

Before each race a short lesson on specific rules is given to all participants. And, each season a class is taught on racing rules and techniques.

Several major regattas are held by the club



during the year. The first one, in early June, is a celebration of Historic New Castle's Separation Day.

The club also sponsors a Charity Regatta and invites skippers of other classes of small sailboats to participate in this fund-raising event.

Toward the later part of the season, the club sponsors a Thistle class event, the DelRiPeTT (Delaware River Perpetual Thistle Trophy) regatta, which is open to all Thistle owners.

## Club History

This unique, volunteer, member-run organization was founded in 1953 by a small group of New Castle residents who together bought the club's first boat, a used Thistle.

Today, more than 50 years later, the fleet owns eight 17-foot Thistles, three 19-foot Flying Scots, one 21.5-foot Hunter, a runabout and twelve dingies.

The club leases property from the New Castle Commons Trustees at the lower end of Battery Park in New Castle. A few blocks away, the club owns real estate for a barn, where boats are stored and overhauled in the winter, and clubhouse for meeting and socializing.

## For More Information

If you would like to know more about the New Castle Sailing Club, or are interested in applying for membership, we would be happy to hear from you!

Visit us on the web and email Louise Eliason, NCSC's Membership Director, at [Membership@NewCastleSailingClub.org](mailto:Membership@NewCastleSailingClub.org) to arrange for a tour and some time on the water!

Our waiting list is on a first-come first-served basis with no commitment or cost involved in applying. So visit our web site to download and mail in your application today!

**Email Link:** [www.newcastlesailingclub.org](http://www.newcastlesailingclub.org)

**Mail:**

**Membership Director  
New Castle Sailing Club  
PO Box 46  
New Castle, DE 19720**



**The New Castle Sailing Club** owns a fleet of Thistle, Flying Scot, and Hunter sailboats that are moored in the Delaware River off the New Castle Delaware waterfront.

Club members sail from early May through October of each year. The club is organized as a cooperative ownership which offers all members a very low annual cost of membership and no recurrent fees for use of the club's boats or facilities during the year.

For experienced sailors and interested novices alike, the club is by far the most fun, affordable, and convenient way to enjoy sailing in the Wilmington area.

Come on down and sail with us! Please contact the club at 302-328-1570 or visit us on the web at [www.newcastlesailingclub.org](http://www.newcastlesailingclub.org)



## Membership and Dues

Members of the New Castle Sailing Club are entitled to sail the club boats whenever they wish, once they have demonstrated satisfactory sailing skills. There are no restrictions on how often a member may sail or whom they may invite as crew. All boats are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Membership is limited to 130, so that demand for the club's boats does not exceed availability. Openings that come up in the membership list are filled from a waiting list.

Anyone may apply for membership with no cost or commitment, and no previous sailing experience is necessary, we'll teach you!

A non-refundable one time initiation fee of \$500 is payable upon joining the club. Annual dues are \$300. Both dues and the initiation fee may be paid in two installments. Membership includes spouse and children.

## Sailing Instruction

Instruction on sailing is available to all members through a classroom course taught at the clubhouse on Saturday mornings from February through April. New members receive course material and membership handbooks.

On-the-water instruction is offered Saturday and Sunday afternoons

throughout the sailing season, with other times always available with our many instructors.

All instruction emphasizes safe sailing and confidence-building hands-on knowledge as integral parts of the program.

Due to this training program and the club's constant drive for improvement, it maintains a safety record of which it is justifiably proud.

When a member believes they are ready and prepared, they must be checked out as a qualified skipper. The check-out procedure, or "keying" as it is called, includes a written exam and a practical on-the-water sailing test which measures practical safety, hazard knowledge, navigation and safe boat-handling skills.

Members between the ages of 15 and 21 may also be checked out as junior skippers.

Those members who have not yet been checked out may always sail or race with any of the skippers in the club.

## Sailing Area

The club boats are moored at the lower end of Battery Park in New Castle. Sail and Dingy houses are located there with ample parking for members.

Our sailing grounds are a wide stretch of the Delaware River that spans from the Delaware Memorial Bridge in the North to Pea Patch Island in the South.

Ample area, great wind, and very little boat traffic outside the main shipping channel makes for a great sailing playground!

## Club Racing



For four hours each Saturday morning of the season, the boats are reserved for intra-club racing. Any qualified skipper may take the helm in these races, and any member may crew.