

April 15, 2014

Greetings fellow Water Rats:

Sailing season is only a few weeks away, which means that it is also time to renew your membership. Our annual membership fee is **\$254.25** (\$225 +HST). To speed up the registration process, you now have the option of **paying your membership fees online**. To do so, log onto www.waterrats.ca, click on the membership renewal message in the lower right area of the screen and follow the instructions (a link to additional instructions is included in the registration and clean-up day email).

To complete your membership renewal, you will also need to visit our club in person. Registration can be completed at the clubhouse on of the dates:

- Wednesday, April 16 (early registration) 6 pm – 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, April 30 6 pm – 7:30 pm
- Saturday, May 3 (registration and cleanup day) 11 am – 2 pm
- (Rain date - Sunday May 4 check website for updates)

What you need to register:

1. Your preprinted renewal form will be available at the club.
2. **You MUST bring a photocopy of your current insurance information with you in order to renew.** Renewal is not possible without valid liability insurance.
3. Remember to **bring your 2013 key for exchange** or you will have to pay another \$20 key deposit. Locks will change on cleanup day. People who register early, will not be able to use their new keys until the locks are changed on cleanup day.

LATE REGISTRATION: Membership fees increase to \$367.25 if not paid on or before May 3 cleanup day

(If you cannot attend any of the above, you must arrange a time, during one of the regular fleet race nights, to register.)

Membership for all classes of boats at the club is now capped and there is a waiting list to join. **If you have not renewed by May 31, your spot will be given to the next person in line.** Rejoining after this date can only be done by adding your name to the waiting list. If you will not be renewing your membership, please notify the [Body Rat](mailto:bodyrat@waterrats.ca) (membership) ASAP by going to the contact us section of our website: www.waterrats.ca.

Come Prepared! Please See the Registration Checklist

Clean-up Day Saturday, May 3, 10:00am - 4:00pm

(Rain date Sunday May 4 - Check website for updates)

Bring a rake & gloves & Snack, BBQ will be provided

See you at the club!
Water Rats Membership Committee

bodyrat@waterrats.ca
(policies on reverse)

Water Rat Sailing Club (WRSC) Membership Policies

Continuing Work or Pay Policy

We understand that our members' lives are becoming more hectic and it is extremely difficult for members to find time to get out on the water, much less put in volunteer hours. Water Rats is and has always been a volunteer club, no one is paid for the day-to-day operation of the club. In order to keep our property best maintained we are continuing the work or pay policy. *(Read below)*

WRSC Work or Pay Policy

1. All members are expected to volunteer for various approved maintenance, site improvement, or social activities. Per the 2013 AGM (minutes here) Work or Pay hours have been increased to 6 hours.
2. We are using our online system to track the hours. Unfulfilled hours will be billed at \$25/hr on next year's membership renewal.
3. Please use the Event Registration Page to register for Work or Pay events so your hours can be tracked.

Joining

1. Membership is open to anyone owning a dry-sailed dinghy, catamaran, sailboard, canoe or kayak.
2. The current WRSC Executive must approve new memberships.
3. A single membership covers one catamaran or one dinghy over 15 feet, or two dinghies under 15 feet, or two canoes/kayaks. Catamaran and dinghy members may also use their personal sailing boards, canoes and kayaks at the club. Boats over 21' LOA or over 475lbs are NOT allowed.

Fees

1. The WRSC season runs from 1 April to 31 March. Members may leave their boats at the Club during the winter months.
2. The annual fee is \$254.25 (\$367.25 if not paid on or before cleanup day).
3. New members must pay a non-refundable initiation fee of \$169.50. If a member leaves the club and subsequently rejoins within 2-years (absent for no more than two seasons), the initiation fee on rejoining is waived.
4. New members must pay a refundable fee of \$20 for a key to the Club's gates and clubhouse. Members must exchange previous year's key on renewal, or pay additional key deposit.
5. All members must maintain personal liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000
6. New membership fees are reduced from \$254.25 to \$141.25 after September 1.

Ongoing

1. Members must maintain their boats in a seaworthy condition and maintain the immediate area around their boats on a regular basis.
2. All boats and trailers kept at WRSC must be identified by the current season's stickers.
3. Boats and trailers cannot be locked to fixed items and must be able to be moved for ground maintenance.
4. Old tires (without rims) are not permitted on the grounds. Use other forms of support for your boat.
5. Masts must be lowered during winter storage
6. WRSC is not responsible for the safekeeping of member's boats and property or damage to same howsoever caused. Members are expected to do their part in keeping the Club secure and tidy. Gates and club equipment must be re-locked after entry.

Terminating Membership

1. Membership may be revoked for unsafe behaviour.
2. Member's property must be removed from the club within 30-days of terminating membership. Any item not removed shall be deemed abandoned and ownership forfeited to WRSC for disposition. For classes of boats for which waiting lists apply, failure to renew by June 3 will result in your space being given to the next person on the waiting list.
3. Membership is not transferable, i.e., if you sell your boat, the new owner cannot assume your membership or boat space.

Club bylaws are available on our website www.waterrats.ca