



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
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From: Superintendent, United States Naval Academy
To: Distribution
Subj: NAVAL ACADEMY SAILING SQUADRON

Encl: (1) Naval Academy Sailing Squadron Organization Chart

1. Purpose. To establish policy and promulgate guidance for the Naval Academy Sailing Squadron (NASS) to lead a renaissance in sailing at the United States Naval Academy.

2. Background. The Naval Academy Sailing Program plays a key role in the education and training of the Brigade of Midshipmen. It provides challenging opportunities for midshipmen to learn seamanship, exercise leadership and assume increasing responsibility in a demanding environment, thereby preparing them for service in the Fleet as junior officers. Today the Naval Academy Sailing Program is organized as follows:

a. Plebe Summer Basic Seamanship Training Program (BEST - formally P-100). BEST provides midshipmen with basic seamanship and teamwork training in a hands-on, on-the-water environment.

b. Intramural Sailing. Some midshipmen continue to build their professional expertise in sail craft by competing at the battalion level in intramural sailing in Colgate 26s.

c. Command, Seamanship and Navigation Training Squadron (CSNTS). Approximately one-third of midshipmen participate in CSNTS to receive advanced sail training in Navy 44s. During the summer cruise program, they make offshore passages to a variety of ports along the East Coast of the United States. Those who master the skills required to skipper a Navy 44 offshore earn the Navy's Coastal Cruising Skipper Qualification (the "D-CS" Qual).

d. Intercollegiate Dinghy (IC) Team. The IC Team competes in Intercollegiate Sailing Association (ICSA)-sponsored regattas, with three national championship regattas in fall and three in the spring.

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e. Varsity Offshore Sailing Team (VOST). VOST participants race in Navy 44s while competing in intercollegiate "big boat" regattas like the John F. Kennedy Memorial Regatta and the McMillan Cup Regatta. VOST also competes by racing on the Chesapeake Bay, along the Atlantic Coast, and in famous and historically significant ocean races.

f. Junior Varsity Offshore Sailing Team (JVOST). JVOST participants train and race in J/24s. Although JVOST's principal focus is to teach those skills necessary to move up to VOST, the team also competes in intercollegiate events and local-area regattas.

3. Goal. The goal of the Naval Academy Sailing Program is to prepare midshipmen to become professional officers in the naval service by:

a. Developing their confidence in seamanship, navigation, watchstanding, small boat handling, and safety at sea.

b. Providing hands-on leadership experience in the crucible of operating a small boat at sea.

4. Objectives. The objectives of the Naval Academy Sailing Program are:

a. Qualifications and leadership. Midshipmen will proceed through an orderly training and qualification program that will enable them to:

(1) Qualify to skipper a Colgate 26 (required prior to becoming a third class midshipman).

(2) Complete a CSNTS Cruise, and qualify as a watch captain.

(3) Some midshipmen will be provided an opportunity to train and qualify as an Officer in Charge of a sail training craft.

b. IC Competitive Sailing. The Naval Academy will revitalize its competitive sailing program to become a leader in the nation. Specifically:

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(1) The IC Dinghy Team will become nationally ranked, and strive to repeatedly win the Fowle Trophy.

(2) The VOST will strive to repeatedly win the Kennedy Cup Memorial Regatta.

(3) More midshipmen will compete in offshore racing venues and strive to repeatedly win premier ocean-racing events.

5. Action. In order to achieve the objectives and support the significant program expansion envisioned, the Director, Naval Academy Sailing (DNAS) tasked a team to review the Naval Academy Sailing Program, and make recommendations to properly align it and bring it into compliance with current Department of Defense and Department of the Navy Regulations. That review determined that the name Naval Academy Sailing Squadron was the historical name for the entire Naval Academy Sailing Program. The current program construct for NASS, however, has deviated from that historical construct, and today NASS appears more like an appended volunteer organization. The review further determined that the Superintendent had been, and should be, the approval authority for all NASS operations. Further, in order to provide the best possible support for the program, all elements must be properly organized and aligned into a cohesive team focused on midshipman training and professional development. Accordingly:

a. The DNAS will transition NASS from its current construct into a dynamic, all-encompassing organization to promote, conduct, and excel at sail training and competition. The revised organizational construct should fully leverage the talent resident in the Navy Sailing staff, the officers and faculty members assigned to the Naval Academy who participate in the sailing program, the volunteers who provide critical support to the program, and qualified participating midshipmen. In order to expedite the process, the DNAS shall:

(1) Implement the NASS organization defined in enclosure (1) not later than 1 August 2004. Once implemented, the NASS will encompass all elements of the Naval Academy Sailing Program.

(2) Develop a detailed plan to revitalize sailing at the United States Naval Academy. This should include 1-year, 3-year and 10-year action steps for each objective. Provide the 1-year

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plan not later than 1 June, the 3-year plan not later than 1 September, and the 10-year plan by 1 March 2005.

(3) Draft and route for the Superintendent's approval a Naval Academy Sailing Squadron Standard Organization and Regulations Manual (NASSSORM) governing all aspects of the Naval Academy Sailing Program not later than 1 January 2005.

(4) Design and implement a Sailing Extra Curricular Activity (ECA) that mirrors the Yard Patrol Squadron not later than 30 April 2004. The focus of this ECA will be to allow midshipmen to continue their progress towards required qualifications.

b. The Commandant shall:

(1) Fully integrate the Basic Seamanship Training Course (BEST - formally P-100) into the Plebe Summer curriculum to ensure that the training regimen required to qualify the majority of midshipmen as Colgate skippers (B Qual) can be executed during the allocated training time. Midshipmen who are unable to qualify shall continue training during the fall and spring semesters.

(2) Assign appropriate numbers of newly graduated Ensigns and 2nd Lieutenants TAD to DNAS annually to serve as instructors for the Basic Seamanship Training Course.

(3) Provide sufficient training time during the academic year for selected midshipmen to train as Prospective Assistant Officers in Charge for CSNTS cruises.

(4) Implement fall and spring championship seasons for appropriate members of the IC Dinghy Team per Commandant of Midshipman Notice 1710.

c. Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will provide support to the intercollegiate and offshore sailing teams in the form of awarding letters and accounting for sailing team expenses. Sailing is not an official National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) sport, however, the Naval Academy sailing teams comply with NCAA recruiting and accountability standards. The Athletic Director assists the coaching staff with maintaining these standards.

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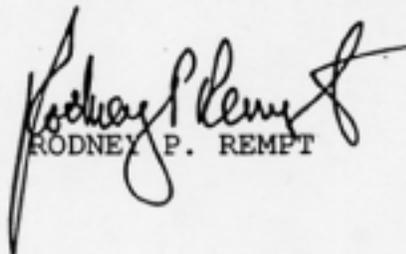
d. Division Directors shall, annually by 1 September, assign officers and senior enlisted personnel to qualify as Navy 44 Officers in Charge to support the CSNTS Summer Cruise Program per USNA Instruction 1500.5C.

e. Director of Professional Development. The Director of Professional Development shall:

(1) Retain overall responsibility for the summer cruise program.

(2) Coordinate the assignment of officer and senior enlisted personnel to train, qualify, and serve as CSNTS Officers in Charge. The Director of Professional Development will liaise with the Academic Dean and heads of Academic Departments to ensure sufficient manpower is available to execute the summer cruise program.

f. All hands. All hands shall do everything possible to increase the effectiveness of the Sail Training Program at the United States Naval Academy.


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