



Basic Cruising Challenge

Basic Cruising Certification Prerequisites:

- US Sailing Basic Keelboat Certification
- If born after July 1, 1972 must also provide proof of valid Maryland Safe Boater Certification (or equivalent), which can be earned at no cost to you through [BoatUS Foundation's program](#).

Why Take the US Sailing Basic Cruising or Basic Cruising Challenge?

- When US Sailing confers certification to a Candidate, it vouches for that person's training and skill to perform the essential prescribed duties as outlined in the course description.
- By doing so US Sailing lends its name and reputation to the credentials.
- US Sailing does this to provide uniform standards on which you, your crew, charter companies, and everyone may need to rely.

About the Challenge

The Basic Cruising Challenge tests candidates on general nautical knowledge, the sailing and cruising basics covered in the Basic Cruising 4-day class and Basic Cruising textbook. The Practical and Knowledge requirements are detailed in the link to the US Sailing course description at the US Sailing website. ([Basic Cruising Certification Course](#)). The Basic Cruising Textbook is available online at the US Sailing Store and is not provided as part of the Challenge package.

The Basic Cruising Challenge will be performed aboard a suitable DSC Cruiser, candidate's private vessel, or aboard MAKANI, a Bavaria 38. The evaluation will be done in 2 parts

- 80 Question Multiple Choice Test (passing 80% required for Certification)
- Practical Skills and Knowledge (on the water) Meet Standards for Certification or Plan of Improvement

Recommendations for Challenge Candidates

The following are recommendations for Candidates to prepare for the Certification Challenge:

- familiarity with materials covered in US Sailing Basic Cruising textbook, including glossary, weather, safety regulations and recommendations, docking/departing, POB, heavy weather sailing, anchoring, and sailing maneuvers.
- meaningful experience as skipper/crew of 27 to 40+ ft cruiser
- graduation/completion of the DSC's Cruising Skipper Development program.
- Familiar with USCG COLREGS Rules of the Road



Certification

The graduate will have, upon completion of the challenge, successfully demonstrated the ability to responsibly skipper and crew an auxiliary powered cruising sailboat during daylight hours.

Upon successful completion of the test and evaluation the candidate will receive a US Sailing Basic Cruising Certification Sticker, US Sailing Logbook, and a One (1) year membership to US Sailing with all its benefits.

Cost of Challenge

Basic Cruising Practical Challenge OTW	\$ 250.00
Basic Cruising Challenge Testing	+ \$ <u>100.00</u>
US Sailing Basic Cruising Challenge Cost Total	\$ 350.00

For additional details and to schedule, please contact the DSC office at info@downtownsailing.org or 410-727-0722

For the On the Water evaluation the Candidate should consider bringing a crew member to assist and for crew level coordination.

Sample of Practical Skills/Knowledge:

Preparation to Sail
Crew Operations and Skills
Leaving the Dock or Mooring
Boat Control in Confined Waters
Navigation
Boat Control in Open Water
Heavy Weather Sailing
Overboard Rescue Methods
Safety and Emergency Procedures
Anchoring Techniques
Returning to the Dock or Mooring
Securing the Boat Properly