



Aberdeen & Stonehaven Yacht Club

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Welcome to Aberdeen and Stonehaven Yacht Club (ASyc), located in the North East of Scotland and an active, friendly dinghy sailing club with a competitive racing program, family sailing and a strong junior program. The club is open to sailors of all ages and abilities and offers the opportunity to sail in two very different locations during the year.

This membership information has been put together to answer some of the common questions asked by new members or potential new members to the club.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to sailors of all abilities and ages. The membership secretary will help you join the club and introduce you to other members.

Frequently Asked Questions around membership

How do you join ASyc?: All you need to do is download and complete a membership form from the club website. There are various classes of membership:

Class	Cost	Adults	Students/ Juniors	Duties
Full	£110	1 sailing		3
Full Family	£210	2 sailing	+children	3
Restricted Family	£150	1 sailing + 1 social	+children	3
Junior (under 18)	£35		1	none
Student (18-23 in full time education)	£35		1	3 encouraged
Social	£40	1 non-sailing		none

In addition, there are charges if you have your own boat:

Harbour Fee £80: Stonehaven Harbour launching fee levied by Aberdeenshire Council, payable to ASyc who pass it on to Aberdeenshire Council

Boat Storage £35: For storing a dinghy at Stonehaven/Skene (1 x fee for both venues)

Is there a membership waiting list?: Currently no, but the club membership is close to capacity.

How do the duties work?: The club is run on a volunteer basis and duties are essential to allow our sailing program to be run and shared amongst our members. Duty expectations are set out in the table above, and we use an online system (Dutyman) to allocate duties and manage swaps. Duties are:

Officer of the Day (OOD)	In charge, runs the races. An experienced club member.
Assistant OOD (AOOD)	Helps the OOD. No experience necessary.
Rescue Lead (Rescue 1)	In charge of the Rescue RIB. Must have PB2 qualification + ideally Safety Boat trained
Rescue Assistant (Rescue 2)	Helps in rescue RIB. No experience necessary

Note: Rescue Lead and Assistant are expected to wear wetsuit or drysuit as well as a buoyancy aid in case they need to get in the water to assist someone.

As a member, will I be able to learn how to drive the rescue boat?: We offer powerboat training to club members. The club has several members who are powerboat instructors and is a RYA approved centre. Powerboat courses are normally run early in the year. They are at cost (normally free) and you will be asked to do additional duties that year to reinforce your learning.

I'm not a member. Can I enroll in a powerboat course?: No, our courses are for members only so that they can drive our rescue boats.

What equipment do I need to join?: Usual kit to get started is wetsuit, boots (or trainers), spray top, gloves & buoyancy aid or lifejacket. The club has access to kit for hire at Skene (through Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust) and a limited selection of kit at Stonehaven collected over the years, suitable to get members up & running. All club members must wear a buoyancy aid or lifejacket whilst on the water.

Can I join if I do not have a boat?: Yes, the club has a fleet of over 20 boats, suitable for children and adults (single & double handed), with a variety of performance depending on experience (see ASYC boat section for further information).

Do you run lessons?: We have a strong and popular junior lessons programme – see below. We don't run adult lessons and for adult beginners we recommend taking RYA Levels 1 to 3 with Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust (AST) (www.aberdeenshiresailing.org) before joining. We offer a discounted first year membership to anyone who has taken lessons with AST

ASYC BOATS

ASYC has a fleet of over 20 boats available for members use including:

- Optimist
- Topper
- Laser with full, radial rigs & 4.7 rigs
- Pico
- RS Feva
- Blaze
- Laser 2000
- Laser Stratos
- RS400 (approved, competent sailors only)

Frequently Asked Questions around ASYC boats

What does hire of ASYC boats cost?: Normal charge is £5/session for a single-handed boat, £10/session for a double handed boat. Use of ASYC boats is free for Junior members and adult members in their first year of membership.

Are there other requirements to hire boats? All sailors are required to wear suitable clothing and a buoyancy aid and should be competent to handle the boat in the prevailing weather conditions. Boats can only be hired while there is a rescue boat on the water.

I'm not a member. Can I hire a boat?: No, they are for member use only.

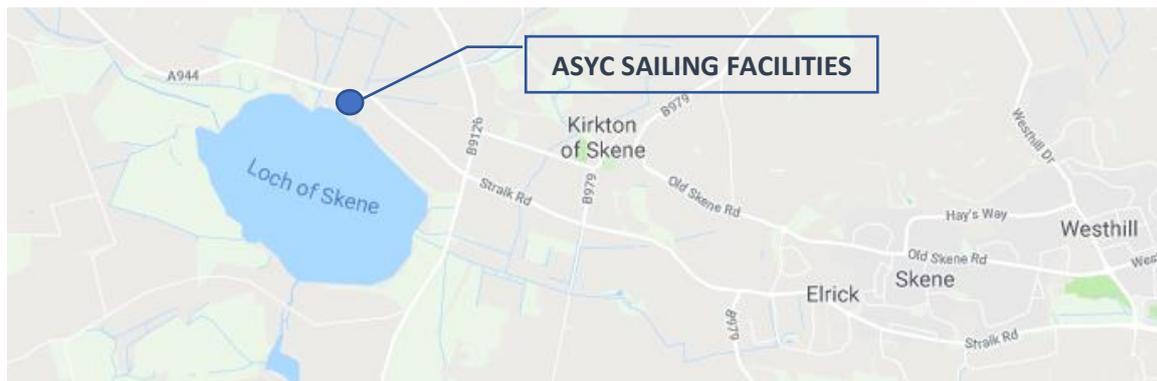
How do I book use of an ASYC boat?: Boats can be booked online through the website or on the day at the club and paid for in the honesty box or through online bank transfer.

How do I rig the ASYC boats?: Members who are unsure how to rig or where the boats/equipment is kept, should contact a member of the committee (or ask around the club and the experienced members will support). Boats should be returned to their place of storage in the condition they were found in.

What happens if I break something?: It happens to all us and as long as we know about it we can fix it for the next person using the boat. All we ask is if something gets broken please notify the committee. A charge may be levied in the event of equipment being damaged by negligence but this is very rare.

LOCH OF SKENE

Sailing takes place at Loch of Skene situated 4 miles west of Westhill. The club is accessed from the A944 at postcode reference AB32 6YJ.



The club itself is contained within the gate house building on the left of the arch, with the boat parking on the banks of the loch beside the clubhouse.

Frequently Asked Questions around Loch of Skene

When do you sail at the Loch?: We sail from the first Sunday in March through to the end of May. Racing takes places on a Sunday (March-May), Saturday (April-May) & Wednesday night (April-May). Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust runs Novice Racing on a Monday night from Easter which our less experienced members can join for a small fee. No sailing is allowed outwith organised club activity.

I am a beginner, will Skene be suitable?: Yes, Skene is a sheltered small Loch which provides excellent sailing waters, with limited waves making it ideal for beginners. The loch is fully enclosed, has a soft (mud) bottom and is relatively shallow.

What facilities do you have?: The Skene setup is basic but functional. There are ladies and gents changing but no showers and one shared toilet facility. There is also a club room where drinks, snacks & sweets are available for sale. Entry to the facilities is via a keycode system (available on membership approval).

Can we park at Skene?: Yes, there is a private carpark off the A944 with ample parking spaces, but it does start to get busier on the warmer weekend days. All cars should be parked on the gravel surface (avoiding the grass areas). Please do not park in front of or around the building on the right (as you face the arch) as this space is reserved for our neighbours who live in this building. Please respect the neighbours by keeping noise to a minimum and as you pass through the arch, they have garden and areas they have landscaped on both sides of the track which should not be walked over. No vehicles are allowed through the arch and all boats are hand pulled down to the parking area beside the loch. Dogs on leads are welcome.

How does the boat parking work?: Boats are parked on a first come first services basis beside the loch typically in fleets (there is plenty of room to store boats here). Trailers are parked under the trees on the right as you come down the bank. We recommend all boats are tied down to the ground with stakes/rope to prevent then blowing off their trolleys.

STONEHAVEN

Sailing takes place in Stonehaven bay, with the club house & boat parking located in the harbour close to the centre of Stonehaven at Shorehead, Stonehaven AB39 2JY.



ASYC SOUTH BEACH DINGHY PARKING

ASYC Clubhouse

ASYC DINGHY PARKING & CRUISER SHED

Frequently Asked Questions around Stonehaven

When do you sail at Stonehaven?: We sail from the first Sunday in June through to the middle of November. Racing takes places on a Sunday (June-November) & Wednesday night (June-September). There is Novice Racing on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoon sailing from June to September.

Members are free to sail anytime from Stonehaven, however we recommend sailing during the organised program as rescue cover is available.

I am a beginner, will Stonehaven be suitable?: Stonehaven is a challenging sea venue with a harbour to sail through before entering the bay sailing area. The bay is tidal and exposed with frequent swell and waves. Our junior fleet actively sail at Stonehaven and beginners should not be put off sailing at Stonehaven, it just needs common sense on when it is suitable to sail. Many of the club members and committee are extremely experienced sailors who will help with guidance on when to sail and are happy to support new members and get you out on the water.

What facilities do you have?: Stonehaven has good club facilities with a 4 storey clubhouse. Ground floor is the bar & clubroom, 1st floor is the galley with kitchen and eating areas, 2nd floor is female changing, toilets & showers and 3rd floor is male changing, toilets & showers. Drinks, snacks & sweets are available for sale in the galley. Entry to the facilities is by key (available by deposit on membership approval).

Can we park at Stonehaven?: Yes, there is a free parking along the harbour front, which can be busy over the summer months. Please respect our neighbours at the harbour, particularly next to the club house and cruiser shed by keeping noise to a minimum and not blocking their entrance drives.

How does the boat parking work?: Boats are parked on a first come first services basis in the two dinghy parks at the harbour front typically in fleets. Space is more limited in Stonehaven due to the size of the dinghy parks, with the house and grounds committee member acting as a focal point here around space allocation (during the June work party setup). All trailers should be parked on the bank at the far end of the south beach dinghy park (or taken home if possible). The south park dinghy park has wires secured into the hardstanding that boats can be tied down onto, to prevent them blowing off trolleys. Single handers with removable masts can be stored in the shed in the dinghy yard park. All other sheds should remain clear of members boats to allow our junior fleets, equipment & rescue boats to be stored. The cruiser shed can be used on request (to house & grounds) by members for maintenance over the summer months .

JUNIOR SAILING

ASYC is a RYA recognised training centre with an active junior program supporting all those that want to learn to sail or improve their sailing techniques. The program is supported by a training committee member who will support with any questions around the junior program.

Frequently Asked Questions around junior sailing

When does the junior sailing program take place?: Junior training sessions are run between Easter and the end of June, initially at Loch of Skene moving to Stonehaven in June. Training is held on either a Saturday or Sunday morning, with the more experienced juniors race training with the adult club racing . On the last Sunday in May the annual Junior regatta is held as a fun day of sailing with a BBQ.

How is the program delivered?: Training is delivered by club volunteers who are qualified RYA instructors. Parents are expected to stay throughout each session and help.

What does it cost?: Currently it works out at about £10 per session (half day). You must be a club member, and parents are expected to stay throughout each session and help.

How do we sign up for training?: Registration for training opens in February and places are typically allocated at the beginning of March with returning sailors given priority and then the remainder on a first come first served basis. The junior training program is typically limited to around 40 places.

What if I don't get a place in Junior lessons for my child?: Places are often over-subscribed. Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust (www.aberdeenshiresailing.org) also run children's clubs and RYA syllabus lessons.

Can Juniors take part in Club racing?: Yes, juniors are actively encouraged to become involved in Club racing when their ability allows. Novice sailing is organised at Skene (Monday evenings) & Stonehaven (Tuesday evenings) as a stepping stone for less experienced adults & juniors to get into racing.

Do you offer adult sailing lessons?: We do not offer adult lessons but the club recommends Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust, who we work closely with (www.aberdeenshiresailing.org)

WINTER & STORAGE

The club comes to a close with the autumn sailing series and work party in mid-November.

Frequently Asked Questions around winter & storage

Does the club completely stop over the winter months?: Sailing completely stops over the winter months, but the club holds some social events including the annual prize giving (ceilidh in a local hotel at the end of the season) and social evenings in the Stonehaven clubhouse (typical prior to the start of the new season in February).

Can I store my boat at the club over the winter?: During the closing work party, members' boats may be stored in the club sheds over the winter period or in the club dinghy parks (due to the winter storms we recommend use of the main dinghy yard only and with masts removed). Spaces in the club sheds are allocated on a first come first served basis for a small charge. Dinghy Yard storage is free. Storage applications are made in September/October through the house & grounds committee focal point.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Club Website:	www.asyc.org.uk
Facebook:	search Aberdeen & Stonehaven Yacht Club
Sailing Duties & Program:	https://dutyman.biz/dmmain.aspx?id=A0002180
Sailing Results	https://www.halsail.com/Result/Public/20258
Tides:	https://www.tidetimes.org.uk/stonehaven-tide-times
Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust:	http://www.aberdeenshiresailing.org/

COMMITTEE

Commodore	Hamish McLulich	commodore@asyc.org.uk
Vice Commodore & Training	Peter Jennings	
Secretary	Naomi Moran	secretary@asyc.org.uk
Training	Ditta Neumann	training@asyc.org
Sailing Secretary	Bob Yeamans	sailing@asyc.org.uk
Membership Secretary	John Deacon	membership@asyc.org.uk
Treasurer	Phil Rose	

House & Grounds

Gareth Smith

Social Secretary

Nadia Yeamans

We hope the information in this guide has been helpful. Please let the committee know if you have any further questions or would like us to show you around the club, introduce you to some of the members or organise a taster sail?

We look forward to seeing you at the club.

ASYC Committee