



NATIONAL SAILING
ACADEMY

CHANGING LIVES ONE
TACK AT A TIME

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Academy Year - 2023-24



ABOUT THE NSA

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The National Sailing Academy (founded in 2010) offers the opportunity for children in Antigua to learn to sail and swim for free of charge as part of the national curriculum. Founded by Elizabeth Jordan, then Commodore of Antigua Yacht Club, and located at the Yacht Club for its first four years, it moved to its current stand-alone location on Dockyard Drive, English Harbour and opened its doors in January 2014.

Mission – to change the lives of young people in Antigua by introducing them to sailing as a leisure option and a career pathway



WHY IS SAILING SO IMPORTANT TO OUR YOUTH

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- Builds general confidence
- Builds confidence in and on the water
- Teaches awareness of the environment
- Teaches understanding of wind and weather
- Offers opportunities for a career pathway – the only sport in Antigua that offers career opportunities
- Opportunities to participate in a competitive sport, and for those who excel, to go on to represent Antigua regionally and internationally.



WHY IS SAILING SO IMPORTANT TO ANTIGUA?

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- Major contribution to economic growth (Antigua Sailing Week alone is estimated to contribute EC\$6,000,000+ to the economy annually).
- It is an industry offering huge career opportunities to qualified people working in Antigua and overseas, leading to increase in foreign currency into Antigua.
- Yachting events are a key driver for people visiting the island so play a major part in tourism arrivals.
- Yachting continues to grow as an industry with more superyachts being built annually and in need of support services and the people to deliver them.



OFFERS A MULTITUDE OF CAREERS

- Tradesman
- Skippers
- Coaches
- Meteorology/ Coastguards
- Dockmasters dayworkers
- Regatta organizers
- Superyacht & Cruisehships
- Operate your own business



SAILABILITY

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The NSA also runs the only 'Sailability' programme in the Caribbean, and one of only three in the world outside of the UK, for physically and intellectually challenged children and adults. Schools who attend include the Victory Centre, The Adele School, The National Rehabilitation Centre and the Care Project. In the majority of cases the attendees are taken out for a sail in the harbour, but those who show promise and aptitude are further trained to sail, in some cases, solo. For many of the participants, this is their only physical activity outside of their daily environment, and the joy they experience is evident. For many it is the only recreational activity they experience. This programme is also free of charge to the participants. With a new Sailability bus we now have the ability to reach out into the community and bring children and adults to the facility to sail.



GENDER EQUALITY

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The school supports the growth and inclusion of girls/women in the sport.

At our recent graduation for 2023-23 academic year we saw a ratio of 50;50 boys top girls. The first time in our history.

We have 3 out of 10 female instructors on staff.

Junella King, one of our previous instructors, is about to embark on the Round the World Race on board an all female boat, the Maiden Factors who's purpose is to inspire women into STEM subjects.



DEMOGRAPHICS

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Instructors

- Trained Instructors – 21
- Captains License – 11
- CSA Resort Instructor Trainers – 2
- Resort Instructors trained – 13
- Professional crew - 3

Students

- Age 8-80
- 60 students per year learn to swim
- 200 students per year learn to sail over 3 terms
- 80 Sailability students per week sail on the sailability programme





THE INSTRUCTORS & GRADUATES

All of our staff are RYA Dinghy Instructors and some have keelboat experience. The school supports continued education of the instructors as part of developing employment pathways. The majority of the instructors on the programme learned to sail at the Academy itself and many have now gone on to careers around Antigua in the yachting industry.

GRADUATES

- Jules Mitchell – Keel boat skipper and now works at North Sails and as professional race crew.
- Junella King– crew of the Maiden Factor
- Maliek Patterson & Mauriceson Valentine – Sailing instructor at Jumby Bay Resort.
- Joshua Daniels – Senior Dinghy Instructor: STCW: ENG1 and RYA Coastal skipper qualifications. After a stint as Deputy Waters Manager at the NSA he is now employed as a private contractor in the industry.
- Stephon Dundas – RYA Yachtmaster, Skipper at Dream Yacht Charters
- Malik Charles – Crew member on board Team Liquid for the 2022 & 2023 Caribbean Yachting Season.
- Daniel Brown - race on Volvo 60 Green Dragon in the 2023 Caribbean 600 & gifted a youth membership of the RORC Club in the UK.



THE MAIDEN FACTOR

Junella King began her career as part of the Maiden crew in October 2021. The boat is on a world tour to inspire women to sail and to take STEM subjects.

Junella started her sailing career on the NSA Learn to Sail Programme as a student at All Saints Secondary School and eventually trained as RYA instructors.

Junella is still on board and her new role will take her around the world to potentially 40 countries over the next 3 years.

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STAR SAILORS LEAGUE

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The Star Sailors League is a circuit created by sailors and for sailors. This international regatta circuit was launched in 2013 and since it has brought together all regattas raced in the Star Class and offers a ranking based on the ATP World.

Antigua has a team competing in the finals in Bahrain in October 2022 and a number of our alumni will be board. Jules Mitchell is skipper along with Junella King, Mauriceson Valentine and Rhone Kirby.

Antigua qualified for the final and is awaiting a date for the competition.



ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND FUNDING

The school is a registered non-profit corporation and is self-financing. Audited annual accounts are completed and available on our website. The board is a volunteer board including President Elizabeth Jordan.

The team are very focused on ongoing revenue opportunities to under-pin the operations, but are consistently challenged with staff costs, maintenance and capital requirements.

The school is therefore very dependent upon benefactors, funds and corporate sponsorship.



COSTS AND REVENUES

- Cost of running the academy – approximated US\$400k annually
- Revenue is generated from Accommodation, Sailing Lessons, Onsite tenants & Events
- The balance of monies is generated through sponsorship which needs to be US\$120k for the 2023-2024 school year

THE FUTURE FOCUS

- Demand has increased for the School's Programme. There are now schools on the wait list. We need to further grow revenue streams to be able to service the demand. At this point we have 14 schools compared to 10 pre-Covid.
- Develop a tourism product around sailing holidays to assist in summertime revenues to support the grass roots programme
- Increase outreach into the differently-abled community, focusing on adults who are not attending one of the main schools (who we already teach) but who need individual transport and 1 on 1 time with our instructors.
- Further develop our training programme for school leavers to support their development into the industry.
- Develop a dinghy racing programme which will mean more underprivileged children will get the opportunity to develop into the 'hot' racers of the future



SCHOLARSHIPS

There are now 14 schools attending the academy, with an average of 15 students per class. The programme is free of charge to attending kids. We will host approximately 280 students per week through this school year, 200 on the school programme and 80 on the sailability programme.

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SCHOLARSHIPS

We are seeking for support for the additional students for this year – approx. one hundred more than last year, as well as sponsorship of our existing schools.

- One student for one class is US\$15/EC\$40
- One child per year (30 weeks) US\$450/EC\$1215
- With the increase in interest and class sizes, one school for 30 weeks is US\$6750 / EC\$18,225 per year based on 15 students per school
- Any contribution towards these fees is gratefully received and wisely spent.



NEW BOATS FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Our fleet is used daily, and our learn to sail fleet, specifically the RS Zests need replacement.

Lead time on orders is about 9 months and each boat costs US\$4000. We need 10 in total.

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SPONSORS SAILS FOR ZESTS & FEVAS

We have a fleet of 18 zests and fevas which are regularly out on the water for both learn to sail and performance training.

Logo placement on a sail is US\$200 per sail for one year. Sponsor provides sticker – one for each side of main sail.

Funds received will be spent on the maintenance of the boats including spare boats as breakages happen.

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NEW BOATS FOR SAILABILITY PROGRAMME

We have three RS Ventures which are used every day for the Sailability programme, being adaptable for even the most severely disabled person. They are also perfect boats for group rides, adult learn to sail and harbour tours and therefore the most versatile boats we have. We need two further boats for the fleet The cost is 20,000 GBP each. Plus shipping. (Expressed in GBP due to the current exchange rate fluctuations.

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TROLLEYS

With increased usage of the boats due to more students, it increases the number of times trolleys are used to take boats into and out of the water, and therefore increased wear and tear.

We need to spend US\$10,000/ EC\$27,000 over the next year to replace and maintain the trolleys, especially for the Hansa Fleet, also used for our Sailability programme.

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THE BOARD

PATRON

His Excellency , The Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams

GOVERNING BOARD

Founder & President:

–

Ms. Elizabeth Jordan.

Secretary: Mr. Peter Anthony

–

Proprietor, Ondeck Ocean Racing Ltd

Director: Mr. Bob Bailey

–

Director for Sailabiliy

Director: Mr. Paul Jackson

–

Company Director (Retired)

Director: Mr Pep Perry

-

Retired

For further interest in discussing sponsorships or donations of any kind please get in touch with Alison Sly-Adams, General Manager

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