



Vision

A Sailing school oriented towards the local youth but inclusive also of the transient cruising population. Sailing is a gender - inclusive sport that focuses on education, skill, and safety in a competitive environment.

We seek to provide an environment where the local youth, typically of very modest means, can learn and compete alongside cruisers and other locals in a structured, educational environment. This will provide an opportunity for cultural and linguistic exchange, while teaching the basics of competitive sailing, water safety, and environmentally sound use of ocean resources.

In competitive sailing, young women and girls compete very well with boys and young men, since skill and strategy - rather than size or strength - are the key factors for success. This stands in contrast to most locally played sports, where males play a dominant if not exclusive role.



Because swimming skills and water safety knowledge are uncommon here, we will teach survival swimming and basic water safety as a prerequisite to boat handling and navigation. It is anticipated that this in itself will yield considerable benefit to this seaside community.

Location

Luperon Bay, Dominican Republic, one hour west from Puerto Plata.

The bay includes two well protected bodies of water enjoying a nearly constant breeze from the easterly trade winds.



The water temperature is a comfortable 25 degrees, there are no waves, and the wind blows toward the interior of the bay, so there is no risk of being blown out to sea.

The layout of the bay allows for easy monitoring of students, and there are no dangerous landfalls.



It is difficult to imagine a better environment for dinghy sailing, with the constant breeze, easy landmarks, warm water, and very low costs.

What we have already



- A fleet of seven optimist prams (ideal starting boats)
 - Some other sailing dinghies
 - A Laser type 3 high performance sailing dinghy
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- The use of a support motorboat
 - The use of a location for maintenance and repair, and a suitable instruction area for teaching theory and rules.



- Luperon Bay provides excellent natural facilities for teaching, with sheltered beaches and calm water.



The Students

The students will be young people drawn from the local community, boats sheltering for the season, and the children of guests of the nearby Luperon Club Resort.

Management

Management will consist of resident directors, volunteer instructors from boats in the harbor, residents, and visiting volunteer instructors.

Educational goals and activities:

- Survival Swimming
- Water Safety
- Basic boat handling
- Basic sailing and competitive sailing



Key Partners

We have secure the support of city officials, local schools and associations, and private and corporate sponsors. However, we continue to solicit additional partners.

Organizational Structure

We are structured as a non-profit membership oriented club, and will carry liability insurance to cover club activities.

Maintenance

Equipment maintenance will be performed locally with the participation of club members and instructors. (glue, paint, sewing)

What we still need

- Swimming and sailing instructors,
- Logistical support for transport of equipment, assistance importing club equipment.
- Financial support for equipment transport and school operation.
- Political support to facilitate operations.