

Dear Northwest Youth Racing Circuit Families,

There have been major improvements made to the Northwest Youth Racing Circuit (NWYRC). Please read further to learn more about the details. The Notice of Series can be [found here](#). Please try and register two weeks ahead of each event to make sure the organizers are the best prepared and keep costs low.

FJ Circuit

We are really excited to announce that we have built an FJ Circuit, parallel to the rest of the NWYRC! There will be two events that are just for the FJs. This will allow for a better experience for these sailors. The sailors that race FJs in the NWYRC need a different experience. Programs have been struggling to have enough coaches and coach boats to coach the two Opti fleets, 3 ILCA fleets, c420s, and FJs. As a result the FJs were not getting the coaching they deserve. With their own regattas, they will now be able to get better instruction and more focus from their coaches.

The FJs need different racing conditions than the other fleets. Having two separate events will allow PROs to set up races in better FJ conditions, this will also allow coaches to better manage their teams and keep them safe.

The final event of the series will be Octoberfest, bringing all the fleets together to celebrate the summer and everyone's accomplishments.

Membership

The Northwest Youth Racing Circuit is implementing an annual membership. This is a mandatory membership, much like regional racing circuits across the country. This membership helps pay for improvements as participation grows in the NWYRC.

The membership will be free for Green Fleet sailors and \$50 for all other fleets. After August 12th, the membership fee will be reduced 50%, for sailors joining the circuit at the end of the season. At membership registration, fee waivers will be available for sailors on scholarship. [Become a member today!](#)

Fun fact: Since the onset of The Sailing Foundation's leadership of the NWRYC in 2015, participation has more than doubled! 379 participants in 2014 to 838 participants in 2023!

Scoring

Crews

In an effort to recognize all the hard work that crews are doing in the boat, we will be scoring crews separately from their skippers. Previously crews have been listed beside their skippers in the circuit standings, without indicating which scores they contributed to. Under the new system they will have their own score sheet and will be able to move up the ranks, even if they switch skippers.

Drops

The series scores are tabulated to drop a sailor's worst regatta. We want to encourage people to go on summer vacation!

Code of Conduct

All participants are agreeing to a code of conduct. This Code of Conduct extends to support persons (guardians, family, guests, coaches, etc). It is about respecting each other and keeping everyone emotionally and physically safe.

Damage

Please remember that when there is damage to a boat due to a collision it is expected that there will be a protest filed. This means that there will be a panel of adults who are well versed in the rules who will decide who is at fault for the collision. If your sailor is found at fault for the collision, it is expected that you will pay for the repairs.

Crashes are part of learning, no one will hold it against a sailor if they own up to their mistake, but repair bills still need to be paid. Part of going sailing is knowing your limits and making the decision whether or not to go sailing if you think you cannot maintain control over your sailboat.

Coaching

It is strongly advised that all the sailors participating in the NWYRC have a coach on the water.

The Sailing Foundation is no longer able to provide free coaching to sailors who are not able to bring a coach. At most events coaching will be offered for a subsidized fee, to sign up, fill out [this questionnaire](#). Email ysd@thesailingfoundation.org for information on how to get a scholarship to cover this fee.

Depending on who signs up for coaching first, The Sailing Foundation's Youth Sailing Director, will either coach Opti champ fleet and c420s, **or** ILCAs. At the FJ only regatta on Van Lake, the FJs will be offered coaching.

We look forward to a fun and fast 2024 Northwest Youth Racing Circuit! If you have any questions please reach out to Solvig Sayre, The Sailing Foundation Youth Sailing Director, at ysd@thesailingfoundation.org or Erin Timms, The Sailing Foundation Vice President at e.timms@comcast.net. Thank you for all your support,

Youth Advisory Committee,
Erin Timms (Chair)

Haley Lhamon, Ramesh Parameswaran, Tanya Starke, Burke Thomas, Mike Visser, Andrew Nelson