

# AMERICAN ★ SAILOR

American Sailor -  
News and Information  
for US Sailing Members

## Squaring the Pyramid

A New Model for Youth  
Sailing in America.



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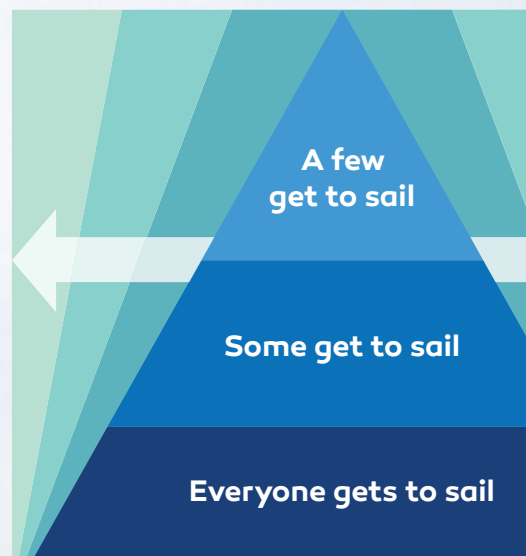
# It's Time to Square the Pyramid

## A New Model for Youth Sailing in America

The Pyramid: the sporting model for generations. A wide base of new participants narrows quickly, and only the elite competitors climb to the top of the pyramid.

### But what about everyone else?

The pressure to climb the pyramid, at the expense of long-term participation and well-rounded skill development, has parents, instructors, and program leaders looking to US Sailing for guidance and a different approach. They've seen too many kids drop-out, and they're not alone.

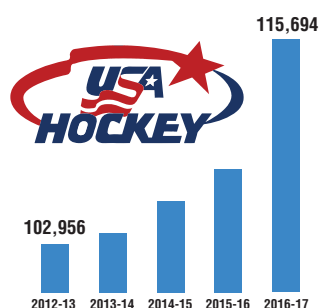


This concern exists in almost every youth sport and the impact is real. Sports participation in America is declining.

Without positive sport experiences, we see less demand for sport programming, fewer opportunities to participate, declining activity, and the absence of valuable life lessons that kids learn through sports.

Sport organizations such as the U.S. Olympic Committee, Aspen Institute and professional leagues like the NHL, NBA and MLB have recognized the need to rethink how we organize, operate and execute sport activity in America.

When USA Hockey implemented a new model for youth hockey development, the American Development Model (ADM), they discovered that widespread adoption moves slowly at first. But, steady and consistent outreach achieved critical mass over time, and the results speak for themselves!



8-and-Under Participation Totals .....

Record number of first-year  
8U participants

52,076

2016-17

Record number of returning  
8U participants

63,618

"The record numbers also reflect the support of the NHL, its member clubs and the NHLPA, along with initiatives like Try Hockey For Free Days and our American Development Model, which provide age-appropriate fun and skill development for players throughout the country."

-Pat Kelleher, USA Hockey





# Youth Sailing. It's just the beginning!

## Sailing into Adulthood

US Sailing is on a mission to build confident, adaptable sailors with well-rounded skills who can sail any kind of boat safely and successfully. Youth Sailing is just the starting point – the point where a lifelong passion is born.

## We believe . . .

A model that starts with fun and age appropriate training

Taught by well-prepared and enthusiastic instructors

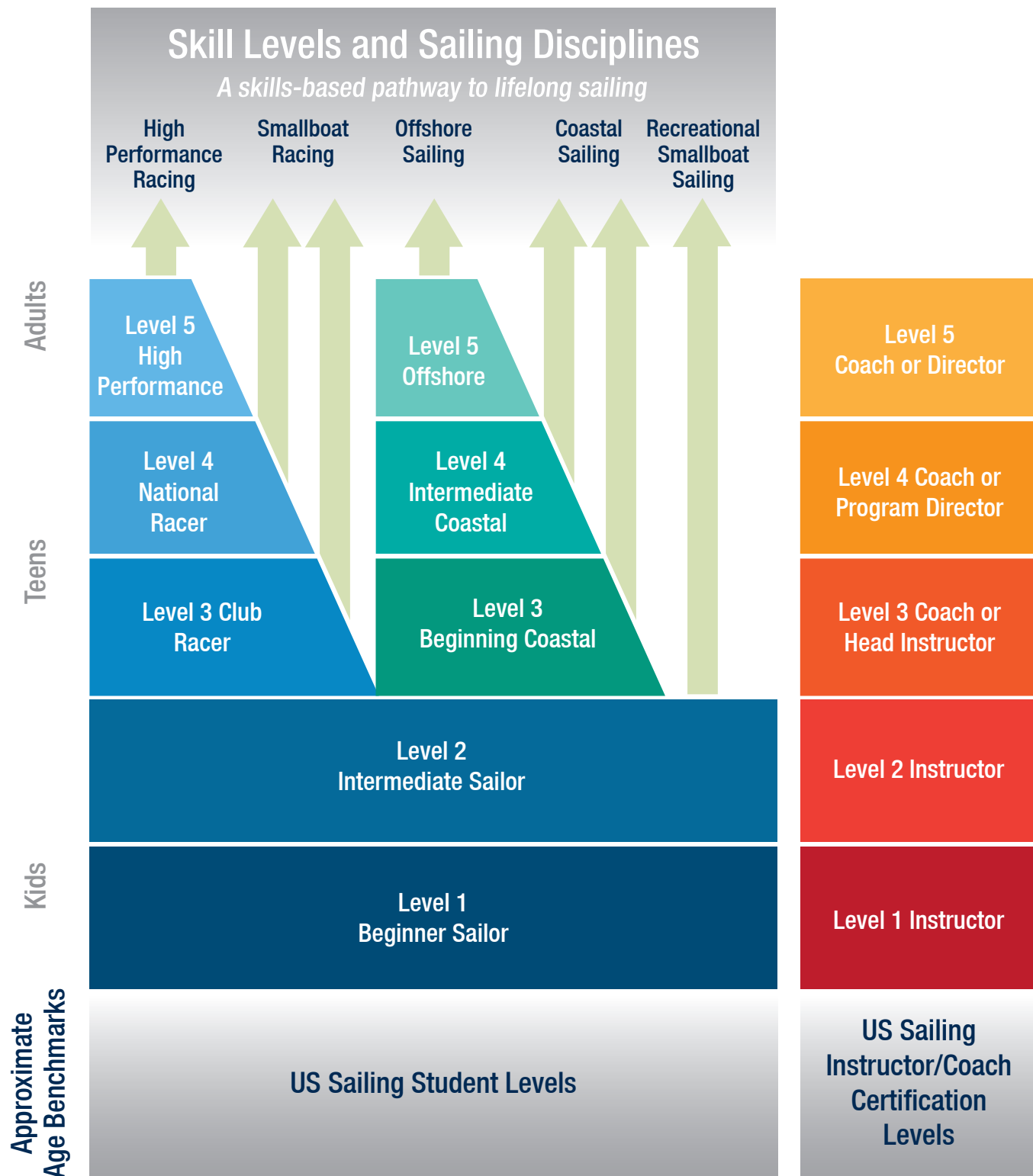
Empowered with modern teaching tools

Guided by consistently high curriculum standards at every level

That offers progressively advanced challenges at the right times

In a variety of sailing disciplines and boats

**Will keep kids sailing through childhood and into adulthood.**





# Stages of Learning and Development

A youth-centered sailing experience

## Ages 19+ “Lifetime Sailors”

Skills learned as youth sailors produce adaptable, flexible lifetime sailors.

Confident and competent – able to sail any kind of boat in any conditions.

Multi-discipline participation that evolves throughout a sailor’s lifetime.

Grounded in the time-honored principles of solid seamanship.

## Ages 13-19 Train for Mastery “Refine & Specialize”

Physical and mental growth provide an opportunity to try new sailing disciplines and learn new skills.

Instructional focus is on long-term mastery.

If competing, maintain a healthy practice to competition ratio.

Participate in a variety of sports and activities to improve development and stay fresh.

## Ages 10-16 Develop and Challenge “The Golden Age of Skill Development”

Skills and technique develop at an accelerated pace.

Instructional focus on learning a well-rounded skill set.

If competing, emphasize skill development over competitive success.

Participate in a variety of sports and activities to improve development and stay fresh.

## Ages 0-12 Discover, Learn, and Play “Fun, Safe, and Social”

Discovery of sailing and the boating environment in a safe, social setting.

Learning through games, deliberate play, and free-sailing.

Develop “physical literacy” – fundamental movement skills such as agility, balance, and coordination.

Frequent access to a variety of sports and activities to improve development and stay fresh.





# Participation in youth sports is declining across the country, and the root cause is not just video games and mobile devices.

US Sailing is collaborating with youth sports organizations and experts across America to develop a youth sailing model with the power to keep kids active and engaged.

As the National Governing Body for Sailing, we are in the singular position to drive the change by redefining standards in education, upgrading skill development models, and utilizing technology to deliver educational content on next generation digital platforms.

**Over the next four years, US Sailing will be investing significant resources to upgrade existing training programs and create new ones at every level of youth sailing.**

But we can't do it alone. To create the depth of content and comprehensive instruction tools that will truly transform youth sailing, we need to raise significant funding to accomplish our goals.

2018	Beginner Sailor Course Materials & Tools	\$ 125,000
2019	Advanced Beginner/ Intermediate Sailor Course Materials & Tools	\$ 125,000
2020	Youth Coastal/ Offshore Sailor Course Materials & Tools	\$ 135,000
2021	Youth Racing Sailor Course Materials & Tools	\$ 135,000
4-Year Investment Total		\$420,000

Please consider a one-time gift today or a 4-year pledge of support to provide the resources needed to build-out a new Youth Sailing Model in only four years. Your support today has the power to build a generation of highly skilled sailors who will lead the sport of sailing into the future.

Program Information  
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Make a donation today at  
[ussailingfoundation.org](http://ussailingfoundation.org)

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## 2018 - 2021 Four-Year Investment

