

DECEMBER 2025



JUNIOR SAILING ACADEMY BEQUIA NEWSLETTER



[Junior Sailing Facebook Page](#)



Message from our founder Rose Kaye

This year has been a successful year for JSAB. In 2026 we have programs for new and existing members, and also we are planning to resume RYA certification training.

My heart felt thanks to our recent generous donors. I hope others might join them so we can continue to help the youths of Bequia.

Wishing all our supporters, sponsors and members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

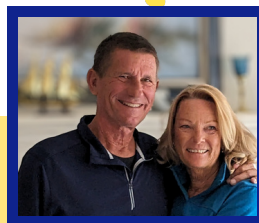
Welcome

Welcome to our December 2025 JSAB Newsletter. We hope this newsletter can provide you with information to keep you up to date with what is going on with JSAB along with our progress, direction and current needs.

The coaches, directors, and JSAB youth want to wish you the best for your holidays and coming New Year!



Coaches Corner John & Darcy Dillon



Darcy and I closed out this past sailing season for September and October to allow for some pre-planned travel to the States along with some needed time off. As you'll read below, we've been blessed with support from two gracious new donors that have made significant contributions to JSAB. A special thanks goes out to the Whale Song family and also the Geneva Lake Sailing School in Lake Geneva, WI, USA. Their generous donations have helped us with needed parts, sails, life jackets and the like to allow us to move forward with fixing our boats and getting more of them on the water. Whale Song has also purchased two new daggerboards for the Optis which is a major milestone in getting all seven boats out sailing. Rose Kaye has also authorized the purchase of two new trollies for our Opti's which will greatly reduce our launch and retrieval times to the get boats in and out of the water.



Coaches: John & Darcy Dillon



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Regatta News

Since the regatta season for JSAB ended in August, we have not attended any regattas. It was a good time to end our sailing season for a period of time as the coaches needed to get back to the States to visit friends and family. Our regatta season opens with the Simmon's Youth Regatta on Lower Bay in March. From there we have the Youth Easter Regatta and then the Youth National Championships in August. We will probably delay the March newsletter until the end of March so we can highlight our results.

What is apparent is our youth love to compete! We run short races for those who want to race on Saturday's and they can't wait to get on the water. They are able to hone their boat handling skills, rules knowledge, tactics, among others with these races. Those sailors who want to enjoy sailing without the racing competitions, are also learning valuable skills and techniques to improve their joy of sailing.



JSAB Guest Speakers



With our end game being to show our JSAB youth employment opportunities as they get older, we have talked to various Bequian's about coming to JSAB to address our youth and tell them their involvement in the maritime trades and what they do. Some of those we have contacted are: Brook Robinson, who does boat deliveries from the Caribbean to New England spending his summers working on large yachts in New England. Lincoln Daniels, Captain for the Bequia Express, and Canyon Duncan, a young charter boat captain, among others.



Whale Song Support



Another debt of gratitude goes out to our "Whale Song" contributors, who have been so helpful in supplying us with a range of needed parts to repair our Optimists, team SPF shirts, in addition to 6 new youth life jackets that we can use for our Learn How to Sail program. Two of their sons have their USCG Captain's Licenses' and have expressed a willingness to assist and help coach our youth. This will go a long way to develop our youth with their needed seamanship skills and also provide additional support to our coaching staff.



Much needed supplies.



THANK YOU Whale Song!



Marek & Lindsay Valasek of Geneva Lake Sailing School, with Coach John.



Lindsay showing John the sails they were donating.

Geneva Lake Sailing School Support



In our last newsletter we brought up the need for new sails, especially for our Optimist class boats. I contacted some old friends who run an elite Optimist racing team and sailing school in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. I explained our request for needing sails for our Optimists and any other equipment they may be able to supply. During our visit to the Geneva Lake Sailing School, we received 11 lightly used Optimist sails, 6 youth life jackets, numerous SPF shirts and neck gators, along with used sailing gloves for our youth. What a generous gifting for JSAB. The value of these sails is well over EC\$10,000, which saves a lot of money for JSAB. We have plans to visit Lake Geneva in April as they believe they can supply us with even better sails and equipment. We look forward to our next visit.



The support JSAB receives comes from many sources, including our Bequia friends and neighbors.

Bequian Support



**Refurbished trolley for JSAB.
Thank you Spenser!**

During a recent visit to the Bequia Marina we saw a very kind Bequian provide JSAB with a reconstructed trolley for our ILCA's. Our old trolley was in the initial phases of falling apart, in addition to the wheels locking up due to the rust build-up. From some unused aluminum trolley parts on the property, he was able to put together a great non-rusting, aluminum trolley along with transferring the wheels providing us with a wonderful ILCA trolley that should provide us with years of use! Thank you Spenser!



Nappy helped repair our engine, keeping us on the water!

A big up to Nappy, who came to our rescue with engine help. As we were getting ready to get out on the water, we were unable to get the engine on our safety boat started, which would have ruin our Saturday youth sailing program. Nappy was on the beach and assisted in our trouble shooting. Once he took out the spark plugs, he noticed they were fouled. Luckily, we had spares which he replaced and we were back out on the water for a fun day of sailing. Nappy was great with the youth as he talked them through the what and why he was doing to fix the engine. Thank you Nappy!



Sail Grenadines is a great support to JSAB!

Grenadine Sails has repaired many of our old and worn-out sails in the past, allowing the youth sailors to keep on the water and learn new sailing skills. They also did all the simple repairs to our newly gifted sails from the Geneva Lake Sailing School. Luckily for us, Grenadine Sails is a great supporter of JSAB and right across the street from our location. Big thanks to Grenadine Sails for taking good care of us!



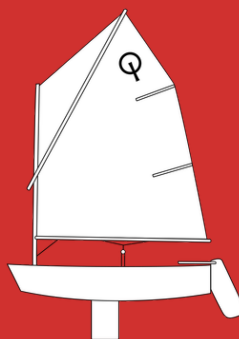


Funding / Sponsorship Opportunities



Opti's

We are making progress with getting the Opti's and ILCA's put back together. Through JSAB funding and generous donations we are now well on our way to having the boats fixed and back out on the water.



We have made great strides with the Opti's, but we still need to get 4 more Opti's repaired and on the water. This is now a matter of my labor to work on them. In addition to the Opti's, we now have upgraded sails, rudders and daggerboards for each boat, along with spars and booms, so all major components are now available for use.

ILCA's

As we have mentioned in our last newsletter, we currently have two ILCA 7's, which while usable, are not well suited to transition our youth from the Opti's to the ILCA's when they become of age. The preferred transition is to convert the current ILCA 7's to ILCA 4's as they have a much smaller sail plan which makes them easier to sail. This process is quite simple as it only requires a different lower spar sections and a corresponding ILCA 4 sails.



2 lower spar sections - \$500US each (plus tax and shipping)
2 ILCA 4 (practice) sails - \$500US each (plus tax and shipping)





Funding / Sponsorship Opportunities



Club House

We noted in the last newsletter the improvement in organization to a portion of our club house.



This much needed organization assures the youth sailors take proper care of the equipment, while teaching them to take responsibility and pride in our club.



Our hope is to obtain funds to built new shelves, hang our lifejackets, and store equipment properly.

Cost of wood - \$1000US

Other Needs

As we progress with the needed maintenance and upgrades to the boats, keep in mind we also have other funding needed to keep JSAB viable such as:

- fuel and maintenance for the outboard engines
- costs to attend regattas
- attendance by periodic outside coaches
- shipping of equipment from the UK or US

Thank you for your consideration.





HOW TO **GIVE SUPPORT**



FROM THE USA

Intermediary Bank
Bank of America
1 E 49th Street
Hialeah, FL 33013. USA
ABA # 026 009 593
Swift Code : BOFA US3M

Beneficiary Bank:
For Credit to:
Bank of St Vincent And The Grenadines
Limited
Reigate, Granby Street, PO Box 880
Swift Code: NCBVVC22

For Further credit to:
Bank of St Vincent and The Grenadines
Account number: 5200130 (checking account)
Account holder: Junior Sailing Academy
Bequia

FROM CANADA

Correspondent - Intermediary bank
Toronto Dominion bank
Toronto Data Centre, 26 Gerrard Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5B 1G3, Canada
Swift Code: TDOMCATT

Beneficiary Bank:
For Credit to:
Bank of St Vincent And The Grenadines
Limited
(Formerly NCB (SVG) Ltd
Reigate, Granby Street
Swift Code: NCBVVC22

For Further credit to:
Bank of St Vincent and The Grenadines
Account number: 5200130 (checking account)
Account holder: Junior Sailing Academy
Bequia

FROM UK

Lloyds Bank
Acton Bequia
Sort Code : 30-64-97
Account number: 25176860
Ref: Junior Sailing Academy Bequia
Or Use
Action Bequia donation link:
<http://www.Actionbequia.org/donatenow.php>
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A very special "Thank You" to all our sponsors!

