

## Membership Explained

### Overview

The Downtown Sailing Center (DSC) offers four primary membership options. All of our membership levels offer social and community engagement opportunities and all members are expected to contribute to the DSC through service and volunteerism. **Membership dues *DO NOT* cover the full value of what the membership offers:** like a community co-op or religious institution, those who *CAN* give charitably are expected to give as they are able, in addition to their membership dues and volunteer service.

Beyond the basic membership options, additional “crew” and “skipper” upgrades are available for the [Racing](#) and [Cruising](#) programs. Access Dinghy, Crew, and Skipper Level members receive discounts on [sailing lessons](#).

**Please note: all memberships are valid for a calendar year and END on December 31.**

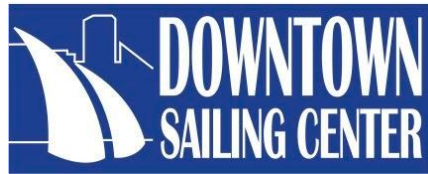
### Crew Level Membership - <\$400

(pricing changes depending on the year, family or youth discounts, and early-bird or pro-rated pricing)

“Crew Level” membership is our best value membership for those just getting into sailing or returning to sailing after a long absence. “Crew Level” members get access to our member sails as well as our Access Dinghy fleet. Crew also receive discounts on lessons and one complementary “[Taste of Sailing](#).”

Our [Access Dinghies](#) are small, “universal design” sailboats that are perfect for non-sailors to learn the basic concepts of sailing. They are fun for kids of all ages. We use the Access Dinghies in our volunteer driven “Access-ability” sailing program for persons with disabilities.

[Member Sails](#) occur every Wednesday evening and most Sunday afternoons. They are social sail opportunities for skippers and crew to enjoy the elements and improve their skills. We use the J/22s and Sonars as our primary vessels. Most member sails include sailing out past Fort McHenry and most skippers turn the helm over to crew for a bit. Paid



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staff and member volunteers work together to get everyone on the water with a good pairing. Most skippers started off as crew, so there is a positive culture of paying it forward.

### [Skipper Level Membership](#) - ~\$800-\$900

(pricing changes depending on the year, family or youth discounts, and early-bird or pro-rated pricing)

“Skipper Level” Members must be able to rig and safely sail a daysailing keelboat without assistance, including departing and docking without an engine. For more information on our Skipper Requirements and checkout process, click [HERE](#). Skippers are responsible for the boat and must pay for any damages that may be incurred.

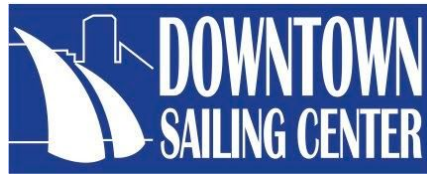
Skippers have the opportunity to reserve boats for private reservations on a first-come, first-serve basis. With the exception of member sails and Thursday Night Racing, boats are typically available. Skipper members can sail with non-members whenever they want, except during member sails. For more details about the skipper level membership, visit our [FAQ](#) page.

Skippers are expected to be engaged in our [member sails](#), our [adaptive sailing program](#), or other volunteer efforts. **Member sails cannot run without skipper support.**

### [Access Dinghy Membership](#) - \$199

Our Access Dinghy Membership is geared towards members who only want to use our [Access Dinghies](#). Access Dinghy members do not have access to our keelboat fleet except as volunteers through our Access-ability Saturdays.

Access Dinghies are available for use May through September and occasionally through October. All Access Dinghy members (and Crew and Skipper members) must complete an annual Access Dinghy Orientation, which are held on Wednesdays and Sundays during the member sails.



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### [Volunteer Level Membership](#) - *no financial cost*

Our Volunteer Level Membership is geared toward community members who want to be involved in our adaptive sailing program through our Monday evening events or our Saturday "[Access-ability Saturdays](#)." Volunteer members are rockstars in our after school and out-of-school-time programs, too.

We hope all of our members volunteer, and the DSC staff truly includes volunteer level members in our esteem. Our Access-ability Saturdays and other community programming *cannot run* without volunteer support. We love volunteer members!

All Volunteer Level members - and ALL MEMBERS who volunteer - who work with people must complete an online background check and/or a Federal & State Background check (depending on the program). Click [HERE](#) for more info on Background Checks.

### [Social Membership](#) - \$99

Social Membership is geared toward those who do not live in the area or no longer sail with us but want to be engaged as community members. Social members do not receive any membership privileges. Social members *are* encouraged to become volunteers if they live in the Baltimore area. Social membership is not tax deductible.

