



Golden Gate Yacht Club
2026 Youth Sailing Summer Camp
Parent and Camper Handbook

Who We Are:

Golden Gate Yacht Club is a local club in San Francisco, founded in 1939. We consider ourselves a tribute to those who have made the Club what it is today – a friendly, relaxing gateway for good friends, great sailing and boating, and remarkable views.

Mission Statement:

The GGYC Youth Sailing Foundation's mission is to provide safe and fun youth sailing programs for all Bay Area kids. Our ethos is teaching Life Skills through Sailing. Our goals are to provide youth sailing programs that are fun, educational, and accessible. GGYC's waterfront is a great place for student sailors to learn to sail and race, and to build lifelong friendships.

Our Instructors:

All of our instructors have at a minimum, Level 1 US Sailing Instructor accreditation. All instructors also have First Aid and CPR training, Heads Up Concussion training and have completed their SafeSport training.

Contacts:

Sailing Director
Finnagh Hanrahan
finnagh@ggyc.com

President of the Golden Gate Yacht Club Youth Sailing Foundation
Jim Flaherty
jim@ggyc.com

Answers to common questions

Location:

We are located at 1 Yacht Rd, San Francisco, CA 94123

Program Hours:

Our camp runs Monday – Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, with a **short day** on Friday, ending at 2:00 pm.

Summer Program Schedule:

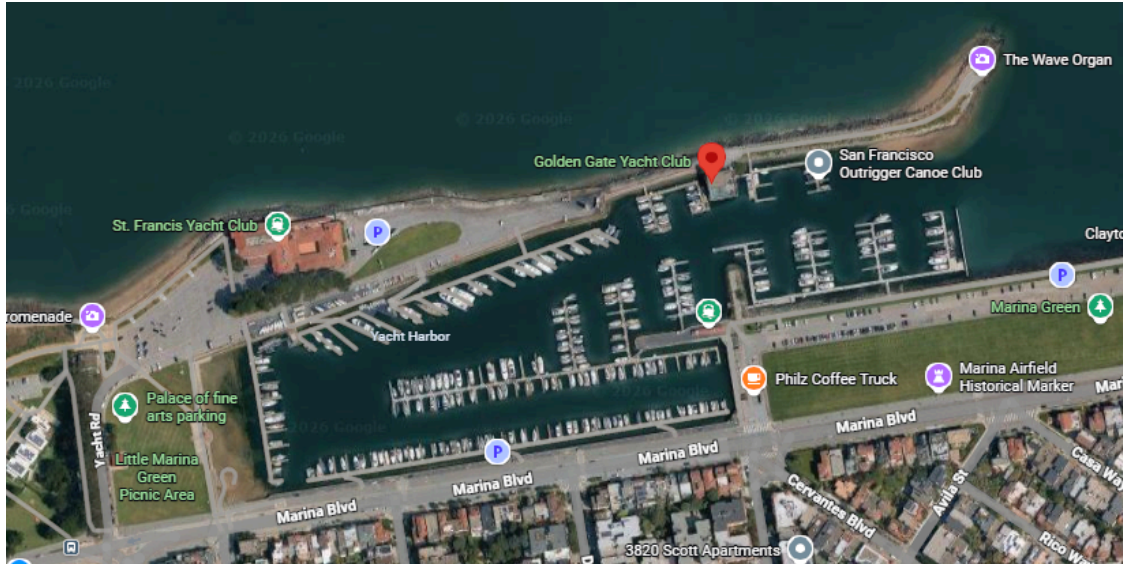
- Session 1 June 8 - 12
- Session 2 June 15 - 19
- Session 3 June 22 -26
- Session 4 June 29 - July 2 (Thursday)
- Session 5 July 6 -10
- Session 6 July 13 - 17
- Session 7 July 20 - 24
- Session 8 July 27-31
- Session 9 Aug 3 - 7
- Session 10 Aug 10 - 14

Drop Off and Pick Up Procedure:

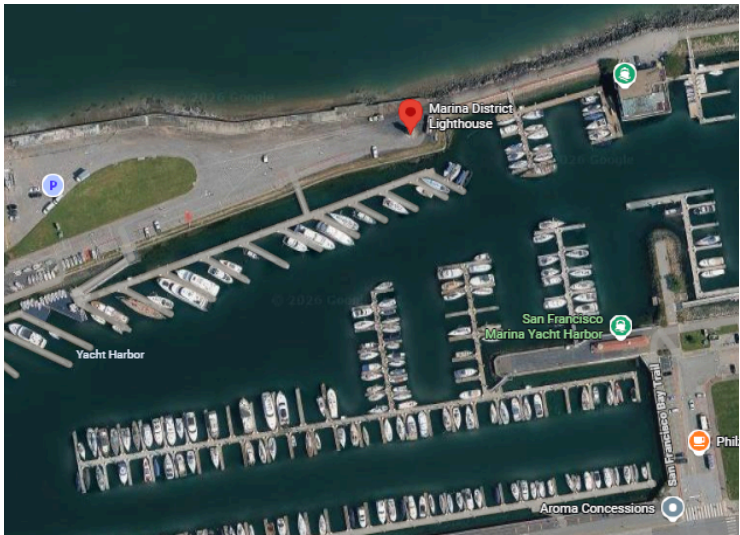
Drop off:

Finding Golden Gate Yacht Club can be tricky; Please follow Yacht Rd down the rest of the jetty (see Figure 1). It gets narrow near the end of the road, so please park in the adjacent parking lot by the lighthouse and walk to the club (Figure 2).

We will be checking kids in every day inside the club and have a 15-minute grace period for late arrivals before we start lessons in the morning. If you will be more than 15 minutes late, please inform the Youth Sailing Director ahead of time by email or an instructor the day before.



(Fig. 1)



(Fig. 2)

Pickup:

- Please park in the same lot as the drop-off and walk to the club to collect your kid.
- If you have a babysitter, friend, or the participant is heading home by themselves, please hand in a notice in writing to the instructor on Monday, or email a notice to the youth sailing director before camp starts.
- Make sure to alert an instructor when you are there so you can sign out your child
- There is no clothing storage available on the property; all gear must be taken home every day

EARLY PICK-UP PROCEDURE:

- If you need to pick up early, please let the Head Instructor know the day before or that morning before class starts to ensure that they will be off the water and ready for you.

REQUIRED GEAR LIST

- US Coast Guard Approved Life Jacket Type III
- Gear bag, for...
- Closed-toed shoes that can get wet (NO CROCS)
- Wetsuit (preferred option) or Spray gear
- Swim suit
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen (NO Spray bottles)
- Towel
- Helmet
- Clothes that provide sun protection
- Lunch/snacks + reusable water bottle
- Change of clothes

While we do not have any gear that campers can use, you can rent gear from the local Sports Basement in the Presidio that offers weekly rental packages.

What Not To Bring:

Please leave all electronics, toys, jewelry, and expensive clothing at home. Electronic devices are not permitted at camp. If campers have a phone or a smart watch, please have them leave it in their bag during camp hours. We are not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged property.

Helmet Guide:

Key features to look for when buying a helmet for sailing:

- Quick drying, Streamlined form, brightly coloured, have a quick-release chin strap, and are lightweight.

Financial Aid / Scholarships:

There are scholarship opportunities available through the Golden Gate Yacht Club Youth Sailing Foundation. For more information, please contact the youth sailing director.

Code of Conduct:

Camp rules:

1. Life jackets must be worn and secured at all times on docks, piers, boats, or in the water
2. Closed-toed footwear is to be worn at all times
3. No running
4. No swimming (except with the permission of the instructors)
5. No jumping off boats (except with the permission of the instructors)
6. Respect one another – no hitting, pushing, or roughhousing
7. Use respectful language – no swearing, foul, or rude language
8. No destruction of club or private property
9. No smoking, drugs, or alcohol
10. Sailors must make every effort to avoid collisions

Discipline Policy:

The rules and discipline policy apply to all children and staff involved in the junior programs. Violations include, but are not limited to, breaking program rules, inappropriate language, destruction of property, physical/verbal abuse of another student or instructor, bullying, or any other actions deemed discipline or expulsion-worthy. The discipline policy maintains that each sailor will have three chances to correct any violations. Under no circumstances will an instructor leave the water for a discipline problem and leave the rest of the class on the water unsupervised. Instructors will report any incidents directly to the Program Director.

Swearing is not tolerated and should be dealt with immediately. In situations of physical abuse, both parties should be brought immediately to the Sailing Director.

3 Strike Policy:

1. First Incident: The student will be reminded of the rules and helped by an instructor to correct the behavior. Depending on the severity of the rule break.
2. Second Incident: Students will be warned and the parent/guardian will be informed and asked to meet with the Program Director. A plan of improvement will be agreed upon by all parties.
3. Third Incident: The student will be asked to sit out for the rest of the day. Parents/guardians will be informed and asked to meet with the Program Director, or will be asked to pick up the child early if the incident warrants it.
4. Continued: If continued abuse of the rules will result in expulsion from the program. Parent/guardian, the Program Director and Commodore will be informed. No fees will be refunded. SBYC reserves the right to treat all infractions and violations on a case-by-case basis, keeping all participants' safety in mind. A behavioral contract will be

implemented if the child can remain in the program. In the case of intentional physical or verbal abuse, parents will be called immediately to pick up their child.

Boat Collision/Breakages:

While boat collisions occur, all sailors will be taught to avoid collisions to the best of their ability. Many collisions do not lead to injury or damage, but on the off chance they do, this is the procedure that will be followed:

- An incident report shall be filed out by the student's coach in writing and identify:
 - Parties involved in the incident
 - Incident, including where and when it occurred
 - A rule that a party believes was broken
 - List any damage or injury that occurs
- If an injury occurs, instructors will let parents know and keep a record
- If a privately owned boat is involved, we will do our best to contact the owners, campers, and their parents will be responsible for any damages the boat owner seeks payment for. Parents will be notified the day of, and a report will be sent via email.
- If we find that the collision was done on purpose or was fully preventable, this may lead to expulsion from the program

Campers using a club-provided boat from GGYC shall act as boat owners and take full responsibility for any repairs, and will conclude in a reasonable amount of time how the damage will be repaired. The Youth Sailing Director shall represent GGYC for boats owned by GGYC, but not boats being used at the time of the collision. Any appeals based on the decisions made by the coaches and directors shall be filed first with the Youth Sailing Director and, if necessary, with the GGYC Youth Sailing Board of Directors.

Our staff does its utmost to prepare our students to prevent the mistakes that cause equipment breakages. Our staff assumes responsibility for the regular portion of maintenance costs on equipment. Students will be asked to contribute to these costs if excessive or repeated damage occurs, but only after instruction to prevent such incidents.

These types of incidents may include, but are not limited to: Tera spars, spinnaker poles, frequent collisions, dolly fitting failures, sail repairs, etc. Parents will be issued a letter explaining the incident and an invoice for the damage. When possible, staff will err towards repairs over replacement to control costs. GGYC reserves the right to withhold its own equipment or storage spaces from use by students/families that have outstanding damage invoices.

Youth Program Policies

Boat and water safety:

While having fun is a top priority, safety is our primary goal. In each course, we will teach water safety techniques to ensure safe boating practices. Students are required to follow all safety rules, including but not limited to; personal safety of protecting from the sun and the elements, life jackets protocols*, proper usage and stowage of equipment, behavior expectations, and policies. If conditions are deemed unsafe for sailing, students will engage in fun, educational activities in the classrooms. Activities may include sailing games, knot tying, extra learning, or STEM activities.

Required Practical Checks

With the nature of sailing and the types of boats we use, all campers must be able to complete a swim and capsize test.

Swim Test

- The swim check will take place on the first day of camp (around 11:00) and will require campers to swim ~ 50 yards with a life jacket on. This is to see if campers are comfortable being in the water.

Capsize Check

- Campers will be required to work in pairs to cause a boat to fall sideways into the water and right it. This ensures that, if campers capsize while out on the water, they can remain calm and perform a capsize recovery themselves.
- Video Example [here](#).

Medications:

Instructors can remind campers, but not administer any medication, so please make sure your child is well prepared each day and has what they need and knows how to take it. When registering, indicate all medical information. Medications that must be available at all times (such as an EPIPEN) should be brought in a waterproof container and a pouch that can go with the camper on the water. If your child usually takes medication and you are planning on taking them off of it for camp, please let us know. If your child has a serious or life-threatening condition, please file an Action plan with our office.

Injury/Accident/Sickness Procedure:

All instructors have CPR, First-Aid, and concussion training. If an incident occurs, care will be provided to the best of their ability, and Emergency Medical Services will be

called. Instructors will contact you as soon as possible. Please ensure your emergency contact information is current.

If your child becomes sick or is not feeling well before camp, please keep them at home. This includes but is not limited to fever, chill, nausea/vomiting, bodily pain, cough, sore throat, and/or headaches.

Lost and Found:

Please write your child's name on all of your gear. At the end of the day, all items found in boats or the changing area will be brought to the deck and sorted into our lost and found bins. Sailors are encouraged to check the lost and found at the end of their program. Any item left with a name and phone number will be contacted, and the owner will be responsible for collection. All unclaimed and uncollected items will be donated by the end of camp.

Refund / Cancellation Policy:

Notice of cancellation must be submitted in writing or by email at least **three (3) weeks** before the start of the session to receive a full refund (minus the **\$70 non-refundable registration fee**). If you cancel within **three (3) weeks** of the session start date, you will not be issued a refund. If Golden Gate Yacht Club cancels or experiences a closure during your session, we can place you in a different session (free of charge) or issue a refund that will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. If your student is dismissed from the program due to disciplinary issues, a refund will not be given.

Wait List

If camp registration is full, you can add your child to the waitlist. When a position opens up, we will call/email each person on the waitlist in order of registration and include a response deadline. Often openings come up at the last minute. If you are no longer interested in a session, please remove yourself from the waitlist. This will make it quicker for interested campers to be notified in the event of an opening.