

Burnham Sailing Club

Junior Prospectus



General

- The junior section of the club is run by parents and helpers of the club. They teach and offer sailing activities to the highest national standards of sailing in line with Royal Yachting Association guidelines.
- Numerous sailing club members have competed at national and international level and so do the children of the junior section. We are very proud of the sailing standards of the club.
- The junior section relies on an army of volunteers, not only afloat, but ashore too. We offer a warm welcome to parents and expect them to help in whatever capacity they can.
- Sailing is not an expensive or exclusive sport. It is one of the most popular participating sports in the country and we excel at it, as proved in the last Olympics. By crewing in a boat all you need are a few clothing basics. If you wish to go on and helm your own boat then boats range in cost from the basic for a few hundred pounds, up to international competitive standards for many thousands.
- Sailing can either be a basic skill to be learned and enjoyed on an occasional basis or can be taken all the way to advanced competition. Sailing has many attributes - mechanical aptitude, co-ordination, balance, determination, physical fitness, mental aptitude and thought. Racing is likened to playing chess with many complicated rules to know and act out, making decisions at speed whilst getting the best boat speed.
- The junior section ranges from children of 6 up to 18 year of age. We encourage children to start sailing at any age over 6. The activities are split up into age / ability groups.

Membership

The Sailing club is a private members club and for your child to take part in the activities they will need to join, together with an adult. The membership cost is kept as low as possible to promote the sport. Please see web site for latest rates.



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Safety

Your child's safety is paramount to us. The sport and our club have an excellent safety record. We insist that all children and adults wear buoyancy aids when anywhere near water and especially when on the pond or river pontoon.



The club run a tag on/off process on a Friday evening. This allows us to ensure that all children out sailing on the river and Pond have a numbered tag which is clipped onto their buoyancy aid and when they safely return they hand the tag into the adult at the top of the pontoon to tally off.

The club has a fleet of safety patrol boats to monitor them afloat with very competent, trained, experienced persons.





Activities

Training

The heart of the junior section is its training on a Friday Night. Friday nights start at 17:00hrs for the younger ones and at 18:00hrs for the older ones.

Friday Night Training Groups

Name	Age Group	Level	Syllabus
Starter Group	6-7	No experience	Introduction to the water and boats, learning of boating terms, children are taken afloat in motor launches and sailing boats with adults.
Oppie Juniors (Pond)	6-8	No experience	Introduction to sailing, basic teaching of sailing starting with helming a course (steering), wind awareness, holding the main sheet,(Sail in) and positions in the boat. Righting a capsized boat. This is very basic and often requires one to one teaching in order to give the child confidence. Training Optimists are used at the pond for teaching these basic skills on a Friday evening.
Oppie Intermediate	8-10	Basic sailing skills	Basic sailing in Optimist dinghies around a course which in involves sailing on all points of the wind. Boat handling. Tacking and Gybing, Balance, Trim, Sailing setting, Course to steer and made good. Basic right of way rules. Righting a capsized boat.
Oppie Racing	10-15	Race training	Sailing Optimists dinghies competitively, Racing rules. Starting procedures and techniques. Boat tuning. Boat handling. Sailing in windy conditions.
Seniors (Handicap Group)	10-18	Basic to good	This group is for all other types of boat, e.g. Tera's, Lasers, Fevas, Toppers etc. This is a mixture of single-handed and two handed boats. Due to the diversity of the group, the time is split into race training, fun and games, and general sailing.

Racing

This is mainly held on Wednesday nights during the summer. The start time is 18:30 for the first class. We hold racing for 2 classes, Optimist and Handicap. The racing course is normally in front of the clubhouse as sailing is also a good spectator sport, especially if your child is out there!

To enter these races a child must be fairly competent and typically a child would have been first trained on a Friday night. This racing is open to visitors and we welcome non-members to join us for up to 4 races.

Events

Special events – such as open meetings, and regatta days - are extra events held during the year.



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Club Boats

The club has 6 Optimists, 4 of which are generally at the pond for Friday evening sailing and 2 at the club for the intermediate group. Most children, however, have their own boats shortly after joining the Intermediate group on the river.

To learn more about this class of boat please see www.optimistsailing.org.uk



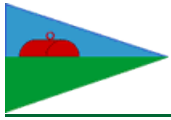
The club has 2 RS Tera's (Single handed dinghies), these boats can be loaned out to club members.



The club also has 3 RS Feva's (2 person dinghies) these boats can also be loaned out to club members.



The club will encourage children to sail any type of boat, hence the handicap group. It is better for racing and companionship if children can sail boats of the same type. We particularly encourage the Optimist, RS Tera and the Laser as the preferred single hander dinghies and the Feva as the preferred 2-man dinghy.



Burnham Sailing Club

Location and Facilities

The Burnham sailing club is situated on the seawall at the western end of Burnham just before the open field and the house boats.

- We have a large dinghy and car park.
- In the club you will find toilets, changing rooms, and galley.
- The club can be hired out to members and non-members.
- We have a floating pontoon which goes out into the river to past the low water mark so there is no need to even get your feet wet when sailing.



Welcome

Whether you are a member or not, please come and visit us on a Wednesday / Friday evening or during the day on Sundays during the sailing season.

Wednesday

The children's racing on a Wednesday starts at 18:30hrs and a selection of food is served in the club house.

Friday

Friday nights start from 5pm depending on the age of the child. Come in and introduce yourself as a visitor and avail yourself of our facilities.

Sunday

The club is open on Sundays to encourage members to use the club and the river at the weekend.

If you are unsure if your child would like sailing please contact us, and we will arrange a trial evening for them, or you are welcome to take your chance subject to numbers any Friday.

Kids just want to have fun !!

See latest at www.burnhamsc.co.uk

