

## **Parent & Sailor Orientation, JUNE 6 7:00pm SPEECH**

Good evening, thank you for coming to tonight's PLSS Orientation. For those that do not know, my name is Emlie Veinot. I am so excited to start my 4<sup>th</sup> summer at PLSS! Before we get into this, I would first like to recognize and thank the PLSS Board for all their hard work in the off season to get us here today. Board members please stand.

Mike Boland- President

Heather Evans - Vice President

Megan Wilfert – Secretary

Ty Gutenkunst- Treasurer

Kate Manhart

Mike Berkowitz

Jen Barker

Greg Simon

Fritz Good

Mark Cooper

INTRODUCE INSTUCTORS: I would like to take a minute and introduce our amazing group of instructors we have lined up for this season. After I introduce each class, sailors will be asked to go with your class.

Kinderprams: Gloria Tornehl, Anneliese LeRoy, Ava Kiss, Elizabeth Allen

Beg. Opti: Gloria Tornehl, Anneliese LeRoy, Willis Platten, Charlie Bruss, Elizabeth Allen, Ava Kiss

Step 2: Ella Schieble, Kamron Kaiser, Megan Isabell, David Kiss

Inter. Opti: Red Tornehl, Sam Spencer, Johnny Dempsey

Adv. Opti: Jack Schweda, John Lieber

X-boat: Jack Schweda, Sam Spencer, Red Tornehl, Ella Schieble

420: Christian Cushman, Cole Schweda

O'pen Skiff: Cole Schweda, David Kiss

***Send sailors and instructors outside play.***

TALK WITH PARENTS: I'm very excited to be here as your Program Director for my 4<sup>th</sup> summer and both of my children will be in the full program this summer in the afternoon Beginner and Step 2 class.

I'll try to make this short, but I'd like to take a few moments to point out the NEED-TO-KNOW information

### **1) Parent Handbook:**

Our Parent Handbook is an EXTREMELY useful guide which I strongly encourage you to read yourselves

and with your sailors.

- what to bring the first day of class
- Code of conduct & Parent and Sailor expectations
- Frequently Asked Questions
- sailing glossary

2) **First Day of the Program: June 13**

Sailors will need to arrive and have on SUNSCREEN, hat/visor and sunglasses, lifejacket EVERYDAY. On the first day your child MUST bring with them Swimsuit, towel, and change of clothes in preparation for the swim check. We encourage sailors to bring a refillable water bottle. The younger sailors are welcome to bring a small snack, please do not bring anything with nuts! Each sailor will get a PLSS summer program t-shirt on the first day.

3) **Parent of the Day:** Each parent is responsible for 1 parent of the day shift. There is a Parent of the Day Schedule already made on the side table, also found online. Please find your day and mark your calendar. If you cannot do your day, it is your responsibility to switch with someone. Parent of the day responsibilities are also found in your handbook. There are 2 shifts: AM from 9:00-12:00 or PM from 1:00-4:00. Please take this seriously as we are counting on you for safety!

4) **Calendar:** Please go to the [www.plss.org](http://www.plss.org) website and keep an eye on the calendar. There are a lot of events and activities happening to be aware of. This is a fluid calendar, so check back often. Wednesday, August 3 will be our end of the summer celebration/Trophy Night so make sure to plan on that.

5) **Regattas:** On the side table there is a list and explanation of regattas for the Optimist and the X-boaters. Please start to plan regattas now, if you haven't done so already. There is a google spreadsheet on each of the classes homepage for parents to mark which regatta their sailors are planning to attend. This is ONLY for PLSS planning purpose and also must register/paid for each regatta. This will help planning number of coaches and if classes will still be held here.

**We would really like to encourage our Optimist sailors to participate in regattas this summer.** There is a list of great Green Fleet regattas for our Step 2 sailors. We will help teach how to put an Optimist on the trailer, tow it to regattas and coaches can help unload and assist throughout the day. Intermediate and advance Optimist sailors should be planning on attending most, if not all, of the regattas this summer!

6) **Communication:** As you can see, I like to communicate what is happening. To do this, we will utilize:

- 1) A weekly Newsletter through Mailchimp. Check junk mail if not currently receiving. Monthly throughout the year.

- 2) Email classes with regatta or important class specific updates.
- 3) The app Statwack. This will allow us to get information out quickly if weather comes in, change of plans, etc. I will do my best to be proactive; however, I need all of you to join each team you are involved in. Find Statwack in your apps, and look for PLSS Opti, PLSS X-boat, or PLSS 420.
- 7) **Class Lists (on whiteboard) & Class Formats:** We have a full program this summer and to help get sailors on the water, especially in the mornings, we ask the Advance Optimist to be rigged and launched by 9am. Intermediate Optimist be rigged by 9am. Step 2, Beginners, and Kinderprams can come at your start time, either 9am or 1pm and instructors can help you rig. X-boat parents, sailors can either tow boats here or sailors can rig prior to class and leave at your house. Come by powerboat for meeting, then quickly return home to meet on the water.
- 8) **Optimist Safety Checklist-** All privately owned Optimists, please take one of these forms and fill out PRIOR to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the program to make sure your boats are ready to go! Instructors will also look over boats, but this will make the first day so much smoother.
- 9) **SAFETY:** Speaking of safety, we have updated all coach boat's to now include a new Engine Cut-Off Device, called Lifecords. Prop Guards are also installed on all boats, Lifejackets will be worn by all coaches and sailors on the water at all times. We also recently trained many of the X-boat sailors in 1<sup>st</sup> aid, CPR and AED. Lifecords, an upgraded kill cord and Prop guards are not just for program use, they can also enhance the safety of your private boats. We have Lifecords, prop guards, and life jackets for sale here tonight. Take a look and talk with my lovely assistant!
- 10) PLSS Apparel is sold on the website:** buy online- long sleeve dry-fit shirts, hats, t-shirts, and sweatshirts. You can get your name and sail # on the back.

**To wrap this up, our main goal is to provide the BEST instruction and a SAFE on and off the water environment all while having a BLAST every day. I will be available for questions, please look at the gear swap and the lifecords are for sale! You can now retrieve your sailors from their instructors. Have a great rest of your evening.**