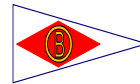




AFSS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK #1 – 6/29/26-7/3/26

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



Welcome to Abbot Fletcher Sailing School season of 2026! My name is Pete Worthington, and this is my second year at the helm. The Sailing Committee, the instructors, volunteers, and the club members and guests are 100% behind this program's success. It's great to be back!

We are happy to have Elena Rodriguez back as an instructor, and we have added Claire Filipowicz as our second instructor. They both have been with AFSS since they were 8 years old. Our volunteers this first week were Adelaide Pulju and Fiona Tillinglast. They are both Intermediate sailors. We also had Mark Nickerson as an adult with a passion towards sailing and experience teaching sailing at summer camps.



Our morning Beginner class was an even mix of boys and girls from the ages of 8-12. Some of the more challenging experiences were getting out "of irons" or being stuck with the bow facing into the wind with luffing sails. We had very hot weather with temps in the 90's. Fortunately, there was some wind the entire week with two mornings providing 6-8 knots of wind. This allowed us to be on the water every day. We mostly sailed in our single crew Opti's, but also got half of the class who were interested into the Rhodes19 where a group of six students got the

opportunity to steer, handle the mainsheet and handle the leeward jib sheet.

Our afternoon Intermediate class was small but very cohesive. All were solid sailors who were challenged on more difficult tasks on the 420 sailboats. The 420's are two-person boats that are very popular on the college and professional racing circuit. They are fast and lively. The wind picked up in the afternoon to a bit over 10 knots. There was some excellent sailing and tacking drills leading out the Sound and jibing drills coming downwind. The class took one day out in the Rhodes together with instructors in the coach boat. They had a fun and exhilarating time heeling the Rhodes to the gunwale (that's the upper side of the boat).





The annual pancake breakfast fundraiser was a huge success on July 4th. Thanks for all your support. Our instructors and members of the Sailing Committee were busy flipping hundreds of pancakes.

The annual online silent auction that benefits the School's reserve for capital items such as boats and engines is live for bidding until July 9. Please seek this out and participate by going to <https://givebutter.com/c/afss2026>. There are some excellent goods, gift certificates and opportunities available.

