

Background

Founded in 1978 and located at Humber Bay Park West, Mimico Cruising Club has a traditional name reflecting the racing and cruising interests of its sailing and boating members. (We are named after a famous British cruising club called The Royal Cruising Club founded in 1880, and we support similar traditions.) We have grown from 250 members in 1979 to nearly 500, with docking facilities for 300+ boats up to 50 feet (LOA) and dry sailing facilities for dinghies and keel boats to 3,000 lbs.

We have 302 senior members, approximately 30 percent of whom are power boaters. MCC has weekly Club races and our members also participate in regional competition. Club cruises are arranged throughout the season for both power and sail. These often attract as many as 50 members for a weekend cruise. In addition, events organized by our powerboat members include treasure hunts and a poker run. There is also a wide range of shore based events both in the Summer and Winter.

The Clubhouse and Grounds

Our post and beam clubhouse design reflects the character of a park setting and was opened in 1984, by John B. Aird, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

The clubhouse is smoke-free and has a restaurant and bar with a skyline view of the city and harbour. Downstairs there are offices and another reception area, the Flag Room. Supplementing these is a licensed area outside known as the Crew's Nest. Altogether, the clubhouse is a very popular meeting place for our members and guests.

Access to the property is by use of a proximity card where parking is free and close to the docks and clubhouse. Members and their crew may park their cars on the property whenever they are on board their boat and for the duration of their cruises. Much of our Summer time parking space is used for Winter boat storage but continues to provide parking near to the boats.

Picnic tables and propane BBQs are distributed along the shore and are provided at no cost to our members or visiting boaters. A playground near the clubhouse is popular with our growing families and both the basketball hoop and the horseshoe pits see a lot of use.

The many attractive garden plots around the Club are each maintained by a volunteer from the membership who is then rewarded with work hours.

Clubhouse Services

We are proud of our excellent restaurant and full bar service and there is no minimum monthly food or beverage charge. The clubhouse is available throughout the year where the general opening days and the hours of operation vary with seasonal demand.

We feature a regular Wednesday night sailor's special (Club race night) and Friday night dinner-dances when the music is provided by our own Mimico Jam or guest entertainer.

The social committee organizes frequent events and Members often rent the facilities for their own private functions including weddings, company receptions and other special events.

The Club has a large screen HDTV television with satellite dish in the main room and a smaller television in the Flag Room.

General services also include washrooms, showers, laundry, and ice. Wireless Internet is available at the Club for a monthly fee.

Our Organization

The Club is debt free with a strong balance sheet. We have no mortgages and no special assessments are anticipated. Infrastructure improvements are financed from our cash flow and the mandated reserve fund. The continuing replace, repair or refurbish programme is adequately funded for routine activities through each year while the major capital item list is proposed by the board at each AGM for members review and approval.

We elect ten directors from the Senior-A membership each November to be responsible for the management of the Club and the work of the committees. The directors are responsible for maintaining adequate and carefully controlled funds to meet any unexpected cost for replacing any of our major facilities such as the docks and buildings.

Members form work crews and committees for maintaining the docks, buildings and landscaping. Club members are also responsible for regular yacht club activities such as launch and haulout, mast stepping, financial planning, organizing social events, providing duty officers and publishing our highly regarded Sheet & Shaft Club newsletter.

Our full time Club Manager, supervises the full-time and part-time staff, and he is responsible for our general Club management. Any member seeking help or information may count on him for assistance and advice.

Our Work Hour Programme

MCC is a self-help Club, which means that each qualified member must contribute a minimum of 21 hours of work each year to support the operation of the Club. The work-hours self-help system provides an opportunity to meet and build relationships with fellow members and it is vital in keeping our cost structure and members' fees, as low as possible.

Senior-A, Senior-B and Social A members with a berth, participate in the work hour programme. Methods of earning work hour credits are varied and some do not require physical labour. Each work hour is worth \$35 and if you have not accumulated the 21 hours prior to year end, you pay the difference in dollars. Accumulated extra work hour credits are carried forward to the following year. You will receive regular statements showing your work hours.

Work hour requirements for members joining part way through the season are pro-rated.

Member Communication

The main bulletin boards, the members' mailbox and a map locating the clubs that provide reciprocal privileges (approx. 60) around the lake are found in the main hall of the ground floor. These bulletin boards have timely notices concerning: upcoming social events, work parties, launch/haulout, Club cruising plans, the officer of the day schedule, Club racing information, and events at other clubs and sailing associations. Photo posters augment articles in Sheet & Shaft, the very distinctive Club newsletter, published regularly for the members by the members.

The Club maintains an Internet web site (www.mimicocruisingclub.com) for general information and has a members' section which is used to provide confidential and Club specific information.

On-The-Water Activities

Racing

Club races are held each Wednesday night from May until September. There are several classes of boats, accommodating keen racing sailors and beginners alike. Open weekend regattas cater for both mixed class and one design racing.

At MCC the PHRF is modified by a skipper's previous performance so that the racing is tightened. Race results are announced at the popular post race dinners.

MCC members also participate in many regional regattas and events, some of which are hosted by the Club.

Sailpast

The annual Sailpast in June is the opportunity for all members to salute our Commodore. This is a full day's activity with festivities both on the water and ashore. The event is in keeping with sailing tradition with pipes, honour guards and a welcoming to the new season. Live entertainment is provided by a variety of bands, to accompany the complimentary patio reception.

Mentor programmes

In Spring of each year the Club has a Skipper's Mentor Programme that matches experienced racers with beginners. The mentors accompany the beginners on their own boats during a separate race series which run on Monday nights. A similar programme organized by our Power Boat Council assists new power boat owners and runs events such as our well supported Poker Run.

Cruising

Each Summer the Cruising Director and Committee plan weekend cruises which are open to all members both power and sail. This programme and the destinations vary from year to year.

MCC yachts formed the largest fleet of any North American yacht club participating in the Newfoundland Flotilla of 1997 cruise that commemorated John Cabot's voyage of 1497, with a second flotilla to L'Anse aux Meadows in 2000. Members' individual cruising ambitions range from weekend local-sailing through weeks of gunk holing to round-the-world voyages.

Harbour, Docks and Storage Facilities

We have 302 wet mooring slips. All are the finger variety (27 to 50 ft.), provided with potable water and 20 or 30 amp outlets, for which there is no extra charge. Our docks are Canadian built and among the best on the lake. They are guaranteed to withstand the pressure of ice and storms. We have recently replaced docks out of our planned capital fund, an indicator of MCC's financial stability, and excellent cost control.

The service docks with their self-service pumpout facility and a crane are available to members at no charge. The dual purpose crane is for lifting dry sailed boats up to 3,000 lbs. and for mast stepping. Members who have taken our internal training course may operate this crane.

Winter storage is provided for all boats whose owners have completed a request for storage. The haulout, launch, and storage fee is based upon boat size. All boats new to the Club (power or sail) must have folding steel cradles or boats may be stored on trailers. Storage for your cradle/trailer is available at no extra cost during the Summer.

The racks behind the service dock are available for the storage of hard and soft-sided dinghies. Located next to the dinghy racks are receptacles for the safe disposal of waste oil and antifreeze.

All vessels must be insured in accordance with the Rules and By-laws with a minimum of \$2 million liability coverage. Members must provide proof of current insurance each year as a condition of keeping a boat at MCC.

Club Boats

The Sandy Grant is a steel trawler serving as the race committee boat and is used for Sailpast and other board approved events.

The Sandy Grant is also available to Club members requiring assistance and local rescue.

We have a powered mooring raft and a service boat for dock maintenance, and launch/haulout assistance.

Social Activities

Special Events

The social committee organizes many events throughout the year such as wine tasting, Robbie Burns night, pig roast, etc. On selected weekends special programmes may include musical shows, visiting choral groups, mystery nights, theme dances pub nights or top class entertainment and BBQs.

New Year's Day Levée

A Commodore's reception, open to all members, is held every year.

Commodore's Ball

This is held in early Spring, with a reception followed by a grand dinner and dance.

Lobsterfest

Our Lobsterfest in June requires multiple sittings to accommodate all that wish to attend and is always a sell-out.

Friday Night Special Dinners and Entertainment

This dinner dance with our MCC jazz band, Mimico Jam, is known around the lake. It is well attended by visitors and members.

Friday Night Winter Darts Club

Meets Friday evenings from November to March and helps us enjoy our Club during the Winter.

Family Christmas and Easter Party

Our family Christmas party with a clown, crafts, songs and refreshments and of course Santa Claus is very popular. At Easter a similar party is organized complete with an egg hunt and rabbits!

New Year's Eve Gala

New Year's Eve, with all the appropriate features is usually sold out by September. Need we say more?

Seminars

During the Winter and Spring, safety and boating seminars are held covering such topics as: CPR, Crew overboard retrieval, Marine radio operator's certificate, Toronto harbour licence and rules of the road. Illustrated sailing adventure programmes by and for members are presented from time to time.

Community Involvement

Over the years MCC has participated in many community events. In silent and live auctions MCC has raised over \$30,000.00 in support of the local Women's Habitat. Other supported events include Discover Boating Day, annual Lakeshore Clean-up and Food drives.

Types of Membership

Senior A

An owner of a boat, who holds a class-A debenture, has full membership, work hour requirements and voting rights.

Senior B

An owner of a dry sailed boat, who holds a class-B debenture, has work hour requirements full voting rights on all matters except those related to wet moorings, their equipment and service. Senior B members may maintain a position on the Social A waiting list for a Senior A debenture.

Social A

Maintain a position on the waiting list for a wet mooring and may use the Club for social purposes. May keep a boat at the Club for one year subject to a sub-lease of a dock being available. May also use Winter storage subject to space availability. Has a work hour requirement while holding a sub-lease dock. Has no voting privileges.

Social B

May use the Club for social purposes, may belong to Club committees, but cannot keep a boat at the Club and has no voting privileges. Social B memberships available are limited to 130.

Corporate

Available to companies, institutions and associations and is extended to no more than three persons within a qualified institution. The designated people shall be known as Corporate Members. The privileges shall be the same as those of a Social B membership and will be subject to all relevant rules, bylaws, and the designated members shall be responsible for their accounts.

Crew

Proposed by the skipper or owner of the boat upon which the person crews for racing. These members have rights to use the Club for social purposes during race events. No voting privileges.

Intermediate

Available to a person having attained their nineteenth but not their thirtieth birthday and is sponsored by a senior member. No voting privileges.

Junior

Must be less than nineteen years of age and sponsored by a senior member. No voting privileges.

Debentures

All Senior A and Senior B members invest in the Club. Upon becoming a Senior A or B member, a debenture must be purchased. Debentures do not bear interest and are refundable at face value upon termination of membership, providing that a buyer is available.

Payment for Services

Payment for food, bar or entertainment is by chit and charged to your account on a monthly basis. Guests and members may use Interact, VISA or MasterCard. Cash sales are not accommodated. Applicable taxes and a 10% service charge is added to the food and beverage purchases.

Accuracy

Every effort is made in the contents of this booklet to make them both accurate and timely. The fees quoted and the rules précised herein reflect the information current at the time this booklet was prepared and may be used as a guide for your application for membership.

Because changes in either rules or fees may be introduced from time to time the details of the Club rules and the fees in effect at the time of your application will take precedence.

Application

Application forms may be obtained from the Director of Membership, the Club Manager or www.mimicocruisingclub.com. A cheque for the total amount due must accompany the application form. Please talk to the General Manager or a member of the Membership Committee for more information.

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