

Ahoy Kids Set Sail Parents!

We are very excited to have your child enrolled in Kids Set Sail summer camp! Our Camp Director and Camp Counselors look forward to meeting your young mariner and getting out on the water!

Please review the following information carefully for how we will manage our program to assure a safe environment for your children.

Please make sure that your child comes to camp every day with the following:

1. A positive attitude and an open mind.
2. Refillable water bottle.
3. Towel.
4. Sunglasses and a hat. (Neither are required but are recommended.)
5. A change of clothes in the event of a rain shower. (We do not permit swimming, though we will have sprinklers running on super-hot days, so a swimsuit is fine for that activity but not required. Campers will change clothes inside our secured houseboat if needed.)
6. Sunscreen! We do not dispense sunscreen due to the potential for allergies, therefore, each camper is required to have their own bottle.
7. Lunch & Snacks (we have a refrigerator and coolers for perishables.) Please note that DC Sail does not supply food or beverages, other than ice water, so be sure to bring along what your camper will need for each day. "Food sharing" is not permitted by campers or staff.
8. Footwear: Shoes that you don't mind getting wet, but **NO LOOSE-FITTING SANDALS OR FLIP FLOPS!** Old sneakers or inexpensive water shoes are just perfect. We will permit sandals that cover the toes completely and have a heel strap, however, make sure the soles are rubber and not plastic. This requirement is for your child's safety as foot injuries are easy to experience and we wish to keep your camper safe on the docks and boats, especially in wet conditions.

Life Jackets:

All campers will be required to have their own personal life jackets. Life Jacket Resources: [Please click here](#) for an inexpensive option for youth life jackets. These are the same life jackets we would normally use for our Kids Set Sail sailors. It is less than \$20. You're welcome to shop for "sportier" models but this one is perfectly fine and meets all USCG guidelines. (For children who weigh more than 90 pounds, you'll want to shop for adult sized jackets ([please click here.](#)) There is a West Marine store in Alexandria that is open for foot traffic. [Please click here](#) for their location information. Other retailers may include [REI](#) or [Dick's Sporting Goods](#) as options. We recommend you contact their stores to inquire about available stock if not purchasing online. *(Please contact us if you are unable to purchase a life jacket due to finances. We may be able to assist you with a loaned life jacket for the week.)*

Health and Wellness Protocols:

If your child is not feeling well, they will not be permitted to attend and we will be unable to provide partial refunds for missed days during the week, which has always been our policy. Campers will have noncontact temperature screenings upon arrival and after lunch. Any student not feeling well or with a temperature will be isolated and sent home as soon as possible. If it is a case of a high temperature, they will be unable to return to camp for balance of the week.

Monday Through Thursday Drop Off and Pick-Up Times:

Drop Off: Between 9:30 AM and 10:00 AM

Pick Up: Between 3:45 PM and 4:00 PM

Friday Schedule:

For many years, we welcome parents and family members to come to the docks at 1:00 PM on Friday afternoons so that parents may observe sailors demonstrating their sailing skills in a little regatta right off the docks, followed by an Awards Ceremony. In 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions on group sizes and our limited space, we were unable to accommodate parents/family members for this activity. If in 2021 restrictions continue, we may be unable to host the special event on Fridays.

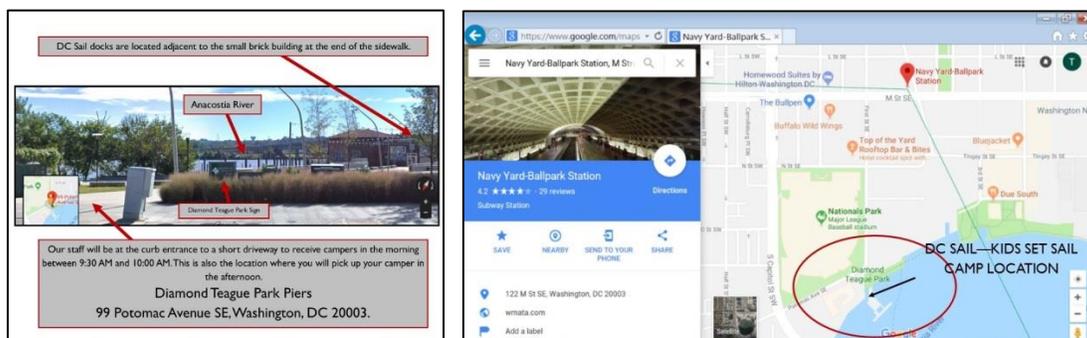
You will receive a final confirmation email message the week prior to your sailor's participation with details for the Friday schedule. Even if we cannot accommodate family members, and we understand this is disappointing, but please be assured, we will still provide the kids with the additional sailing after lunch and to attend their Award Ceremony. **Pick up time will remain as an early release at 2:30 PM on Fridays.**

Important; Please allow for ample time to travel to our location as there is congestion in the area and normal rush-hour related traffic. Also, when the Washington Nationals are hosting home games, traffic will be a concern.

Do not leave your children unattended until you have signed them in with a Kids Set Sail staff member. We do not have staff available to monitor your children before or after camp drop off/pick up times.

Kids Set Sail Location:

Kids Set Sail Summer Camp takes place at our Diamond Teague Park Piers location. [Please click here](#) for a Google Map link. We are located just behind the Washington Nationals' ballpark at 99 Potomac Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20003. Closest Metro station is Navy Yard/Ballpark, located at 122 M Street SE, Washington, DC 20003. Camp directors and counselors will be on site to receive your children [Please click here](#) to launch a .pdf of our location.



Our docks and pavilion are adjacent to the small brick building at the end of the sidewalk. Our banners are on the fencing at the gate entrance to our docks.



Weather Information:

In the event of strong, sustained thunderstorms which may last throughout the day, we may need to fully cancel that day's schedule. You will be notified via email should this occur where you either need to pick up your camper if it is happening after drop off, or conversely, if our Camp Director will need to cancel a full day with a poor weather forecast shows unsuitable conditions. We'll make every effort to provide as much advanced notice of the cancellation of camp due to weather. (Historically, this has only happened very few times during the summer, as the weather conditions in our area typically have "pop up" storms later in the afternoons, usually after normal pick up times.)

Aside from light rain or a passing shower and in light air conditions where there is not enough wind to sail, or high wind conditions, where there is too much wind, Camp Directors will lead the campers in shore-based activities that are fun and instructive if we are unable to sail for reasons of boating safety and weather conditions. We also have a fleet of kayaks that the campers will use on the water when not enough wind for sailing.

Our long-established weather policy has always been that we do not issue partial refunds or adjustments if the weather is dangerous or not conducive to actual sailing (i.e.; light air, thunderstorms, etc.)

Required Paperwork:

Please be sure to have the completed hard copy paperwork forms for your child and deliver it to the Camp Director on the first day of camp. Your child will not be able to participate without this form! [Please click here](#) to launch Registration/Medical/Waiver form. If you registered your camper at the Scholarship Rate, please enclose in a sealed envelope the [scholarship application](#) along with the tax/income verification paperwork. (Please note that Scholarship will not be granted without the proper required paperwork.)

Please contact me if you have any questions or need assistance.

Thank you and we look forward to a terrific week of summer camp!

With best regards,

Steve AuBuchon
Youth Programs Administrator & Kids Set Sail Director
saubuchon@dcsail.org