MBSC Regulation: Membership

Definitions

In this Regulation:

"Code of Conduct" means MBSC Regulation: Code of Conduct (2026).

"Constitution" means the Constitution of Murrays Bay Sailing Club Incorporated ("MBSC").

"Member" means a Member of MBSC as a Junior, Senior, Family, Special, or Life Member of MBSC.

Types of Membership

MBSC's Constitution provides for the following types of membership:

- Junior Member
- Senior Member
- Family Member
- Special Member
- Life Member

The Constitution sets out how membership is achieved.

Learn to Sail Sailors

Sailors who are registered with MBSC to undertake a Learn to Sail course or holiday programme are Junior Members of MBSC while they are on site at MBSC receiving coaching or undertaking programme activities and their parents, guardians, or primary caregivers are Family Members of MBSC at these times. However, these sailors and their parents, guardians, or primary caregivers are not otherwise Members of MBSC.

For the avoidance of doubt, the following MSBC Regulations apply to Learn to Sail sailors and their parents, guardians, or primary caregivers while they are on site at MBSC:

- Code of Conduct
- Health and Safety Management

Membership Periods

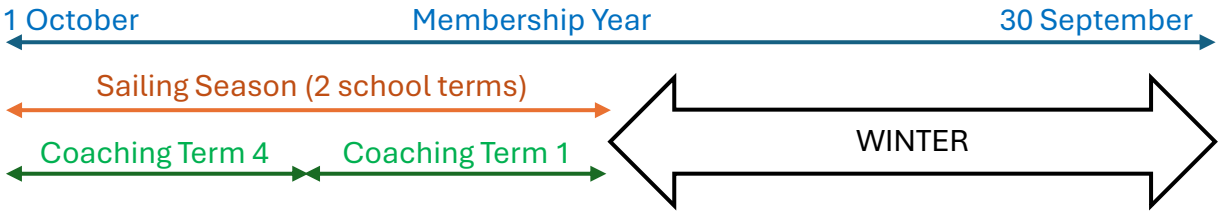
MBSC's Membership Year runs from 1 October to 30 September.

Membership is year to year or annual UNLESS the Member is a Life Member. This is provided for in the Constitution. However, in some instances, membership may be for a

shorter period, usually nine (9) months, because the membership is not acquired until halfway through the sailing season.

MBSC's sailing season is a six-month period which runs from about 1 October until the end of the Term 1 (for state schools) in the next calendar year and covers Term 4 of one year and Term 1 of the next.

The winter period (Terms 2 and 3 of the state school year) is the off-season. While there may be regattas during this period, there are no fleet coaching programmes.



Coaching Periods

MBSC provides coaching by the school term (usually 10 weeks). Coaching for junior fleets (except P Class) is offered for two terms, being Term 4 of a calendar year and Term 1 of the next calendar year.

During the winter months (Terms 2 and 3 of the school year) there is often sailing coaching for some fleets in advance of some regattas, but it is on a strictly user-pays basis (so over and above coaching fees for coaching within the sailing season).

Benefits of Membership

A *benefit* of membership is not a right to membership. The Committee has total discretion to manage, limit, and withdraw any of the benefits of membership. Furthermore, a benefit of membership does not mean without cost. Most of the benefits listed below are at a cost additional to membership fees and coaching fees. These benefits are not available, except in very limited circumstances, to non-Members at any fee.

Members have access to:

- MBSC coaching programmes and coaches
- MBSC fleet-specific sailing clinics
- Membership only events (social and sailing)
- MBSC hosted regattas at a membership rate
- MBSC Club Racing (from Optimist Green Fleet)
- MBSC facilities and equipment (on and off water)

- Boat storage at MBSC's premises
- MBSC galley food (a free hot meal is often provided to sailors after club racing)
- Boat hire (RHIB (Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat) centre consoles and tiller steers)
- Boat lease (Optimist and Starling only)

Yachting New Zealand

MBSC is affiliated to Yachting New Zealand. This affiliation enables MSBC Members to compete in National regattas and events run under the World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing. A portion of each Member's MBSC membership fee is paid to Yachting New Zealand in accordance with this affiliation.

There are benefits to the YNZ affiliation that MBSC Members can take advantage of if they have a discount card, details of which are available here: Member card and app | Yachting New Zealand.

Sailing Class Associations

There is an association for most classes of sailing boat. Most associations require membership in order to compete in ranking (competitive) regattas within New Zealand and overseas.

MBSC membership does not including membership with any sailing class associations. Members need to familiarise themselves with the relevant sailing class associations and if necessary, obtain membership at the time of preparing to complete in ranking regattas.

The sailing class associations most relevant at MBSC are:

- New Zealand International Optimist Association (NZIODA)
- New Zealand Starling Class Association
- ILCA.NZ

Fees

All fees are set for the forthcoming Membership Year by the Membership at the Annual General Meeting from recommendations by the Committee after taking into account the financial statements for the year ending 31 May and the anticipated demand for and cost of coaching and sailing related benefits and MBSC's operating costs.

Fees are advised to Members by email (where possible) and posted on MBSC's website.

Boat Storage

MBSC has facilities for the storage of:

- 50 – 60 Optimists

- 14 – 20 Starlings
- 20 – 25 ILCA (Lasers), Waszps, and 29ers

Storage is not a guaranteed benefit of membership and because storage spaces are limited, the following priorities should be noted:

- Storage is not for storing unused boats. Priority will be given to active sailors who have joined MBSC coaching programmes. Sailors who withdraw or cease to undertake coaching when coaching programmes are available may be asked to withdraw their boats from storage.
- Both sailors of double-handed boats must be Members.
- Storage fees are per boat. There is no discount for additional boats.
- Storage fees are per term, per season (6 months), or per Membership Year, depending on the class of boat. Storage requests for the forthcoming Membership Year should be submitted to the Membership Manager by no later than 10 September. Where a request for storage unmade and storage invoice remains unpaid two (2) weeks from the date of invoice, the sailor may be asked to remove their boat to store it elsewhere.
- Requests for refunds are determined by the Membership Manager on a case-by-case basis. Refunds should not be expected.

Boats stored at MBSC and raced at MBSC hosted events and regattas **are not insured** under MBSC's insurance policies. Members are expected to insure their boats AND to ensure that they have cover whilst sailing in competitive situations (often called a "racing extension") because MBSC's insurance policies are endorsed with Competitors' Exclusion.

Becoming a Member (for the first time)

Application for Membership

All prospective Members of MBSC must complete an Application for Membership.

Every Application for Membership is considered and determined by the Committee. The Committee may delegate to the Membership, House, and Health & Safety and Employment Subcommittee the preliminary consideration of an Application for Membership and take the advice of this Subcommittee before determining the outcome of the application.

Where an Application for Membership is received for a prospective Junior Member and the sailor has completed a Learn to Sail course or holiday programme at MBSC within the immediately preceding 12 months, the views of the Learn to Sail coaching team shall be taken into account in determining the suitability of the sailor for Junior Membership. The coaching team shall be entitled to provide references on a confidential basis.

Where an Application for Membership is received for a prospective Junior Member and the sailor's parents, guardians, or primary caregivers for prospective Family Membership, the views of the referees provided by the applicants shall be taken into account in determining the suitability of the sailor for Junior Membership. Referees shall be entitled to provide references on a confidential basis.

Where an Application for Membership is received for a prospective Senior Member and the sailor has not previously been a Member at MBSC, the views of the sailor's referees shall be taken into account in determining the suitability of the sailor for Senior Membership. Referees shall be entitled to provide references on a confidential basis.

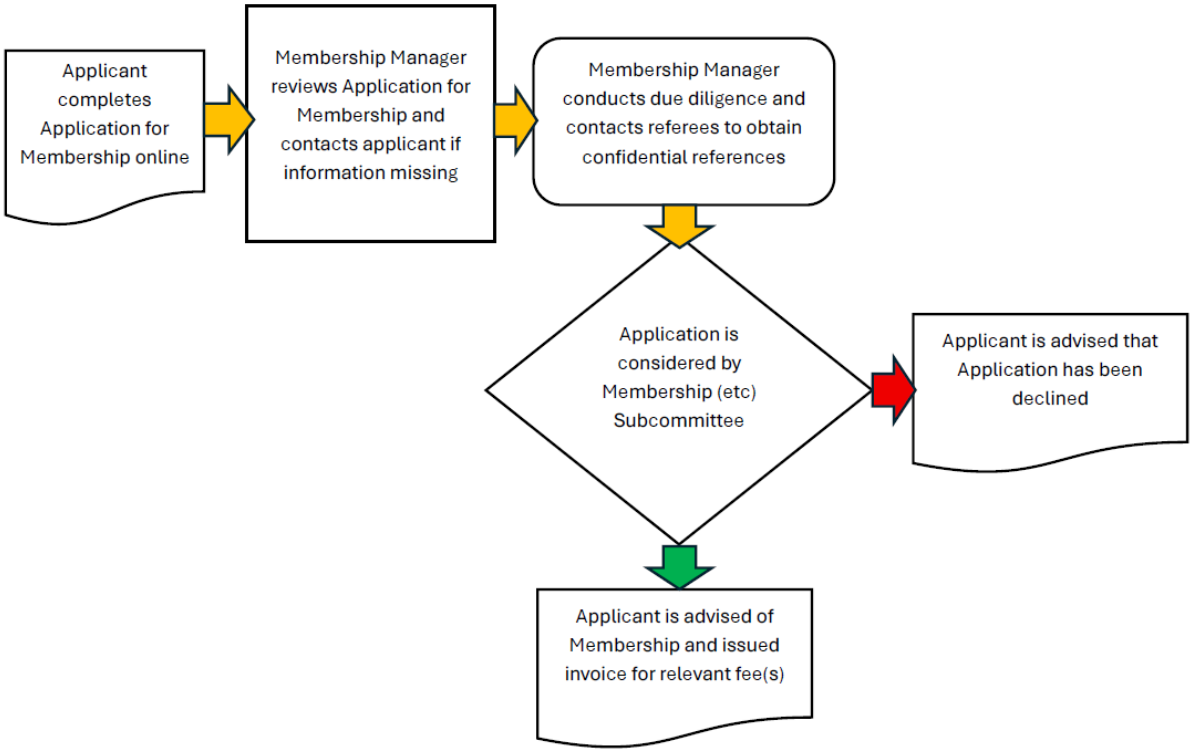
The Committee may decline an Application for Membership where:

- The applicant has been a member of another sailing, boating, or yachting club and the membership was terminated by the club, or the member resigned their membership in circumstances where it could have been terminated by the club, because of the applicant's conduct; or
- The applicant has been an officer of another incorporated society, and the applicant was or became disqualified to continue as an officer because of any of the grounds set out in section 47(3)(c) to (h) were met; or
- The view(s) of the applicant's referee(s) is that there are reasonable grounds for concluding that the application should be declined; or
- It is apparent that the club would be unable to provide the applicant with sailing instruction and coaching without unreasonable risk to the health and safety of the applicant and/or other Members.

Providing false or misleading information in support of an Application for Membership is never a good idea and could have a negative outcome for the applicant and anyone dependent on the applicant's application being successful.

The Process

The flowchart below sets out the key elements of the process of applying for Membership. The process should take no more than two weeks from start to finish.



Incomplete Information and Privacy

Providing incomplete information may slow the application process. The information requested on the Application for Membership is information MBSC needs to assess applicant's suitability for membership and once membership has been approved to assist MBSC to provide rewarding and enriching opportunities for new members to become involved in and contribute to the activities of the club.

The information provided in support of an Application for Membership prospective members will be confidential to the Committee and any non-Officer members of the Membership, House, and Health & Safety and Employment Subcommittee. The information shall be retained on MBSC's Google Drive which has restricted and controlled access. Some information may be copied into the membership software used by MBSC. Access to MBSC's membership software is also restricted and controlled.

References

Applications for Membership should be supported by references from current or past Members of MBSC. If such references are not available, applicants may consider asking the following people to provide references:

- Spiritual or religious mentor or leader, such as Minister, Pastor, Rabbi, or Imam
- Teacher of applicant at their school
- Legal adviser who has a professional relationship with the applicant
- Someone with standing in their community

MBSC acknowledges that many prospective Members may be new to the community and sailing, and so may not have referees within the MBSC community. Referees who can endorse an application by attesting to the applicant's reliability, good character, and willingness to get involved, will be accepted.

Membership Renewals

Returning Members will be required to complete a renewal form to ensure that MBSC has up to date contact, sailor, emergency contact and coaching-related information. Returning Members will also be asked to review information provided previously to ensure that the information provided to the Committee is current and complete.

Expectations of Members

MBSC expects its Members to conduct themselves in accordance with:

- MBSC's Values
- MBSC's Code of Conduct
- MBSC's Coaching Strategy
- These and any other Regulations setting out expectations of behaviour and conduct

All Applications for Membership and Membership renewals will ask the prospective or returning Member to confirm that they have read and will conduct themselves in accordance with the MBSC Code of Conduct.

Contributing to the Success of MBSC

No prospective, new, or longstanding Member of MBSC should think that they cannot play a part in the success of MBSC and that they are entitled to "opt out" of activities, events, and operations where they have been rostered or otherwise called upon to make a contribution.

MBSC was built on the work of its past Members, and its future will depend on the work of its current and future Members. Member involvement in the operations and work of the club enhances a sense of ownership and provides all Members with the opportunity to contribute in ways that best suit them. Mentoring, coaching, and developing skills, knowledge and confidence will ensure that MBSC has Members capable of and willing to ensure the prosperity of the club into the future.

Where a Member consistently resists or avoids participating in activities, events, and operations where they have been rostered or otherwise called upon to make a contribution, the Committee may invoke the Dispute Resolution provisions set out in the Constitution and the Code of Conduct.