



AYC - Frequently Asked Questions



How to sign up & use the Kayaks and the J-22's

To sign up for a kayak just come down to the clubhouse or call and ask any instructor to make a reservation for a specific time or date. The current in the York River is very strong and we would recommend that you time your use of the kayaks to correspond to the tides – so go up river 1 hour before the tide changes, and then back to the clubhouse once the tide has changed. Another strategy is to paddle against the tide for the initial leg, then return to the club with the tide helping. Check in to the clubhouse at your scheduled time, and pick up a paddle and lifejacket, and someone will help you launch the kayak down on the docks.

In order to use the J-22's you will need to be 'checked out' by an instructor in terms of your knowledge and handling of the boat. Again, please call or stop by the clubhouse to make a reservation to be checked out. In most cases, this takes about 2 hours. You may also want to find some other AYC members that have been certified to use the J-22's and go on a sail or two with them to learn the ropes. Our instructors may decide that an individual sailing lesson or two is necessary before use of the boats. We do this when someone is close to competence, but rusty or inexperienced with salt water sailing, tides and currents. Once you have been certified, you are free to make a reservation for the J-22's. Remember that weekends tend to be very busy. If you do sail in the afternoon, you will have to be back to the mooring and docks by 5:30 as the club closes at 6pm. Instructors will ferry you back and forth to the boats.

How to use the York Harbor Reading Room for dinners

AYC has arranged for AYC members to use the York Harbor Reading Room (YHRR) for Thursday night dinners. Other available nights will be posted. Dinner starts at 6:30pm. You should call for a reservation at 363-2450 or 363-2562. When you are seated, identify yourself as an AYC member to your wait staff person. You will be given a slip that has the standard menu items (sandwiches, soups, etc.), and a special's menu for that evening. When you have made your selections, write it on the slip with your name and AYC at the top. There is no cash exchanged or tipping at the YHRR. YHRR will accept credit cards instead of you being billed. You can invite other friends besides your family members to join you for dinner, but they must charge their food and drinks through your credit card, or pay for their food directly on their own credit card.

AYC members are guests of YHRR, and we should be respect the privilege. Please dress appropriately for dinner (no jeans, and please wear collared shirts). Space is limited on the deck on nice evenings – you may want to consider sitting with others to free up tables – and to meet others. There will be certain days over the summer that YHRR will have events that conflict with the AYC dinners – check the calendar, or call in advance to check.

Can anyone come to the AYC summer events - even if we are only signed up for July lessons?

If you are an AYC member, all events for the summer are open to you and your family – even if your children are taking sailing or racing lessons in the first or second sessions.

What's the difference between a full member & a flag member?

There are two types of memberships at AYC – full members and flag members. The full membership is for families that want to use all the facilities of the club. The flag members are members that were

typically members for many years, and want to continue to support the club – but don't use the facilities. The Flag Members have been very generous over the years in helping the club with donations, and financial support. In the last few years, there have been about 100 Full Members, and about 25 Flag Members.

I have guests visiting by boat this summer; can they use the club's facilities?

Your guests are welcome to use the AYC facilities, but they need to be accompanied by an AYC club member. They can use the main dock to unload and pick up people and supplies, but they cannot tie up for an extended period of time. Unfortunately, there are no AYC guest moorings that are available. Visiting by boat: Your guest can tie their dinghy up at our floats to access the village shops, restaurants for a limited time, and transient guest moorings are available through the Harbormaster (channel 9 or 16) for a small fee.

Does the shower in the clubhouse have hot water?

There is a hot water tank and therefore it "should" have hot water. The AYC clubhouse is 'modest' at best – no towels, scented soap or freshly cut flowers.

How can I use my AYC membership for privileges at other yacht clubs?

At the beginning of the summer, we issue an identification card for each AYC family. Many yacht clubs will offer reciprocity privileges and will allow other clubs to use their facilities. If you are planning a trip to another club on a cruise, the Commodore can write a letter of introduction to that club.

What's the chance of getting slip space at the club docks for my boat?

Boat slips do not turn over often, and there is a 15' limit to the length of the boat. You can be put on a waiting list by contacting the AYC Dockmaster. There are kayak rack spaces available each year. York Harbor Marine has slip and storage spaces available.

How can I get involved with some of the AYC committees?

AYC is a non-profit, 501C3 club. The club is led by the AYC officers and directors. There are 5 committees that help plan and run the club each year. These committees are: Finance, Membership, Sail & Education, Fleet, and Clubhouse. Please contact one of the club's officers for more information.

What are some of the restrictions for use of the club?

The AYC property and docks are owned by a family that have their residence directly behind the clubhouse. We have a long-term year lease, and a few restrictions for the use of the property. These restrictions include no alcohol of any sort and no club activities after 6pm at night. Parking is very limited, and there is always a lot of activity dropping and picking up kids at the club. There is parking on York Street, and the club is just a short walk down Simpson Lane.

How do I buy those cool AYC sweatshirts?

AYC has a variety of logo merchandise available to the club members. In the clubhouse there are a sampling of the merchandise displayed on the wall. You can buy these items (assuming we have the right size!) from an instructor in the clubhouse. At various AYC summer events, we usually set up a table to sell the merchandise.

Who to contact to get more information?

Our sailing and racing instructors are very friendly and helpful, and anyone would be happy to answer your questions. Additionally below is a list of the AYC officers and directors with their summer phone numbers. They too will be more than willing to 'teach you the ropes'.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Telephone</i>
Doug Tuttle	Commodore	(207) 363-5420	Shappy Lapoint	Director	(207) 363-7833
Dan Morrison	Treasurer	(207) 363-3296	Dave Reynolds	Director	(207) 363-7968
Henry Harding	Secretary	(207)-363-9733	Marshall Jarvis	Director	(207) 363-3336
Jack Tracksler	Dockmaster	(207) 439-7405	Michael Brassard	Director	(207) 351-1196
			Chip Peter	Director	(207) 363-3368

AYC Rules and Policies

1. Everyone must show RESPECT for their fellow sailors (this includes all staff and the instructors), RESPECT for the boats, and RESPECT for our clubhouse and docks.
2. It is every sailor's RESPONSIBILITY to stow away all gear after each use. Please notify the staff of any problems immediately. You are expected to keep the clubhouse, docks and boats SHIP SHAPE! We want AYC to be clean, safe and organized.
3. A Personal Floatation Device (PDF) must be worn, properly fit and fastened, while on the docks and in any boat. You must HAVE YOUR OWN. All AYC boats must contain at least one PFD per occupant.
4. Running, rough play or rowdy behavior will NOT be tolerated. Remember voices carry far on the water and in the harbor. Please listen to the advice and directions of our experienced and well-trained staff.
5. There will be NO SWIMMING from the docks. This is a BUSY boating facility. SWIMMING IS ALLOWED with the direct supervision of and permission from the AYC staff on boats, floats and moorings.
6. Shoes or other appropriate FOOTWEAR must be worn at all times.
7. CLUB HOURS are from 9am – 6pm. Please show consideration for our neighbors. We welcome members to use the boats during open hours however children must be accompanied by an adult when not in class.
8. There is no smoking, fires or alcoholic beverages allowed on the AYC docks, boats, or in the clubhouse. Additionally, the AYC facility and docks are closed for use after 6:00PM.
9. Only Members and Staff can park at AYC. You are welcome to unload or pick up at any time. Please note that Simpson Lane is a No Parking zone.
10. Please see the daily dock master, the race coach or the program director if you have any questions, comments or concerns. Let's all have FUN on the water and BE SAFE!

Class Fee Refunds:

Class fees refunds can be made under the following conditions:

- Student does not pass the swim test

- Student/Parent changes their mind prior to the start of the first class

Class fees cannot be returned if:

- Student has already started the class and changes their mind
- Student signs up for full summer, but decides, after the first session, not to attend the second session (Refund will be granted, however if the slot can be filled prior to the start of the second session)

AYC Membership Fees - AYC Membership fees cover the entire summer season from June through September. We do not offer a monthly or a pro-rated fee for a partial membership. Memberships are to a specific family, and cannot be split between two or more families.

AYC Family Memberships cover all family members. A child who has reached the age of 21 can use the facilities if they are accompanied by a paid member. When the child of a family member reaches the age of 21, and want to use the facilities and boats alone, we will require that they obtain their own separate membership.

Dock Tie-Up's - AYC Members are allowed to tie up their boats to the active/floating AYC dock for a limited amount of time (maximum 30 minutes) during the busy summer hours. We ask that you keep the docks open during the sailing classes. Additionally, no member's boat may be tied up overnight to the active/floating dock or permanent pier. Your guests are welcome to use the AYC docks and facilities, but they need to be accompanied by an AYC club member. They can use the main dock to unload and pick up people and supplies, but they cannot tie up for more than 30 minutes. Unfortunately, there are no AYC guest moorings that are available. Visiting by boat: Your guest can tie their dinghy up at our floats to access the village shops up until 6pm at night. The dinghies must at no time block access to any of the paid berths at the floating AYC dock.

Dock Berths & Kayak Racks - Dock berths and kayak racks are on an 'available' basis to AYC club members who are paid in full. The berths and racks are not available to non-AYC members. The season is from May to October, and all boats and kayaks must be removed by the end of October for the winter season. AYC is not responsible for loss or damage to any boat or kayak that is in the water or on the racks.

Damage or Loss of AYC Property - Occasionally AYC property is lost or damaged during use by a club member. It is at the discretion of AYC as to whether we would require compensation by the club member for the repair or replacement of this property. Any loss or damage to AYC property must be reported at the time of the incident to the AYC Program Director. If the loss or damage is not reported to the Program Director within 24 hours of the incident, the club member will automatically assume responsibility for the replacement or repair of the AYC property or equipment.

Collision and damage to other boats or property in the harbor - Occasionally a boat operated by an AYC sailor or staff member will bump or collide with another non-AYC boat in the harbor – whether on a mooring or in motion. Most of these accidents do not result in damage, but we require that all collisions or damage to other non-AYC boats or property be reported at the time of the incident to the AYC Program Director. This is required even if no visible damage occurs during the incident.

Use of the AYC Boston Whalers or Husky launch - The use of the AYC Boston Whalers and Husky launch are for the trained AYC staff and Program Directors. They are not to be loaned to any AYC member or guest.