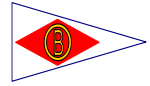




AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEKS #1 & 2 – 7/1-7/12/19

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



Starting the 2019 season at Abbot Fletcher Sailing School is not just another season, but our 20th season! We are so grateful for all of the support from the AFSS families, OBYC Club Members, and the surrounding communities! We hope to continue for another twenty years and beyond!

What a glorious first two weeks out on the water. The Maine summer seemed to jump from dreary and cold for what seemed like forever to suddenly non-stop sunshine! All except for about two days, we had a perfect amount of wind for the Beginner, Intermediate, and Racing classes that have gotten underway.

Our returning instructor Augie Lienert has jumped right back into his role, and his very dedicated younger brother, Mitch Lienert, has begun his first year as a Junior Instructor after two seasons as a volunteer. Karl Kreuze is a first-year volunteer, and we are excited to have him on board. Another first-year volunteer, Tadd Nelson, was with us during the first week and will return later this summer. We were also excited to have Chelsea Hartnett, a former AFSS instructor, return for the second week of classes. As we continue the season, we look forward to having more instructors and volunteers join the crew.



The Beginner classes have been full for these first two weeks with a bit fewer in the Intermediate classes. Whatever the number is in each class, there has not been a lack of enthusiasm! Many students have returned with plenty of new faces and personalities as well.

Our Beginner class began their practice in Hunter 140s and

quickly transitioned to Optis by the second day. 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 week and put it all together during the second week, when the majority of them returned. During the second week, even the Rhodes 19 made an exciting trip on 'Fun Friday.'



Intermediate 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 upwind sailing.

Our newly extended Racing Class began on the second week to last an additional week this season. They all worked really hard to learn a great deal of information in a very short period of time to prepare to travel to a larger race next week. They will be competing against many other sailors along the coast of Maine, and even teams from New Hampshire. It will take place on Peak's Island and will be a fun, first-time experience for the students.

The Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction was a huge success with a total of 244 people who attended. We had several larger items available in the auction this year: a Howmar12 sailboat, a Dyer sailing dinghy, a 3hp Nissan motor that previously belonged to the Rhodes 19, and a week's stay at a guest house in Florida that was donated by AFSS parents. With a wonderful turnout of volunteers to set up, prepare and serve the breakfast as well as clean up, everything went smoothly.

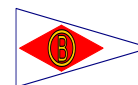
We cannot wait to see what the rest of this summer brings us!



AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK #3 – 7/15-7/19/19

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



Just like that, our 20th season is halfway over! Time really does fly by when you are having fun! We were again incredibly fortunate with the weather this week, only getting some rain on Wednesday morning. Thankfully we were able to dodge the steamy heat this weekend as well.



The majority of the Beginner Class was completely new to sailing which is always exciting. They all made huge growth throughout the week and were able to sail the Optis, the Hunter, as well as the Rhodes 19. They were able to experience some very light wind as well as some more moderate wind, taking it all in stride and really showing what natural-born

sailors they all are.

The Intermediate Class also took off with tremendous capability. With this week being second week for most of the students, they were able to further develop their skills with practice. By the end of the week, all students were successfully sailing in the 420s! It is clear that all of these students will be ready for racing



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This week was an exciting week for the Racing Class. For the first time in four years, students from AFSS participated in a sailing race at a different yacht club. We travelled to Peaks Island on Wednesday to compete against four other clubs from around the area in a more relaxed setting to begin race experiences. To begin, there was a cookout so all of the teams could mingle and be well prepared for a long afternoon on the water. There were eleven 420 boats and seven Optimists that were all able to participate in a total of eight races. We were able to borrow two boats so all four

students were able to race the entire time. Even though AFSS came in last place overall, we had so much fun and got our name back out in the racing scene. For the last two days of the week the group was also able to master the tricky skill of flying a spinnaker!



Sadly, we said goodbye to our volunteer Karl and very much appreciate his help over the last three weeks. Next week we will welcome Jack Hermon as he begins his first season as a volunteer. Tadd Nelson, having spent the past two weeks at the Maine School of Math & Science that he will be attending this fall, will return to volunteer in the morning while attending the racing program in the afternoon.



AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK #4 – 7/22-7/26/19

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



Another week gone and only two to go. Unbelievable! We continued to have beautiful sun most of the week but our was less cooperative. However, despite light winds the students had such a wonderful time and really amazed us their light-wind handling skills.



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In the Beginner Class, the students sailed in Optis all week, and their skills progressed at a very steady rate. Seeing all of the little Optis on the water from a distance reminds us of little ducklings keeping close together. They were a very energetic and enthusiastic class that got along with each other well. They will be missed this week.

The Intermediate Class was small, yet possessed much talent. For the first time all summer, all students were ready to sail 420s the entire week. They all did an amazing job and many of them will be ready for racing within the next couple of years, if not next year.

Our second Racing Class began this week and, with an odd number of students, our volunteer Jack was able to coach one-on-one in a boat to even out the number. They worked hard all week and were even able to learn how to fly the spinnakers a few days early! Next week they will be able to put their spinnaker work into play while practicing racing as well. We are all excited to see how that goes.

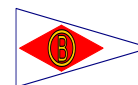




AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK #5 – 7/29-8/2/19

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



We have been very blessed this summer, for we had yet another beautiful weather week. The wind was light when it needed to be and moderate when the kids were ready for more of a challenge. Let's cross our fingers for one final week of perfect weather.



We had a full class of Beginners who were all new to AFSS and sailing! It was incredibly exciting and rewarding to be the first instructors for these kids who will hopefully continue to sail. There were a couple of kids who decided to take the class because their siblings, who had taken the class before, loved it so much. This is always wonderful to hear! We would love to have everyone back next summer to continue the skills they learned.

The Intermediate Class was a great combination of kids who really seemed to enjoy each other's company. They were another high flying group that were able to sail in the 420s all week. The majority of the class is coming back next week so we look forward to working with them again. On the last day, the Intermediate Class and the Racing Class combined to play an exciting game of capture the flag on the water. This is always an intense game that challenges their right-of-way as well as their sail-trim knowledge to make sure they have as much or as little speed that they might need.



This week was the final week for the Racing Classes. Despite this group not being able to travel to a race outside of the club due to scheduling conflicts, they were able to master their racing skills. Their spinnaker flying was particularly impressive to watch up close and at a distance. These racers were even able to prove their skills in the Optis! Our Junior Instructor Mitch, and Head Instructor Erin even showed their skills in the Optis which was quite a humorous event. We have really enjoyed working with these

kids for two weeks and will miss them. Watching students come up through the ranks is always our goal and there is a good chance that we will be seeing at least a couple of them next season as volunteers!

As we look to the next and final week, we said goodbye and good luck wonderful Junior Instructor Ashley St. Louis, who is headed off to her of college. Ashley was an incredible help as she and her cousin, Chelsea tag-teamed to fill the much needed third instructor position. A huge to both of these young ladies. Tadd Nelson also completed his first volunteering, and we thank him for his contributions to the team as

to our
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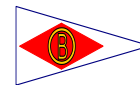




AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK #6 – 8/5-8/9/19

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



Just like that our 20th season has come to a close. It is incredible how fast time goes by when you are having fun sailing! Our weather was more varied this week with beautiful sunshine, light wind, moderate wind, and even some fog, but there is no complaining from us!

With school beginning sooner for many kids, we did not have a Beginner Class in the morning. While it would have been more fun to have students around, we were able to get the majority of the boats stowed for the season. A huge thank you to who helped get everything put away for the winter!



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everyone



Despite there being only one class this week, the group of five Intermediate students far made up the spirit of our wonderful Abbot Fletcher Sailing School. There was never a dull moment with this group, whether they were in the classroom, practicing land drills, or out on the water. This Friday, for the first time this summer, we were able to have a “party boat.” This consisted of sailing to Stover’s Cove, tying the Rhodes 19 off of the back of the anchored coach boat, playing music from a wireless speaker, and having fun swimming off of the boats. Once they had their fill of swimming, they were able to hop back into their boat all together and have a beautiful sail before the end of class. This was a great group of kids, and we hope to see one of them as a volunteer

instructor next year!



With the end of the season comes more sad goodbyes. Our five-year instructor, Augie Lienert, will be leaving us for internships after his second year at Grove City College. He has been an incredible instructor for us all these years, and we wish him luck in his future endeavors. Fortunately, we are able to have his brother Mitch returning next year to continue his second year as a junior instructor. Jack Herman was also a great help as a first-



year volunteer for the past three weeks.

As this season comes to an end, we are so grateful for all of the support from everyone associated with OBYC and those who came from outside of OBYC. See you next year!