

6. MYC JUNIORS

6.1. INTRODUCTION

The Club is committed to introducing new sailors to the sport and supporting their development. The junior's program is for 8-16-year-old from novices to experienced racers with the provision of qualified instructors.

MYC's commitment to making sailing accessible to all has resulted in our unique "Club owned fleet". Our fleet of training Optimists, Manly Juniors, Flying Elevens and BIC Sports boats are available to junior members providing a very cost-effective entry point to the sport.

The cost of providing this program on a commercial basis is prohibitive and the MYC program is only sustainable because we rely on parents volunteering their time and skills. Hence only kids whose parents are prepared to volunteer are allowed to join.

PARENTAL ASSISTANCE IS A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT OF PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM.

6.2. JUNIOR BOATS SAILED

MYC supports five classes of sailing dinghies:

	<p>The training Optimist is a robust and stable option for our least experienced sailors. This international class provides the ideal platform to get sailors as young as 8 out on the water where our instructor team can help them develop confidence and basic skills.</p>
	<p>Open BIC is an international class of high performance, single-handed dinghies. Ideal for experienced sailors in the 30-65kg ranges, the BICs are an established and competitive racing fleet and provide the ideal platform for sailors to develop their skills.</p>
	<p>The Laser 4.7 is based on a standard Laser hull fitted with a smaller sail and amended mast. Suited to highly experienced sailors with minimum of 45kg, the Laser 4.7 is mostly sailed by teenagers.</p>
	<p>Manly Junior. This iconic native of Manly Cove is a nationally recognised class sailed by several clubs throughout Australia. With a full rig complement comprising Main, Jib and Spinnaker, the MJ has helped develop the skills of numerous Olympic Champions and an Americas Cup winner!</p>
	<p>Flying 11. Another Australian design this high-performance sailing boat is ideally suited to teenagers and is a natural transition from junior dinghies to a range of senior international classes.</p>

6.3. CLUB-OWNED BOATS

MYC recognises the dilemma facing most parents when they want their kids to try sailing. It is expensive to buy a boat and if the child decides they don't want to continue then it has to be sold. The Club has solved this problem by buying fleets of Optimists and BICs (both small and full rigs) that can be used by the school and the Club. Kids enrolled in the school use the Club boats and it is usual for kids moving into the Club fleets to use the boats for about a season.

Those kids who have been sailing club boats for the longest will be asked to buy their own boat in order to make way for new comers.

6.4. PRIVATELY-OWNED BOATS

The Club encourages families to buy their own boats and has some boat storage available. Usually there is no need for kids to buy Optimists because they will have graduated from them within a season. There is storage available for BICs and Lasers and the Club is actively seeking more space to store privately owned F11s.

6.5. SAILING PATHWAYS AT MYC

Explanatory notes for the Sailing Pathways diagram on the opposite page.

Manly Sailing: Manly Sailing is an independent school and sub tenant of Manly Yacht Club. It teaches all ages but has a focus on juniors and is affiliated with the Australian Sailing's "Start Sailing Levels 1, 2 and 3".

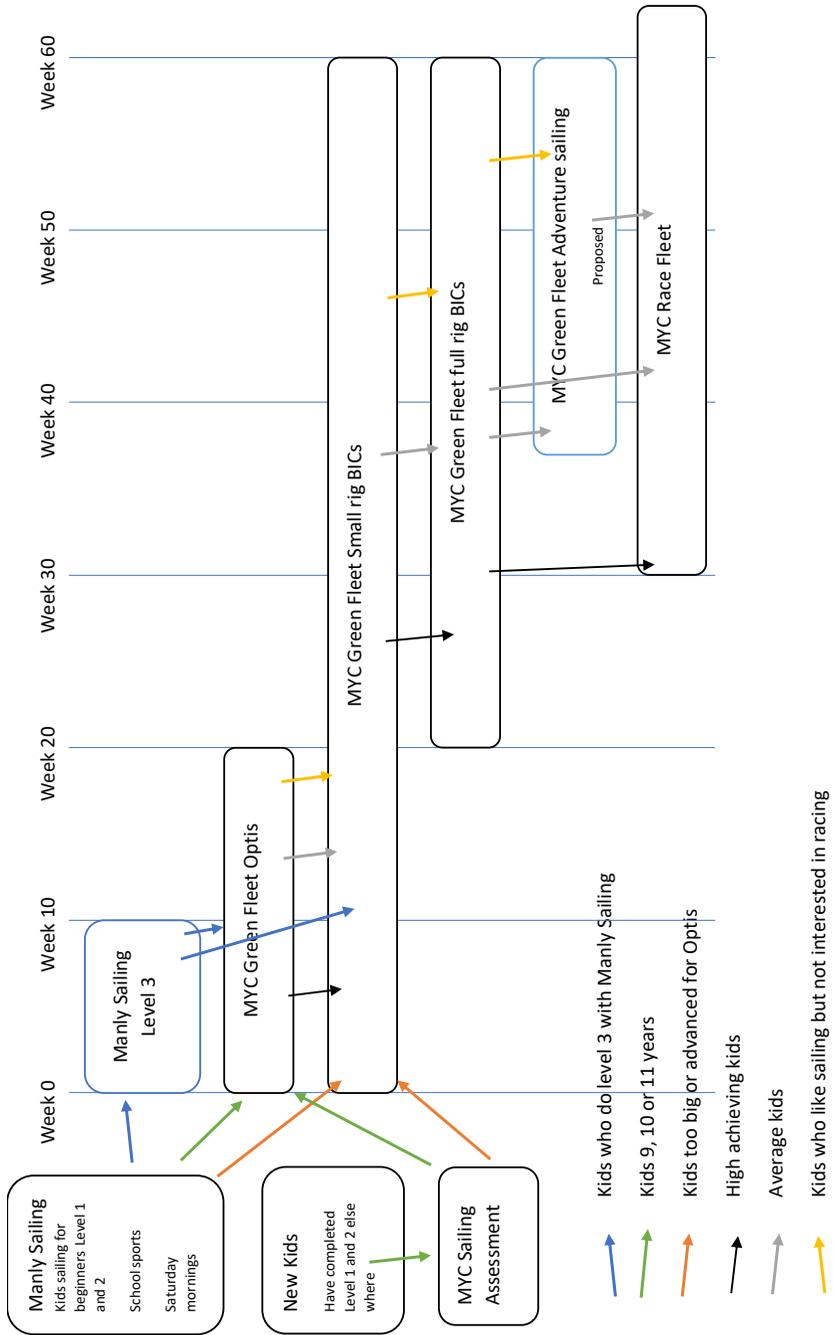
New Kids: These are kids that haven't completed any of the Manly Sailing courses.

Beginners: Beginners are kids who haven't completed Level 2.

Advanced: Have completed Level 3 and are capable of racing a course.

Green Fleet: Have completed level 2 and are learning more about sailing. They will have time in every class including both single and two-handed boats.

Race Fleet: Here kids can choose their preferred boat and if appropriate position as crew or skipper.



6.6. NEW RECRUITS

New recruits to our Green Fleet and Racing Fleets usually come from Manly Sailing School. Those who apply to join our program but who have not been students of the school are known as new kids.

Manly Sailing recommendations

The Green Fleet relies on Manly Sailing to recommend outstanding students to its ranks. Twice a year in May and again in January the school makes these recommendations and they usually fill any vacancies.

New Kids

If there are vacancies within the Green Fleet that haven't been filled by Manly Sailing graduates the Club will consider applications from New Kids. Applications to join our racing fleet will also be considered. However, factors such as their ability and experience, availability of club boats or racking for privately owned boats will need to be considered before the application can be accepted. All New Kids will need to undertake a sailing assessment conducted by our more experienced instructors who will recommend them to the Sailing School, Green Fleet or Race Fleet as appropriate.

6.7. PARENTS INDUCTION COURSE

All parents have to complete an induction course before their children commence sailing. The course usually takes about an hour and explains how the Club works, what is required of parents and how the roster is set up.

6.8. JUNIORS PRE-REQUISITES

All Juniors must:

- Be invited to join the Juniors Program.
- Complete the registration process.
- Be confident swimmers and be able to swim 25 metres.
- Be sailing above AS Start Sailing Level 2.
- Have the confidence to sail directly from the Club pontoon in the company of a Juniors support boat.
- Have parents who have completed the induction course.
- Have parents who are prepared to join the Roster.

6.9. JUNIORS GEAR (WHAT TO BRING WITH THEM)

Juniors must wear:

- Lifejackets (supplied at club or their own).
- Booties or other appropriate footwear (at all times, including on deck).
- Hat (preferably with chin strap or string lock).
- Sunscreen.

Recommended gear includes:

- Wetsuits – optional but recommended for early-Spring or late-Autumn. Board Shorts may be worn over wetsuits to avoid damage.
- Alternatively, swimming costume/board shorts with rashie (ideally long sleeve for sun protection and warmth).
- Drink Bottle (one you can afford to lose if they are carried in the boat).
- Bag (water-proof if possible).
- Sailing Gloves, Sunglasses.
- Towel and jumper or warm clothes to change into.

6.10. COMMUNICATIONS

All Communications will go through Team App.

6.11. GREEN FLEET

Overview

This program aims to provide a fun and safe environment for young sailors to develop their skills. In order to bridge the move from sailing school to the racing fleet, our Green Fleet provides additional support for our novices. Under the close supervision of a dedicated instructor, children will initially sail Optimists and as they improve will move onto Manly Juniors and BICS.

The Green Fleet is an integral part of the Juniors Program and runs entirely within the overall program, once on the water, the fleet is led by the dedicated instructor in a series of training exercises and adventure activities.

All kids must have time sailing all of our 3 classes (Opti, MJ and BIC) before graduating from the Green Fleet.

With the agreement of the Head Instructor, the fleet will be introduced to racing with their own dedicated starts and shorter courses. At the conclusion of each season, parents will be provided with a report card and recommendations for next season.

Boat and Fleet allocations

At the seasons' beginning kids are allocated to boats. Only the Head Instructor in collaboration with the child's regular instructor, can make these boat allocations. They will be posted on Team App.

Parents who want their child's allocation reviewed, can do so by emailing the Head Instructor – instructor@myc.org.au.

Kids in the Green Fleet learn quickly, often they need new challenges, and new boats to sail. To meet their needs, reallocations may take place on the first weekend in February. This will coincide with the usual intake of new recruits.

6.12. JUNIORS RACING FLEET

Kids who complete the Green fleet are recommended to the Race Fleet. This fleet sails on Saturday afternoons in Open BICs and is a mixture of club and privately-owned boats. Instructors are rostered to accompany the fleet, and the parents are required to skipper and crew support boats and committee boats.

Standby

For kids who don't have their own boat and have had their club boat reallocated to a newcomer, don't despair, you may still be able to sail at MYC by means of the standby program.

Often a few kids don't turn up for sailing and the Club boats lie idle. It seems only reasonable that we should make best use of our resources and so we have implemented the standby system. Enquire with the Deck Captains at the last minute and they may be able to allocate an unused boat.

6.13. PARENTAL PARTICIPATION AND THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

We know parents are busy and any extra, unnecessary work load is not acceptable. Over the years our management systems have been streamlined so that only essential tasks are undertaken. For example, we know that kids won't rig their boats unless supervised; that we are required to provide support boats; kids won't learn to sail properly unless they are instructed; and dinghy racing is not taken seriously unless the racing is conducted properly. These are the key elements that need to be done properly.

On the one hand, we are trying to reduce the work load on parents but on the other hand we are required to manage a wide range of issues to make sure our junior sailing program can go ahead safely and smoothly.

At every session for both Green and Racing Fleets:

Every child is required to have a parent to assist them to rig and unrig whether an allocated club boat or their own boat. This includes carrying, rigging, attending briefings, launching retrieving, de-rigging, washing and stowing.

Standing Positions

A Race Director is appointed for each of the Green and Racing Fleets. They are assisted by a Sailing Manager and Head Instructor and report to the Board. They have the following responsibilities.

Standing Positions	
Green and Race Fleet Director	Oversee all operations
Sailing Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise and assist with information meeting • Assist with registration • Assist with parents' induction course • Assist with rigging and boat equipment day • Provide and organise paper work on sailing days • Manage parents' roster • Maintain Team App • Collect race results from Race Committee, process results, publish on Team App and organise kids' section in the Presentation Night results book
Head instructor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek instructors • Keep on file their qualifications • Manage instructors' roster • Keep kids' progression records • Make boat allocations • Deliver a training program for both the Green Fleet and the Race Fleet

Parents Roster

To ensure continuous and unbroken supervision of sailing activities by parents, a roster has been developed. Each sailing day parents are rostered onto the following positions: Deck Captains, Support Boat Crews, Race Committees and Fuel Duties.

Parents are required to acknowledge their rostered duties by Friday morning before the weekend through Team App.

Parents may also be required at working bees, social events and for administrative duties.

Check the roster as soon as it is published and transfer your duties to your own personal diary. If you can't make a rostered day try and swap with another parent and, if you just can't, please contact the Sailing Manager as early as possible.

If you have issues or suggestions, talk to your fellow members – there's a lot of experience and it's likely someone has been there before, or has similar ideas that they want to develop. Communicate them to the Head Instructor or Sailing Manager. We want this program to evolve into something better each season.

The Roster can be found on Team App.

Parents Rostered Positions			
Position	Role / Job description	Green Fleet	Race Fleet
Deck Captain	<p>This requires an on-time arrival to unlock and set-up as well as late finish to pack up. Captain remains on Deck during sail activities to man the radio (in case of emergencies), assist in receiving any early retirements and to co-ordinate parents for reception of the fleet at the end of the session. They also have a role to ensure the sign on and off sheets are completed properly and that boats are rigged in the correct place in accordance with Section 5.20 Deck, Boats and Action Plan.</p> <p>Issue Boat Holding Tags.</p>	✓	
Support Boat Crew	<p>The support boats to be used will be displayed in Section 5.20 Deck, Boats and Action Plan and all skippers must hold a valid RMS boat licence. In addition, skippers must complete a short on-line course and test (see the MYC website www.myc.org.au) prior to taking control of a MYC support boat.</p> <p>The crew is required to launch; prepare the support boat; support the instructor or Race Committee as they require; lay and retrieve marks as directed and return the boat to storage.</p>	✓	✓
Race Committee	<p>All racing is conducted in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing. A Race Committee is led by an experienced Race Officer and has overall control of the race course but works closely with the Instructor to ensure all competitors are comfortably sailing the course. The Race Committee sets courses; starts and finishes races; collects results and manages the race course.</p>	✗	✓
Fuel Duties	<p>They refill fuel cans. No Ethanol! The Payment Reimbursement Form is available on Team App.</p>		✓

Instructors Roster

Most kids won't learn to sail without well targeted and trained instructors. It is often difficult for parents to teach their own kids to sail, whereas young, but qualified instructors, seem to connect with youngsters saying to them that sailing is in fact fun.

Manly Yacht Club employs qualified instructors from Australia and overseas to work with our Green and Race Fleets. Each sailing weekend, six instructors are rostered to manage fleets of 5 to 6 kids each.

6.14. ON DECK MANAGEMENT

Our deck is the central focus of our sailing program, but it is not big enough to rig, at one time, all the boats we hold in storage. In fact, we can't rig half the boats in storage and so we have to be clever; we need to use space efficiently and stagger our rig and launch times. For MYC it is a precious asset. Remember the deck is managed by the Deck Captains and users must do as they are asked.

Deck Etiquette

If properly organised there's plenty of space on the deck. Be aware of Section 5.20 Deck, Boats and Action Plan and make sure you are rigging at the right time and in the correct place. If you need to tilt your boat to access the mast, try to minimise the time that the boat is tilted and hence reduce the disruption to others. Make sure your kids are on time for the briefings and launchings.

Launching support boats

The Deck Captains should themselves, or better still organise other parents, to launch the support boats so that the deck is freed up for rigging. To increase deck space, all support boats should be launched before any sailing boats are rigged. If the spare boat is not being used it should be put into the position shown in Section 5.21 Deck Rigging Plan. Once the boats are launched, the inflatable boats' dollies, along with any racks can be rolled back into the boat storage area to make room for rigging.

The deck and equipment usage

We have two plans: Section 5.20 Deck, Boats and Action Plan tells you **WHEN** and Section 5.21 Deck Rigging Plan tells you **WHERE** to rig your boat. Often, not every boat scheduled to sail turns up, and if there is space and you want to start rigging early then that's fine, but if it becomes a full house you will have to give way.

Section 5.21 Deck Rigging Plan is for normal days, but on occasions we will have special events and a special rigging plan will be issued and posted on the Official Notice Board and on Team App. Section 5.21 Deck Rigging Plan works well in south, easterly and north easterly wind, but for other directions the plan may need modification. For these winds the deck captains will modify the layout but keep the same general pattern.

Rigging boats

Arrive to sailing days with plenty of buffer time. Whatever can go wrong will go wrong at rigging time and it's better to have time to sort things out than rush equipment preparation. Make sure:

- The boat you are rigging is the one your instructor wants you to sail.
- Ensure each boat is FULLY RIGGED prior to taking it onto the pontoon to avoid delays.
- The mast, boom, centre board and rudder need to be properly secured in case of a capsized.
- Make sure the bungs are fitted properly.

Fleet Launches

All boats need to be launched at the times stated in Section 5.20 Deck, Boats and Action Plan. Each junior sailor is required to have a parent present to assist with the launching. Training each sailor on rudder/centreboard/sheet/launch routines will help speed up this process.

Fleet Retrieval

Unless otherwise announced (e.g. at the Sailor Briefing) all parents should be back on the pontoon by the times shown in Section 5.20 Deck, Boats and Action Plan. It's all hands-on deck and the process works best if everyone pitches in, don't wait until your own sailor arrives. Many hands make light work. Ultimately it is the responsibility of each parent to ensure that their kid's boat is washed and returned to the racks.

Locking up

The clubhouse contains a great many valuable boats and associated equipment and it needs to be locked up properly when not being used by its members. It is the Deck Captains' job to open and close the building for the junior's program. They do not have to lock the building if they can confirm that another user will do the job.

Jumping and diving from the wharf

Statistics show that jumping and diving into uncontrolled water is very dangerous and a risk assessment of our sailing program has identified diving from the MYC wharf as the most dangerous activity at the Club. **The MYC Board has banned jumping and diving from the wharf** and requests parents to be proactive in enforcing this rule. For more information see Section 4.3 MYC Wharf and Moorings.

Support Boats

The Club owns the following support boats:

Boat	Description	Usage	Call sign	Capacity
Margo	Rigid Inflatable Boat	Support/Instructor	Margo	2 adults
Christabel	Rigid Inflatable Boat	Support/Instructor	Christabel	2 adults
Nigel Holman	Centre console RIB	Instructor for F11s	Nigel H	3 adults
Robbie R	Aluminium workboat	Mark laying	Robbie R	8 adults
Charlie's Chariot*	Aluminium workboat	Support/marks laying	Cha Cha	3 adults
Carlyle	Half cabin launch	Start boat	Carlyle	4 adults

* Owned by Manly Sailability but loaned to MYC if required.

These boats are dedicated to various purposes as shown in Section 5.20 Deck, Boats and Action Plan.

Abandonment of Sailing

Weather, equipment failure or other events may necessitate sailing to be abandoned.

The decision whether or not to launch will be made by the Head Instructor for each fleet. An announcement will be made on the deck at about the time it becomes available for the particular fleet. In the event of severe weather forecasts the decision to abandon maybe made after the 5pm forecast on the previous day and broadcast on Team App.

The decision to abandon may also be made on the water if conditions become unexpectedly difficult. For the race fleet this will be signalled in the usual way according to the RRS by the Race Committee, and for the Green Fleets the decision will be made by the Head Instructor and conveyed to the boats by the instructors and parents.

Sign-on/off

For a variety of reasons from just knowing how well our services are being used, to the serious matter of responding to an on-water incident, the Club needs to know who is participating in its events. Both the Green and Race Fleets need to sign on and off and this includes noting their sail number if appropriate.

Both parents and kids are required to sign on and off. Note that parents are allowed to sign on behalf of their children. Records for each week will be uploaded to Team App and kids whose parents are not present, may be barred from sailing.

Instructors/Support Boat Briefing

To plan the day's activities properly and to respond to special circumstances, particularly the weather, Deck Captains, instructors and support boat drivers need to meet briefly before the on-water activities commence. They should confirm the program for the day, consider the latest weather forecasts and any special participants requirements, support boat availability etc.

Sailor Briefing

The sailors briefing for each fleet will be held on the deck, in the foyer or boat storage area at the times shown in Section 5.20 Deck, Boats and Action Plan. They confirm the program for the day, consider the latest weather forecasts and provide an opportunity for the instructors to lead the kids through the day's program.

Damaged Club Boats

The Club acknowledges the need for routine maintenance and also that damage to boats and equipment will occur from time to time. Of course, repeat offenders will be investigated but otherwise occasional damage simply needs to be repaired. If no action is taken, then the Manly Yacht Club and or Manly Sailing's program will be disrupted when the boats are next used.

The repair process is started by recording the damage, firstly on the white board in the storage area near Nigel Holman, and then by sending an email ASAP to the Juniors Sailing Manager juniors@myc.org.au and to info@manlysailing.com.au. These emails will warn other boat users that the boats are unserviceable, allowing them as much time as possible to make alternate arrangements.

Boat Licences

Our Juniors Program can't function without support boats, Race Committee and mark laying boats. All of these boats need to be skippered by parents with boat licences. If you do have a boat licence, please let the Juniors Sailing Manager juniors@myc.org.au know. If you don't have a licence, please consider getting one.

Other Club Members and Users

Juniors are one of many stakeholders in MYC. We share responsibility for the safe operation and maintenance of the Club and to operate with courtesy towards all members. Events are scheduled and rigging times are staggered so that there should be enough room and opportunity for all of us to sail. However, from time to time things can go wrong and we all have to give way a little and make things work.

Calendar of Events

The full list of events can be found in Section 5.7 MYC Calendar.

Abbreviations can be found in Section 3 Abbreviations. A legend of calendar events follows immediately after Section 5.7 MYC Calendar.