

Rainbow Regatta Wind and Safety Advisory for Tuesday, April 5

The Dinghy Dames Sailing Club, as the Organizing Authority (OA), is paying close attention to the wind forecasts for the upcoming regatta. Current forecasts show southerly winds 15-20+ knots. Forecasts are only forecasts so we won't know until Tuesday morning what the exact conditions will be for racing. At this time, we are considering all options to ensure that we keep your safety paramount in our planning.

Winds over 14 knots require sailors to prep themselves and their boats.

What can you do?

1. Know your abilities and limitations. Don't let peer pressure determine your decision to race or not race.
2. Equip your boat for heavy winds. Inspect for wear and tear and replace worn parts or line. Check sail ties and/or clips.
3. Secure equipment, including daggerboards, rudders, paddles, praddles, bailers, lunch bags, etc to the boat. Minimize things that could float away if you capsize. Ensure equipment needed to right and bail the boat stays with the boat.
4. Attach your required whistle to your PFD with a line or lanyard.
5. Re-check that your PFD fits you firmly and securely.
6. Set your boat up for heavy air. De-power your sail based on your abilities.
7. Tie an extra knot to your mainsheet stopper knot.
8. Secure your boat Monday night.

Sunfish MUSTS:

- Secure your floating towline around the mast and through the bow handle and back towards the cockpit. The towline must be accessible and ready to use.
- Masts and daggerboards must be attached securely to the boat.

Prams/Optis MUSTS:

- Tie painter (bowline) to mast step.
- Secure bailer(s) to the boat. One-gallon size bailers recommended.
- Fully inflate the three flotation bags. Make sure each bag is held by all three straps.
- Daggerboards must be attached securely to the boat.

We look forward to seeing you at the Rainbow Regatta. Wind and weather is a big part of sailing - exciting, challenging, and sometimes disappointing when there's no wind or too much wind. In any event, we will celebrate the sport of sailing together, both on and off the water.

