

Acton Action

January Edition

(Winter Dreamer Issue)



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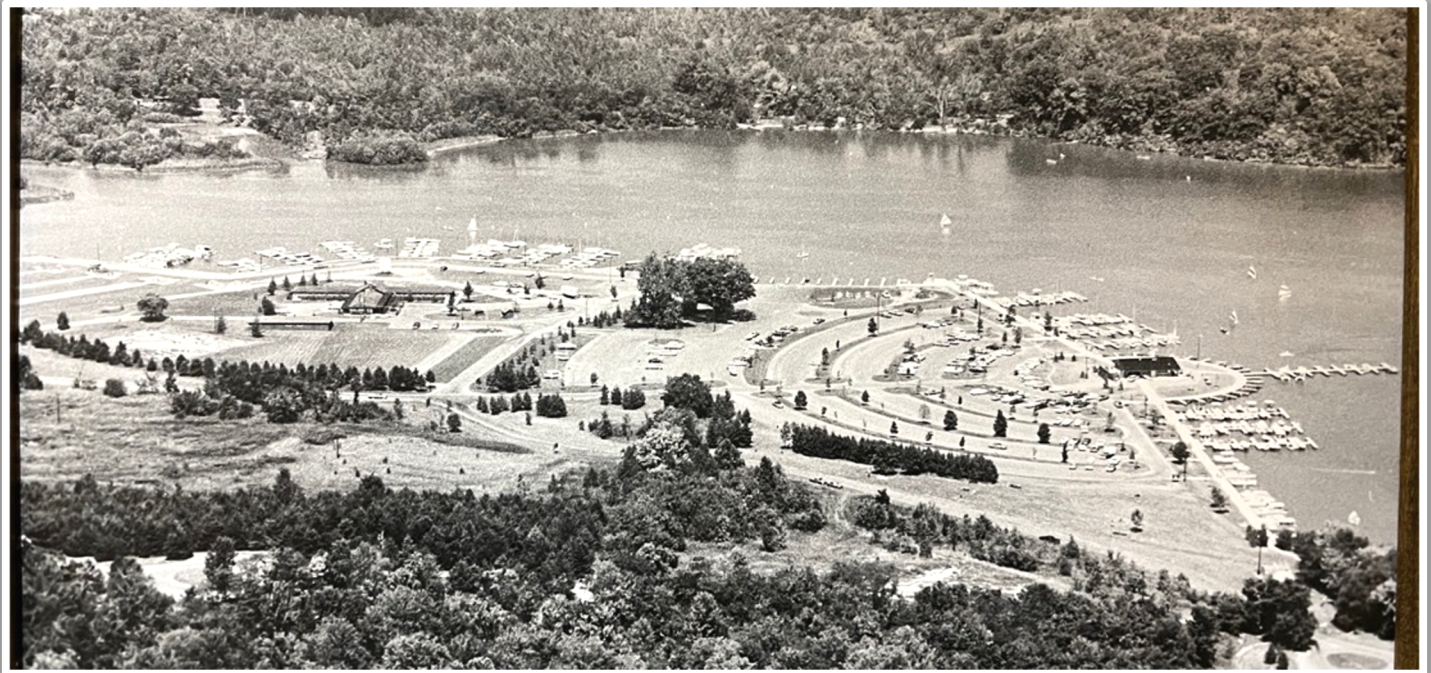
...and much much more!

Volume 68 Issue 01



January 11, 2024

Save the Dates: Rare Hueston Woods State Park Events!



Hueston Woods Park Manager, Kathryn Conner, recently shared with us some upcoming, and rare, park events. Mark your calendars and get ready for one of their most popular annual events, and an event that won't happen again in our lifetimes. Catch them before they are gone, like the old north docks in this photo.

Maple Syrup Festival: The 58th annual Maple Syrup Festival will return to Hueston Woods on two weekends; March 2nd/3rd and March 9th/10th. The lodge will put on its all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast and you can tour the Hueston Woods Sugar House. They will also put on a great hayride and some guided hikes!

Total Solar Eclipse: The state of Ohio says it is gearing up for a total solar eclipse on April 8th: "The last total solar eclipse in Ohio was in 1806. The next total solar eclipse in Ohio will be in the year 2099!" Lodging and campsites are already filling up so make your reservations now for that special April weekend!



Beverages and Boats 2024 Dates!

Mark your calendars! It is now 2024 and that means a new season lies just ahead. Our fall rules and tactics sessions with Dave Dellenbaugh went very well with nearly thirty members participating. We want to continue that training and social connection in the winter as we begin to anticipate the arrival of racing and fellowship on the water in April.

So, we are announcing the 2024 edition of ***Beverages and Boats***. We will meet at **Hueston Woods Lodge** for lunch at 12:30 in the restaurant followed by a strategy and tactics lesson featuring training videos by Sunfish champion and Olympics coach Mike Ingham. Here is the proposed schedule:

Saturday, **January 20** - Light Wind Lake Sailing 26:18

Saturday, **February 3** - How to Position for Wind Shadows 30:15

Saturday, **February 17** - Pressure vs Shift 20:29

Saturday, **March 2** - Lake Sailing in Big Breeze 30:00

Saturday, **March 23** - Tiller Technique 23:02

Saturday, **April 6** - Second Beat Strategy 21:42

These are all videos featuring Mike Ingham, the Sunfish/J70 champion. that he does for *Sailing World* magazine called "Sailboat Racing Tips". There are several of these he has done with Sailing World's Dave Reed but these are the ones we think would be best for our group. They are all 30 minutes long or less so we should be done by 2:30 or so.

Our club's veteran sailors will be on hand to add to the discussion as we prepare for yet another amazing racing season.

Let us know if you will attend on January 20th as the restaurant would like to know how many to prepare for. **RSVP** by responding to mastratton44@gmail.com. See you at the lake in January! Mike and Them



Sailing Superstitions (<https://sailing-blog.nauticed.org/top-10-sailing-superstitions/>)

Watch Your Step! Superstition dictates that you should never step onboard a boat with your left foot. One's left foot was associated with the devil so stepping onto a boat with your left foot would bring bad luck. Starting the journey with/on the right foot was key for a good voyage.

Whistle a Tune? Mariners believed that whistling challenged the wind who would therefore get angered and cause bad weather and stir up the sea. Whistling or singing into the wind would 'whistle up a storm.'

Bad Luck Bananas. Bringing bananas on board a ship is considered very bad luck. Ships used to transport bananas from tropical areas. Sailors would find out that deadly spiders often took shelter in the banana bunches as a hiding spot. Spider bites causes sailors to suddenly die.

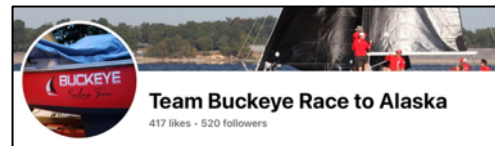
Race to Alaska, June 2024



The *Race to Alaska* movie is a visceral experience. After chronicling the race for 5 years, R2AK Film Boss Zach Carver and his team of filmmakers have turned the race into a film. Stream it here: <https://r2akthemovie.com>

Filled with suspense and humor, the film is an account of people with larger-than-life personalities testing themselves, and pulling through, time and again. The film leapfrogs from racer to racer, boat to boat, as racers journey up the Inside Passage to Alaska. The landscape in this part of the world is freshly carved by glaciers, and burnished by salt and wind. Coastal mountains meet deep, icy water laden with fierce currents. Boats break, teams drop out, racers fix broken masts and pedal-drives on the fly.

And yes, brave Buckeyes competed in 2018 and 2023!



750 mile Race to Alaska as explained by R2AK Organizers...

The inside passage to Alaska has been paddled by native canoes since time immemorial, sailing craft for centuries, and after someone found gold in the Klondike the route was jammed with steamboats full of prospectors elbowing each other out of the way for the promise of fortune. It's in the spirit of tradition, exploration, and self-reliance that Race to Alaska was born in 2015. R2AK is the first of its kind and North America's longest human and wind powered race, and currently the largest cash prize for a race of its kind.

This isn't for everyone

It's like the Iditarod, on a boat, with a chance of drowning, being run down by a freighter, or eaten by a grizzly bear. There are squalls, killer whales, tidal currents that run upwards of 20 miles an hour, and some of the most beautiful scenery on earth.

The hardest kind of simplicity

You, a boat, a starting gun. \$10,000 if you finish first, a set of steak knives if you're second. Cathartic elation if you can simply complete the course. R2AK is a self-supported race with no supply drops and no safety net. Any boat without an engine can enter.

Stage 1: The Proving Ground, June 9th 2024 start

Port Townsend, WA to Victoria, BC (40 miles)

R2AK starts with an initial jaunt across open water, two sets of shipping lanes, and an international border. While not a race in itself, the Proving Ground is designed as a qualifier for the full race and as a stand-alone 40 mile sprint for people who just want to put their toe in. If you want to be a part of R2AK but don't have the time or inclination for the full race- join for a full day of all out racing across some of the biggest water in the course. Racers continuing on will clear Canadian customs in Victoria. Stage one finishers get to bask in the glory for a full day and a half.

Stage 2: To the Bitter End, June 12th 2024 start

Victoria, BC to Ketchikan, AK (710 miles)

Racers start in Victoria at high noon on the Wednesday after the Stage 1 start and continue until they reach Ketchikan—or are tapped out by the sweep boat. Other than two waypoints—at Seymour Narrows and Bella Bella—there is no official course. To quote the bard, *You can go your own way*. If this sounds like your brand of whiskey, R2AK is the race for you.

Reprinted SNAX, The Sailing Newsletter Article eXchange...

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A Handicap Approach

by Roger Patterson as seen in *Bow Wave* (Lido 14)

Does your fleet come up with the "same old winners"? Do you have a frequent contributor to the cost of trophies for a regatta, but one who is left to applaud for someone else's expertise in sailing? Is your fleet frustrated with the A - B system? Are there those who always seem to be too good to sail with the B's, but not good enough to compete effectively with the A's? Are sailors in your regatta more competitive in one venue? Or with one particular crew person? Or with a particular kind of sailing condition?

Sailing World had an article recently about how golf has expanded its cadre of followers through its handicap system. So how to make it work in competition one-design sailing?

There are probably dozens of ways to implement the idea... but this one is the one we tried at the Lido 14 Skinner Lake Regatta in June.

It Worked!!!

For that regatta we had 18 boats... with a wide diversity of talent and experience. There were just enough boats to comfortably start from a single starting line. The essential idea of the regatta was to get everyone to become better acquainted, so we elected to have the As and the Bs start together. Our budget allowed for 6 sets of trophies: not to abandon tradition, we allotted 4 sets of trophies for the winners and runner-ups of the A and B Fleets. The other 2 sets of trophies we allocated for the handicap scoring.

Here is what we did:

1. We selected a representative from each participating fleet to act as a panel of experts. This panel was assigned the task of predicting the finishing place in the regatta of each boat while scoring all the boats without regard to their A or B classification.
2. We sailed six races with one throwout, leaving each competitor with his best five scores.
3. Each boat was given a handicap "penalty," computed based on the inverse of its predicted finishing position. For example, the boat with the poorest predicted finish received a handicap of (1) for each of the five total races, a total of (5) points. The boat with the best predicted finishing position received a handicap of (18) times (5), a total of (90), etc.
4. At the scoring, the assigned handicap was added to the actual total point that each boat had accumulated in the regatta, and the winners were calculated from low point scoring otherwise computed.
5. Winners and runners-up in the As and Bs were disqualified from participation in trophy awards for the handicap.
6. Trophies were awarded for the two boats with the lowest total points including the addition of the penalty handicap after the disqualification of the A and B trophies.

The results... Sailors, who sailed much better than anyone believed they could, received a trophy for their improvement. Isn't that the kind of award we need to encourage up and coming sailing teams? Try it - you'll like it.

Winter Reflections

HENRY
DAVID
THOREAU



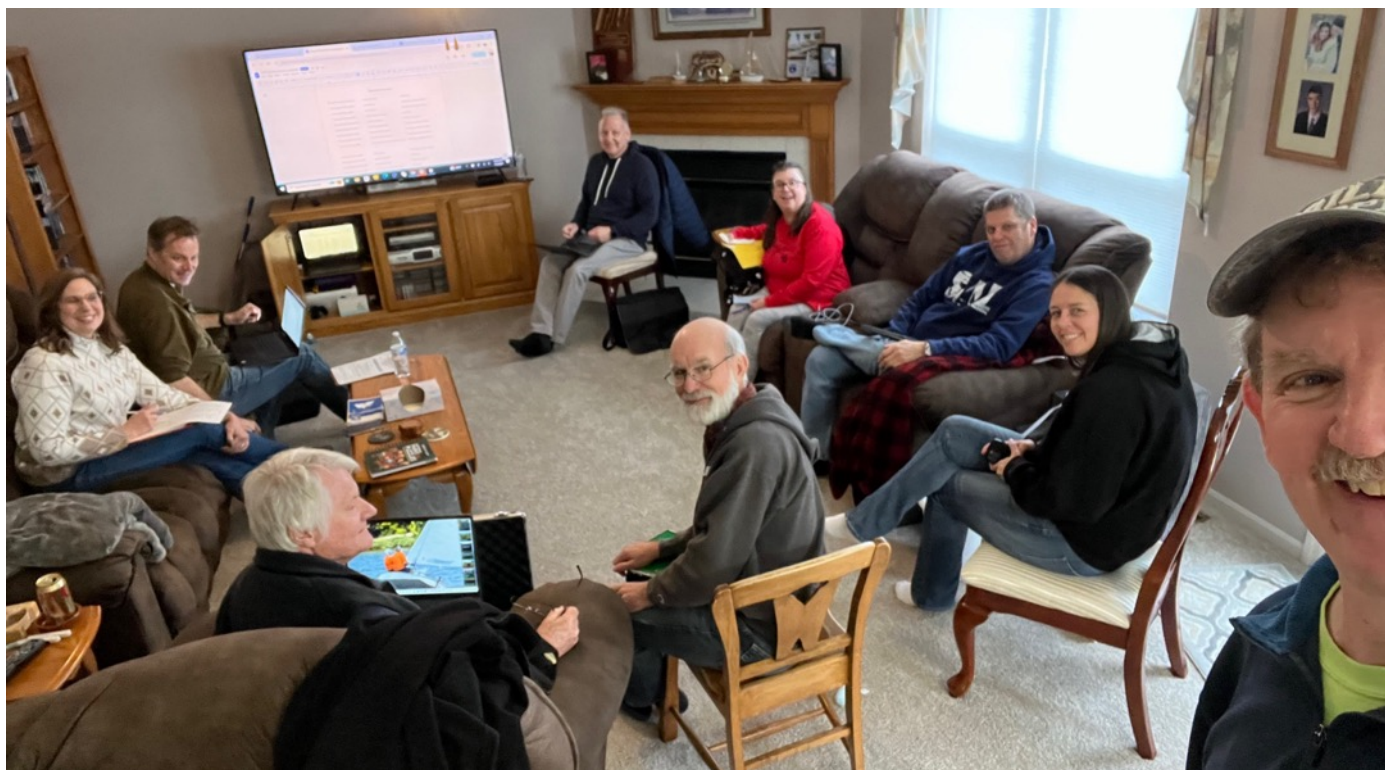
WALDEN

In 1845, Henry David Thoreau went to live by Walden Pond, a sixty-acre pond near Concord Massachusetts. He built a little cabin on land owned by his friend Ralph Waldo Emerson and lived alone there two years to reflect and write on the "essential facts of life."

He subsequently published *Walden*, also known as *Life in the Woods* in 1854 in a series of 18 essays. The winter time descriptions of the pond and its effect on him are worth mentioning here as HSA members reflect this winter on Acton Lake and its role in our lives. "*The winter is the time for study, for contemplation, for the gathering of the soul into itself.*"

During his two-years of observation and self-reflection he learned "*If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.*" And "*...if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours.*" So, visit Acton Lake this winter and reflect on your dreams!

Executive Committee Highlights from January 7th Meeting



Commodore – Amy Marks amymarks00@gmail.com
Vice Commodore – Darrilynn Brewster luytoreadmom@gmail.com
Rear Commodore – Bill Molleran bill.molleran@gmail.com
Treasurer – Roger Henthorn rrh2699@gmail.com
Secretary – Dom Everaet Dominiek.Everaet@esko.com
Harbor Master – Don Fecher dfexskip@aol.com
Past Commodore – Laura Peters petersle1@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor – Joe Fulford fulford.joseph@gmail.com
Sailing Instructor Coordinator – Brett Hart brettrhart@aol.com



On Sunday January 7th, Vice Commodore, Darrilynn Brewster, hosted HSA's Executive Committee for its annual winter meeting. Everyone on the Committee was able to attend. After catching up over a wonderful lunchtime spread, the Committee reconvened in front of a large display to review everything from Finances to Safety to Cruisers and of course the 2024 Calendar. Here are the highlights:

Finances: The Committee got an update on membership dues, regatta income and educational program fees as well as costs for maintenance, operations, trophies, admin, and social programs. The club's educational programs ensured finances ran in the black in '23 although significant expense are expected in '24 with repairs to the rescue/committee boats. An increase in membership dues from \$105 to \$120 per year was approved as were refurb expenditures for our O'Day 22 and our Sunfish & Capri fleets.

Safety: The Committee reviewed safety language in the Directory and will update it to be more clear about safety expectations. For the early spring races, water temperatures will be monitored via a new committee boat sensor and for summer races, a lightning detector will be installed for enhanced safety.

Cruiser Community: HSA will add a separate Cruiser start to Sunday races if three or more big boats are present. It will also add informal outdoor social events with cruiser sailors at least monthly in the warmer summer months. All agreed that HSA cruisers, whether they race or not, are super cool people.

HSA Racing Calendar for 2024

Saturday, April 20, 2024	Launch Boats	All Fleets
Sunday, April 28, 2024	1st Spring	All Fleets
Sunday, May 5, 2024	2nd Spring	All Fleets
Sunday, May 12, 2024	3rd Spring	All Fleets
Saturday, May 18, 2024	Intro to Sailing	Public Program
Sunday, May 19, 2024	4th Spring (potluck)	All Fleets
Sunday, May 26, 2024	Memorial Day Series	All Fleets
Monday, May 27, 2024	Memorial Day Series	All Fleets
Sunday, June 2, 2024	Sunfish Regatta	Sunfish
Sunday, June 9, 2024	5th Spring	All Fleets
Sunday, June 16, 2024	Special Fun Sail	All Fleets
Saturday, June 22, 2024	Intro to Sailing	Public Program
Saturday, June 22, 2024	Evening Sail with full moon	All Fleets
Sunday, June 23, 2024	6th Spring	All Fleets
Sunday, June 30, 2024	4 th of July Series (potluck)	All Fleets
Thursday, July 4, 2024	4 th of July Series	All Fleets
Sunday, July 7, 2024	7th Spring	All Fleets
Sunday, July 14, 2024	Camptown Races Sunfish Regatta	Sunfish
Monday, July 15, 2024	Junior Sailing Camp	Sunfish
Tuesday, July 16, 2024	Junior Sailing Camp	Sunfish
Wednesday, July 17, 2024	Junior Sailing Camp	Sunfish
Saturday, July 20, 2024	Intro to Sailing	Public Program
Sunday, July 21, 2024	1st Fall (Brunch)	All Fleets
Sunday, July 28, 2024	2nd Fall	All Fleets
Sunday, August 4, 2024	3rd Fall	All Fleets

Sunday, August 11, 2024	4th Fall	All Fleets
Saturday, August 17, 2024	Intro to Sailing	Public Program
Sunday, August 18, 2024	Augusto! Sunfish Regatta	Sunfish
Sunday, August 25, 2024	CruiserFest (Fish Fry)	Cruisers
Sunday, September 1, 2024	Labor Day Series	All Fleets
Monday, September 2, 2024	Labor Day Series	All Fleets
Sunday, September 8, 2024	5th Fall (Potluck)	All Fleets
Saturday, September 14, 2024	Sailing Experience	Public Program
Sunday, September 15, 2024	6th Fall	All Fleets
Sunday, September 22, 2024	Around The Lake Race	All fleets
Sunday, September 29, 2024	7th Fall	All Fleets
Sunday, October 6, 2024	OktoberFast Sunfish Regatta	Sunfish
Saturday, October 12, 2024	Haul Out & Lunch	All Fleets
Saturday, November 2, 2024	Banquet	

HSA 2024 Social Calendar

Saturday, April 20, 2024	Launch Boats	Hueston Room
Sunday, May 19, 2024	May Potluck	Hueston Room
Sunday, June 30, 2024	June Potluck	Hueston Room
Sunday, July 14, 2023	Juniors Sailing Camp	Hueston Room
Monday, July 15, 2023	Juniors Sailing Camp	Hueston Room
Tuesday, July 16, 2024	Juniors Sailing Camp	Hueston Room
Wednesday, July 17, 2024	Juniors Sailing Camp	Hueston Room
Sunday, July 21, 2024	HSA Brunch	Hueston Room
Sunday, September 8, 2024	September Potluck	Hueston Room
Saturday, October 12, 2024	Haul Out Lunch	Hueston Room
Saturday, November 2, 2024	Awards Banquet	Barn & Bunk (Trenton)

US Sailing News and Quiz



As a member of US Sailing, HSA receives their “Weekly Lift” email news and info. This month we have a bit of news on US Olympic Team Trials in Miami FL (for Paris Summer games 26 July – 11 August, with Sailing competition at Marseille Marina) and a quiz excerpt.



U.S. OLYMPIC TEAM TRIALS

SAILING

STANDINGS DAY 5 OF 8

TOP 3 IN EACH CLASS • JAN 10



MIXED 470

RESERVE DAY, NO RACING

1	Stuart McNay & Lara Dallman-Weiss	11
2	Carmen Cowles & David Hughes	13
3	Louisa Nordstrom & Trevor Bornarth	14



49ER

1	Ian Barrows & Hans Henken	17
2	Andrew Mollerus & Ian MacDiarmid	17
3	Nevin Snow & Mac Agnese	24



MEN'S IQFOIL

RESERVE DAY, NO RACING

1	Noah Lyons	18
2	Geronimo Nores	19
3	Alex Temko	35



MEN'S KITE

1	Markus Edegran	20
2	Kai Calder	22
3	Noah Runciman	30



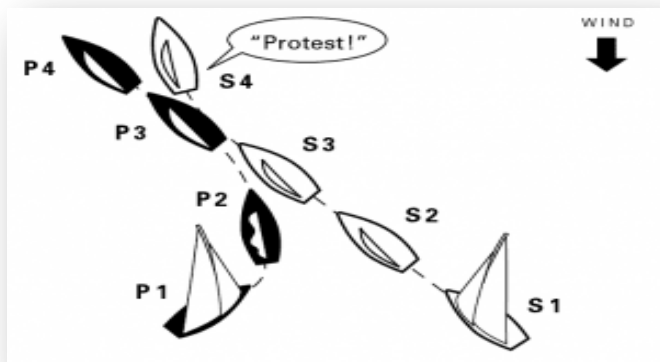
WOMEN'S IQFOIL

RESERVE DAY, NO RACING

1	Dominique Stater	17
2	Bryn Muller	19
3	Anna Weis	29

Quiz Question:

Boats P (on port tack) and S (on starboard tack) are beating to windward. P tacks into a position just in front of S. When P reaches a close-hauled course, she is a few feet clear ahead of S. S, who has not needed to change course prior to that moment to avoid P, immediately luffs above a close-hauled course, avoids contact and protests. You are on the protest committee: how do you decide this?




Answer:

S's protest is dismissed; neither boat breaks a rule. While P is on port tack she is required to keep clear of S by rule 10, On Opposite Tacks. While P is tacking, she is required to keep clear of S from the moment she passes head to wind until she reaches a close-hauled course by rule 13, While Tacking. A boat “keeps clear” if the right-of-way boat can sail her course with no need to take avoiding action (see the definition Keep Clear). S does not need to take any avoiding action before P reaches a close-hauled course. When P reaches a close-hauled course, rule 13 ceases to apply and P is the right-of-way boat under rule 12, On the Same Tack, Not Overlapped. Because she acquired the right of way by her actions, P is required to give S room to keep clear of her by rule 15, Acquiring Right of Way. S is able to avoid P in a seamanlike way; therefore P complies with rule 15.



(This quiz was excerpted from *Dave Perry's 100 Best Racing Rules Quizzes* available from US Sailing. For a comprehensive explanation of the rules, read Dave Perry's *Understanding the Racing Rules of Sailing through 2024*, which is also available from US Sailing. Permission to reprint this quiz for non commercial use is granted by the author.)

Wintertime Self Improvement Ideas!

Were you born on or after January 1st, 1982? Did you know that to legally operate our rescue boat or committee boat (or any power boat with a motor over 10 hp) you have to do one of two things: Complete a **free** on-line power boat course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) or pass a proficiency exam approved by the Ohio Division of Watercraft. Those with a few more miles under sail are encouraged to complete this course on boating safety also!



<https://boat.us.org/ohio/>



Let's Get Started! I want to...

[Find My Certificate](#)

[Return To Course](#)

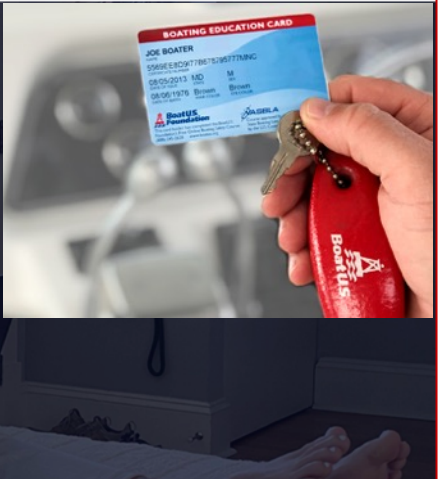
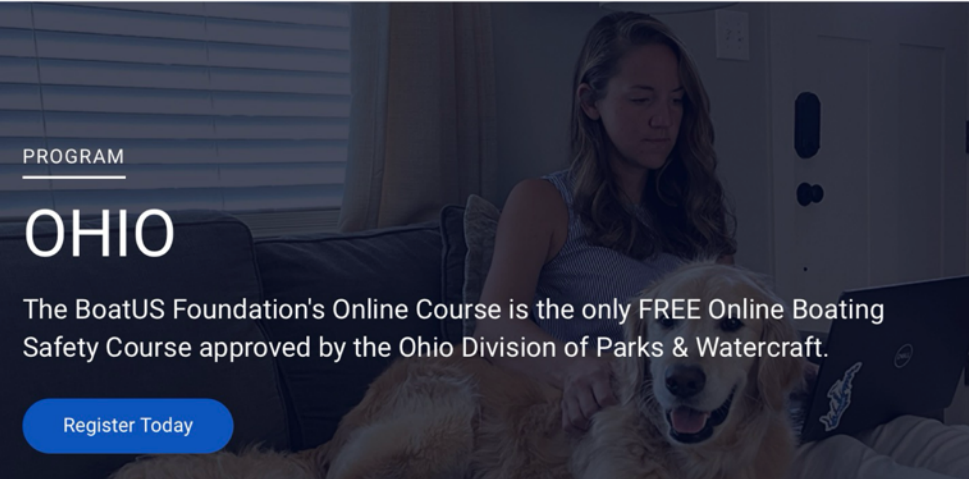
[Register For Course](#)

PROGRAM

OHIO

The BoatUS Foundation's Online Course is the only FREE Online Boating Safety Course approved by the Ohio Division of Parks & Watercraft.

[Register Today](#)





From our Public Programs Coordinator for our just graduated Learn-to-Sail and Jr Camp sailors...

Check out the November 2023 HSA Newsletter covering our end-of-season banquet:
<http://www.huestonsailing.com/Newsletter/Vol67-Issue07-final.pdf>

Check out some Sunfish YouTube videos:
<https://youtu.be/A-ikweQ5K9A>
<https://youtu.be/KlqgSknVeec>
<https://youtu.be/-gftSJeq50c>

Complete ASA's free sailing online class:
<https://asa.com/free-online-sailing-course/>

Try your hand at animated knots:
<https://www.animatedknots.com>

Review different points of sailing:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ow-P45DpHj8>

See if you know your sailing terms:
<https://www.lifeofsailing.com/post/sailing-terms>

