

Working Successfully with Parents in the Yacht Club Environment

Presented by:
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“Provide a structure where parents can have a positive influence”

1) IDENTIFY THE QUALITIES OF A GOOD PARENT

(and the corollary)

2) PARENT EXPECTATIONS

- a. Daily involvement...can they watch rig? hang around? race days
- b. Travel to away regattas
- c. Competitions with boats that need “crews”... commitment between families
- d. Others.....

3) POLICIES

- a. The three D's of policy making
 - i. Define
 - ii. Document
 - iii. Distribute
- b. Why do you make policy?
 - i. Define policy for any problem that may arise so it is easy to handle.
 - ii. Define policy for problems that have occurred and you do not want to occur again
 - iii. People will get mad at the policy and not you.
 - iv. Protect yourself (and support instructors)
 - v. If in tight situation, can always make exceptions
- c. Examples of policies

4) COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Initial contact w/ registration/ marketing materials
 - i. Mission statement
 - ii. Costs, times, boats etc
 - iii. Classes offered and curriculum description
 - iv. Frequently asked questions
 - v. Expectations
 - vi. Gear needed
 - vii. Instructor bios
 - viii. Committee contacts
- b. Parent Handbook
 - i. Policies... define document & distribute
 - ii. Mission statement/ goals of each class
 - iii. Committee
 - iv. Roster of students/ classes
 - v. History
 - vi. Communication hierarchy
 - vii. Juniors must read
 - viii. Parents must read
 - ix. Safety procedures and policies
 - x. Ethics and code of conduct
 - xi. Discipline
 - xii. Parent article
 - xiii. Expectation of involvement
 - xiv. Use of club owned boats
 - xv. Instructors
 - xvi. Calendar
 - xvii. Directions to clubs
 - xviii. Non member policy
 - xix. Age limits
 - xx. Class associations
 - xxi. Where to buy boat parts
 - xxii. Diagrams
 - xxiii. Travel guidelines
 - xxiv. Regatta checklist
 - xxv. Daily check list
 - xxvi. Rain/ bad weather policy
 - xxvii. Event descriptions
 - xxviii. Trophies and awards
 - xxix. Sailing terms
- c. Parent orientation meeting
- d. New Parent Buddy system
- e. Ongoing communication
- f. Follow-up after program
- g. Email? Web? Phone? Flyers?

5) OTHER

- a. Regular social functions... take parent sailing
- b. Parent education of the sport
- c. Parent of the Day program
- d. Thank the volunteers... visibility, newspaper

6) COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

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