

Salty Sisters Ideal 18 Skipper's Program

Salty Sisters is dedicated to helping our members apply and improve their skills on the water, at all levels of sailing experience. We are lucky to have a wide variety of skills in this club, from people that only recently learned to sail to women that have sailed the world and run international races.

To put more of this talent to use regularly, we've devised a process to expedite eligibility for Ideal 18 skippering. If you can safely take the helm of a small crewed boat without an experienced skipper on board, you may be eligible to check out an Ideal 18 for our regular Wednesday morning sails. If needed, new Ideal skippers can go out and practice during Salty sails for some weeks before joining our regular races. Start with a non-spin qualification and add the full spinnaker racing qualification when ready.

This process is designed to encourage and support those who want to lead on a boat, and to provide more sailing opportunities for Salties generally. The inherent assessments involved in qualifying are necessary for safety and helpful for learning. If it's found you should have more skill before skippering, we will be eager to help you gain whatever experience is needed.

The Steps:

Optional: Find a partner. We encourage applicants to find a Salty partner for this process. After one or both of you qualifies as skipper, we will schedule you to sail together regularly on Wednesdays until you're fully racing ready.

1:) Sailing Center qualified

To apply as a Wednesday skipper, you must have passed the Sailing Center's basic test for checking out an Ideal 18. (Rig, tack, jibe and docking test conducted by an employee from the dock.) You arrange this test outside of Salty Sisters by contacting the Sailing Center office directly.

2:) Fill out the application

3:) Show us your skills on the water

You'll skipper the boat with one or two current Salty skippers on board. They'll look for confidence and knowledge needed to keep everyone safe. Back at the dock, they will ask you to assess your own performance, as well as give you their impressions.

Application for Salty Sisters Ideal 18 Skippers

Please describe your sailing experience generally, as crew and at the helm. If applicable, also tell us about your sailboat racing experience.

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE IN EACH CATEGORY:

A Sailing Center employee has qualified me to take out an Ideal 18.

--yes

--no

I am confident I can safely take the helm of an Ideal 18 without a spinnaker:

--only with an experienced skipper

--only with experienced crew

--with any crew, but not in a race

--with any crew in Salty Sisters races

I am confident I can safely take the helm of an Ideal 18 with a spinnaker:

--only with an experienced skipper

--only with experienced crew

--with any crew, but not in a race

--with any crew in Salty Sisters races

COMMENTS Please add any comments you think would help us understand your current skills and needs for further education or experience.