFD on the dock unless engaged in supervised swimming activities.