



# AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## WEEK #1 – 7/2-7/6

*AFSS is a program of the Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club*

Welcome to the 2018 AFSS family! What a glorious first week out on the water. Despite the weather being quite steamy, everyone was all smiles to be enjoying Maine's first real taste of summer this year.

The Beginner and Intermediate Classes were completely full with twelve students in each. This year we have four paid instructors and four volunteer instructors with a combined 65 years of sailing experience!



Our Beginner Class began their practice in Hunter 140s and quickly transitioned over to Optis. Once in the Optis, they were able to master their own vessel with an instructor in a nearby motorboat. With the energy and enthusiasm this class brought every morning, they were able to learn all of the basic sailing skills such as tacking and jibing, points of sail, and right of way within the first three days and put it all together by the fourth day.

In the Intermediate Class, the students applied what they learned from the Beginner Class. Taking to Hunters, Optis, or 420s, they practiced tacking and jibing on the whistle, man overboard drills, and trimming their sails for sailing upwind. With so many skills under their belts, most of the competitive spirits were unphased by the windy afternoon late in the week. Even after that gusty encounter, the 420s were the group's favorite type of boat, so we think it is safe to say, "Racing, here they come!"



Despite the rain and following glassy smooth water, Friday still turned out to be a "Fun Friday." After land games, including a version of Duck, Duck, Goose that included typing knots, Capture the Flag, and Sailing Jeopardy, the ice cream social and awards was a big hit, as always. Then, in the afternoon, while the lack of wind prevented the Intermediates from sailing right away, we all learned and practiced how to row a dinghy. Our first ever dinghy relay race took place with lots of cheering and laughs.

Saturday's Pancake Breakfast was a huge success with a total of 185 people that attended. There were many great items to bid on at the Silent Auction as well as a beautiful raffle basket. With an intense competition of pancake makers (primarily the staff) in the classroom and on the porch, fun was had by all.

We cannot wait to see what the rest of this summer brings us!





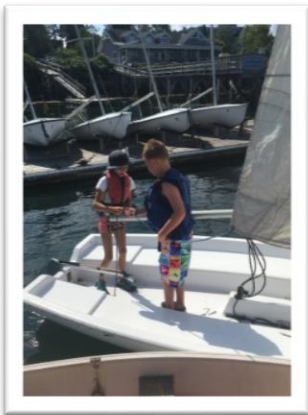
# AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## WEEK #2 – 7/9-7/13

*AFSS is a program of the Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club*

The Abbot Fletcher Sailing School had another wonderful week on the water! There was not a drop of rain while we experienced heavy and light wind sailing. It was exciting to see that many students returned from the first week, along with some new faces.

Both the Beginner and Intermediate classes were smaller than the first week by about half, which allowed for more one-on-one instruction. Including our Junior Instructors, Augie Lienert, Ashley St. Louis, and Connor Dillon, our staff has been blessed with four volunteers. Mitch Lienert is a returning US Sailing Level One certified volunteer who has been a part of AFSS for about ten years. Jack Theberge is volunteering for a second year and has been sailing with AFSS for about five years. Galen Bennie has been sailing with AFSS for five years, and this is his first year as a volunteer. Alex Sarna has been sailing with AFSS for three years and is volunteering for the first time this summer as well. Every instructor and volunteer has been working diligently to make sure the students are safe and have a wonderful time. AFSS could not have asked for a better group of instructors to start the 2018 season.



In the Beginner Class, three students had taken the class before, and we welcomed three siblings who have never sailed. We were able to do much of the basic sailing lessons in a Hunter with the siblings, while we differentiated our instruction for the students who needed extra practice but not necessarily a full explanation again. We hope that our love of sailing rubbed off on the three siblings.



The Intermediate Class loved to switch up which boats they were sailing and almost every student experienced sailing an Opti, a Hunter, and a 420 throughout the week. The class had so many different personalities which made for a fun week.

A very exciting addition has been made to the AFSS fleet. This week, the Rhodes 19 was rigged up and placed on its mooring for our team to use as we please. The Rhodes is a great boat to learn sailing on, as it is fun and very stable. The instructors are planning on giving this boat a lot of love this summer, hopefully starting next week.

We are all crossing our fingers to have this perfect weather continue over the next four weeks, so pack your lifejacket, hat, and sunscreen, and come sail with us!

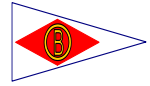




# AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## WEEK #3 – 7/16-7/20/18

*AFSS is a program of the Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club*



Now that we are done with week number three, it is so hard to believe that the summer sailing program at the Abbot Fletcher Sailing School is already half over! This week's weather was the most dramatic it has been yet. Beautiful sunshine, thick fog, a downpour of rain, heavy wind gusting to twenty knots, and then no breeze at all made for an exciting week.

The Beginner Class saw the most diverse weather changes but had smiling faces no matter what happened! The students were able to try out every type of boat if they wanted to--there were even a couple of adventurous girls who sailed a Club 420 boat! An extra fun fact from this group was that there were two sets of twins!



In our Intermediate Class, we saw the fastest overall improvement of the summer! We had quite a few skilled Opti sailors, and those who sailed the Hunters were very competent without an instructor in their boat. With our new boat addition of the Rhodes 19, the students were able to experience sailing on a larger keel boat with an instructor. The students really enjoyed a change of pace with the Rhodes.

Our Racing Class was welcomed back with enthusiasm. We tried to master as many things as we could within a short timeframe. There is so much to learn and we hope those students return next year to pick up where they left off. While sailing in the Club 420s, they learned some



race tactics on a few types of courses and honed their communication skills.

On "Fun Friday," the Intermediate and Racing Classes came together on the water to play a big game of Capture the Flag. The teams worked together to decide who would guard the flag and who would play offense to try and capture the other team's flag. With a small playing field, two 420s, four Optis, a Hunter, the Rhodes, and two orange life jackets serving as flags, it was definitely a fun time.

With the next three weeks to go, we look forward to the continuing adventures!





*Beginner Class Week 3*



*Intermediate Class Week 3*



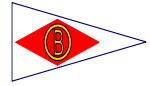
*Racing Class Week 3 with instructors Erin Kenyon & Connor Dillon*



# AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## WEEK #4 – 7/23-7/27/18

*AFSS is a program of the Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club*



While the weather was dreary and and enthusiasm of the students was past the mooring field, except on our Despite the “pea-soup” fog, we learning about safety in the fog and sunshine.



foggy this week at AFSS, the spirit not! Each day, we struggled to see Fun Friday ice cream social. were out sailing every day and that sailing is still exciting without



Our team welcomed Kate Mason to the instructor team as a first-time volunteer. She recently completed the Racing Class and was very excited to work with the students in the Beginner and Intermediate Classes. While this is her first time volunteering, it was very clear that she has a natural teaching ability, instructing at every chance she got while showing her impressive classroom management skills.

The newest addition, the Rhodes 19, was used in the Beginner and Intermediate Classes with the kids eagerly climbing aboard. Working with the Rhodes, which can sail faster than the Hunter 140s and the Optis, we are able to take the classes further up the channel, which is always exciting.

The students in the Beginner Class were naturals at knot tying and docking. It felt like much more of an Intermediate Class than a Beginner Class. We are very excited to see a few students will be moving on to the Intermediate Class next week.

In the Intermediate Class, there were only four students, three of whom came back from week one! With such a small class, we were able to spend more time sailing in the Rhodes, which gave the students an opportunity to handle a larger boat for the duration of the week.

Our second and final week of racing has come to a close. This group was very unique. They were very quiet and enthusiastic. We had one Opti racer who was particularly determined and motivated in racing with the much faster Club 420 boats. There was great improvement seen in such a short amount of time with these six kids.

Only two weeks to go, and there is still room to sign up in both the Beginner and Intermediate Classes!

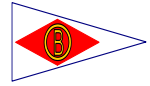




# AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## WEEK #5 – 7/30-8/3/18

*AFSS is a program of the Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club*



It was another beautiful and fun filled week at AFSS. Unlike last week, the weather was cooperative with sunshine and perfect wind every day. Let's hope it continues into next week!

This week we welcomed Sarah Jackman as a second-time volunteer. Sarah is entering her second year in college and was a student at the Abbot Fletcher Sailing School for many years. Sarah brings her excellent sailing skills as well as her natural ability to work with kids, which makes for another wonderful addition to the AFSS staff.

Our students this past week hailed from as near as Great Island, Brunswick, and Bath, and as far away as Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, Illinois, and London, England.



The Beginner Class experienced steady light winds during the week, which allowed them to become comfortable in the boats. The class followed the coach boats much of the week, played a game where they tried to touch a buoy that was hanging off the stern, and practiced staying inside of a large circle of moored boats. They started their week off in the Rhodes and Hunters and by the end they all tried sailing Optis, most of them for the first time.

Our Intermediate students were very energetic. It was nice to see students from last year reconnect with one another, all while making new friends. Everyone was very eager to try new boats, so on Fun Friday, that meant taking out the Laser for the first time this season!

As we sail into our final week (pun intended), we hope for good weather and even more memories to be made. We will see quite a few students return next week from both the Beginner Class, moving into the Intermediate Class, as well as Intermediate students continuing in the class.

There are a few spots left in the Beginner Class, but our Intermediate Class is full! Bring your enthusiasm for our final hurrah this summer!





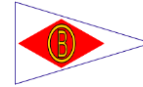


**COME, JOIN IN THE FUN!**



# AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## WEEK #6 – 8/6-8/10/18



*AFSS is a program of the Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club*

Wow! We have just wrapped up another season at the Abbot Fletcher Sailing School. Where did this summer go? We were so fortunate to have yet another gorgeous week with a wonderful mix of light and heavy wind.



Our Beginner Class was quite small, with only six students. Most of the students were first timers, which makes for an exciting opportunity to welcome more people into our family! Despite most of the class just learning how to sail, they were a group of quick learners. They mastered their knots faster than any other Beginner Class this summer!



The Intermediate Class, consisting of 10 students, was largely made up of returning students from the prior week's Beginner class. We introduced the Laser to them, and they couldn't get enough of it! Most students had one-on-one instruction, but two young ladies were able to sail the Laser without an instructor. This was a very

impressive group of kids who not only really began to master their skills, but also had the most confidence we have seen all summer. What a wonderful way to end the season with these two classes.





The AFSS staff would like to thank everyone involved in making our wonderful sailing school possible: our students and their families, the members of OBYC, and, of course, to the Sailing Committee members (the Fab Four)! All the help, support, and love that the AFSS receives before, during, and after is incredibly heartwarming.

On Friday, many extra hands made light work to make sure all of the boats were safely tucked away until next season. Even though next summer is a long way off, it will be here before we all know it!

Until next summer!

*Don't forget to follow and 'Like' us on Facebook: Abbot Fletcher Sailing School.*

*Intermediate Class Week 3*



*Racing Class Week 3 with instructors Erin Kenyon & Connor Dillon*