

WindWord

The Newsletter of the Footloose Sailing Association

Leave your disability at the dock



Your feedback is required before Footloose can start up the 2021 season. Please review this Wind Word and give us your thoughts.

At The Tiller

Ahoy Footloose sailors!

As we sail into another year, we're still messing with this pirate Covid who has stolen so much from us. We are working towards a plan that can have us sailing even if it's with limitations. Not only are we shackled with Covid requirements, but our parent organization Move United (formally Disabled Sports USA) is requiring that our volunteers have background checks and sensitivity training. We hope to have some sailing events even if they are in a limited fashion which means that we will try, but probably won't be able to get everybody out on the water.

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At The Tiller (Cont'd)

Footloose still has ongoing efforts by volunteers in meetings, fund raising, administration, outreach, paperwork, accounting, maintenance, trailer and boat sales. A big thank you to the Footloose Volunteers as well as all the businesses and organizations that support us!

You can keep up with Footloose on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/FootlooseSailingAssociation/>

or at our website:

footloosedisabledsailing.org.

fair winds, Captain Bob

Footloose's 2021 Sailing Season

This season will be unlike any we have seen in the past. There will be many changes in how we operate, and at this time we do not know everything that will be required. The following notes include the new rules that we must follow and our best estimate on how the Covid risk will be handled.

We need feedback from all participants and volunteers in order to make this work. Please review the notes and let us know what:

- you are or aren't comfortable with
- commitments you can make with respect to scheduling your sailings
- one of the new positions you may be prepared to take on
- comments or criticisms you have

Responses can be made by responding to this email, or at info@footloosedisabledsailing.org or by contacting a board member directly.

What We Do Know

Footloose operates under the insurance of Move United, previously known as Disabled Sports USA. Move United's Sport Protection Program requires that all regular volunteers (defined as those planning to attend more than three Footloose events in one season must go through a screening process, undergo a criminal background check and participate in awareness training. The intent of these added requirements is to prevent the abuse of participants. More details are included in Footloose's Sport Protection Handbook which will be posted on Footloose's website shortly.

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Footloose’s 2021 Sailing Season (cont’d)

The screening process includes:

- educating the applicant about Footloose’s policies and procedures regarding prevention of abuse
- the applicant signing a document acknowledging review of the policies and procedures and agreeing to abide by them
- the applicant filling out a written application listing
 - previous work and volunteer experience
 - a written release for contacting personal references
 - if an applicant has been banned by another sport organization, they must self-disclose this information
- a personal interview, where the interviewer will attempt to determine if there is anything in the applicant’s past that may make them a risk.

The criminal background check is carried out by the applicant, using an online service. The details are as follows:

go to solutions.ncsisafe.com and click on "Applicant Submission and Status Check" in the upper- right corner of our homepage.
Complete three easy steps:
STEP 1: Enter Self Registration Number: 54249274 <u>do you pick your own number?</u>
STEP 2: Enter Your Information as Requested
STEP 3: Provide Legal Authorization and Certification
It is important when entering your name, that you use your full legal name as written on your current ID (state driver's license, passport or state ID with name and DOB). Please also verify that your social security number was typed correctly. Using nicknames or failing to type a correct social security number may delay or invalidate your background check.
NCSI will contact you directly if there are any questions, problems or issues related to your specific information. An email address is required when completing the background check as our contact with you will largely be electronic. Please be sure to add ncsisafe.com to your list of acceptable domains in your email program to receive notifications from us.
If you have any questions or problems submitting your information, please email Email: clientservices@ncsisafe.com or verifications@ncsisafe.com
Phone: (440) 542-9833 or toll free (866) 833-7100
Once you have submitted your information you will receive a confirmation page with a 16-digit Applicant ID Number. The background check generally takes 10 business days to complete and you may check your status by clicking on "Applicant Submission and Status Check" in the upper-right corner of our homepage solutions.ncsisafe.com .

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Footloose's 2021 Sailing Season (cont'd)

A background check must be carried out every second year. The cost is \$20.00.

The Awareness Training is completed online. Details of the Training will be posted on the website once it is finalized. The cost of the Training is \$17.00

Please note training is to commence no more than 30 days before the applicant participates in Footloose activities.

What Does Footloose Need From You?

Firstly, we need confirmation that if you are a regular volunteer, you are prepared to go through this process. Secondly, we need a person to administer background check and awareness training programs. This will include conducting the interviews, tracking the data and insuring the program is kept up to date.

What We Don't Know

The Covid issue is so new there are no clear, scientific-backed protocols on how Footloose can safely operate. We anticipate that the reopening of our program will have to be staged, with the following changes needing to be implemented for Stage 1:

- Sailors must be able to load and unload themselves or with the help of their personal caregiver only, not a Footloose volunteer. The use of the dinghies will be restricted to those experienced sailors who bring an able-body with them that is in their "bubble" and is willing to sail with them. The use of the Hoyer sling and davit lift will not be permitted.
- It is expected that two participants, or three if they are in the same bubble, will be allowed on the bigger boats
- sailors and volunteers will have to commit to scheduling their participation prior to each event, to ensure there is sufficient personnel to safely operate.
- a Covid protocol will need to be written and administered
- registration will be done online, ahead of the event. This will include signing Footloose's waiver.
- Sailors and volunteers will have to undergo a temperature check and respond to a Covid questionnaire prior to each event.
- The tent area will need to be expanded and social distancing will be required in the registration area.
- Masks will be required for all personnel, unless precluded by health issues.
- Tables and chairs in the registration area will require ongoing cleaning and disinfection.
- Life jackets and slings will need to be assigned to specific people or cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Radios will need to be disinfected after each assignment.
- The cockpits of the boats will need to be cleaned and disinfected between each sail
- Signs will need to be set up to remind people of the Covid and social distancing requirements

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Footloose's 2021 Sailing Season (cont'd)

What Does Footloose Need From You?

We need to know which of our sailors can and are willing to participate under these conditions and which sailors either can't or won't participate.

We need to know which of our volunteers are willing and able to participate under these conditions. More cleaning and less sailor interaction will probably be the norm for some of us.

We need a person to administer the Covid Protocol program. This would include writing up the program, taking temperatures and asking the required questions of each sailor and volunteer and insuring that we all follows the rules throughout the day.

A person is required to coordinate the sailday schedule. This will include tracking the reservations made by participants and the commitments made by volunteers for each day. It will also include contacting the volunteers to ensure there is sufficient personnel to cover the program for the day.

A person will be required to carry out the usual registration of participants. The back-ground check/sensitivity coordinator, Covid proram administrator, Scheduling coordinator and the registrar will need to work together to ensure the full process runs smoothly.

In Summary

Your response to this information is required to enable Footloose to plan for the 2021 season. We need to know how many people are going to participate and under what conditions. We also need to confirm that we have personnel to cover the new positions required for us to operate. Thank-you in advance for your response.

2020 Loose Screw Award

The 2020 sailing season didn't happen. However there was a lot of activity in the background that did occur. Footloose would like to acknowledge two of the people that continued to contribute much of their time so that the operation can continue.

Susan Arrieta, Footloose's Treasurer, continued to pay the bills, keep the books and attend Board meetings. In addition to this she headed up the creation of Footloose's Sports Protection Policy, now required by Move United. She also worked on the Footloose Training Manual and updating the financial records.

Greg Meserve drove to California last summer and brought back the Harbor 20. Since then he has been storing it at his home.

Many thanks to Susan and Greg.



Help Us Launch the Harbor 20

If you, or someone you know, is interested in making a donation to Footloose for a specific item, we will require the following items in order to complete launching the Harbor 20:

- Rigging survey - \$300
- Launching - \$200
- Setup and commissioning - \$750

Please contact Footloose if you are interested in making a donation.



The following items can now be purchased at the Footloose store:

- Knit Beanie
- Spiral Notebook
- Stainless Steel Travel Mug
- Unisex Trucker Hat
- Unisex Twill Hat
- White Ceramic Mug

Just go to the Footloose website and click on "Shop". Thanks for supporting Footloose.

For Sale

We are pleased to announce that the 8' x 12' 11" trailer has been sold.

The following items are still available, with all proceeds going to support Footloose:

- Interlake sailboat - \$1,000
- Sundolphin dinghy - \$800
- Catalina 16.5 - \$1,200

Details can be found in earlier editions of Wind Word.

Please contact Footloose if you are interested.



Footloose is an all volunteer 501(c) (3) organization funded entirely by donations.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FOOTLOOSE

Web site – footloosedisablesailing.org

Email – info@footloosedisablesailing.org

Like us on Facebook – Footloose Sailing Association.

Please forward this Newsletter to anyone you know that may be interested in sailing or volunteering with, or donating to, Footloose.