



SJJF Newsletter

May 2017



Early Bird Registration Discount Deadline

You are encouraged to sign up for classes early and take advantage of the **\$25 per class discount for registering for classes before June 1st** (or before July 1st for the Paw Paw Lake Yacht Club classes).

Register online at www.SJJF.org

Saturday, June 3

Work Day
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Help prepare our facilities inside and out. **Volunteers are welcome** and refreshments will be provided. Join us whenever you can!



7 Lighthouse Lane
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Open House
4:00 - 5:00 PM

Meet, greet and learn about our program. Refreshments provided!

We welcome back Petra Dietz, Executive Sailing Instruction Director

Petra will be leading the new Women's class on Thursday evenings.

Petra not only brings a wealth of sailing experience, but 31 years of teaching physical education including coaching competitive swimming and adventure trip leadership. Her experience with 5th graders through the collegiate level puts her in a unique position to further build excellence into the sailing programs.



Like and follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SJJF.org) 

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Meet some of our 2017 instruction staff:

Andy Grootendorst

Andy Leads the Adult Sailing on Tuesday Evenings

Andy grew up in our SJJF program and went on to sail on the Michigan State University team, and was a Top 10 ranked Hobie racer 3 years in a row. He is a Mac race "goat" starting the Chicago to Mackinac race in 1969, and is a three time winner! He has won numerous Queen's Cup and Tri-State regattas, and was skipper of the 2012 Chicago "Boat of the Year." Learn to sail, or learn and sail fast with Andy.



Patrick Sawyer, Head Instructor

Patrick has been sailing since he was around 7 years old when he began sailing at SJJF. His favorite boat is a Laser because it is fun to go fast. This will be his third year as an instructor at SJJF. Outside of sailing, Patrick likes to swim occasionally and go for bike rides. He will be attending Michigan Tech next year majoring in Engineering. A little-known fact about Patrick is that he enjoys playing the violin. He was the WSJM Sports Berrien County Student Athlete of the Week for Swimming February 19, 2017 and qualified for the Michigan Boys State Swim Meet in both his junior and senior years. Patrick was in National Honors Society, Chamber Orchestra, and served as a Senior Mentor to the freshman during the first week of school. He is a 2017 graduate of St. Joseph Senior High School.



Becca Meyer, Instructor

Becca has been sailing since she was six months old; her parents had Becca out on their Catalina as soon as the ice broke on the Lake! Her favorite boat that she has ever sailed was a custom Farr 40 called Desperado in New York for a collegiate regatta. This is her first year as an instructor at SJJF. She is almost always near a boat when she's not sailing. Becca likes to play outside, discover new music, and play pretty much any card game. She just completed her second year at Michigan State where she participates on the sailing team and studies Environmental Sustainability and Professional Writing. A little known fact about Becca is that she can name all the presidents in order.



Matthew Tan, Instructor

Matthew Tan has been sailing for 8 years. He has won Best Crew 2014 and Racing Sailor of the Year 2016 awards from the St Joseph Junior Foundation, as well as the Most Valuable Player award for Fall 2016 season from the Cranbrook School's sailing team for his participation in the interscholastic sailing regattas. Matthew enjoys sailing both the opti and 420, but has been racing predominantly 420s. Outside of sailing, Matthew enjoys playing the violin, piano and clarinet. He also likes building and programming drones and robots for competitions. Matthew is currently a sophomore at Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. A non sailing-related fact about Matthew is that he has been performing in drama and musical theater productions since he was in kindergarten, and to date has been in twenty-one productions.