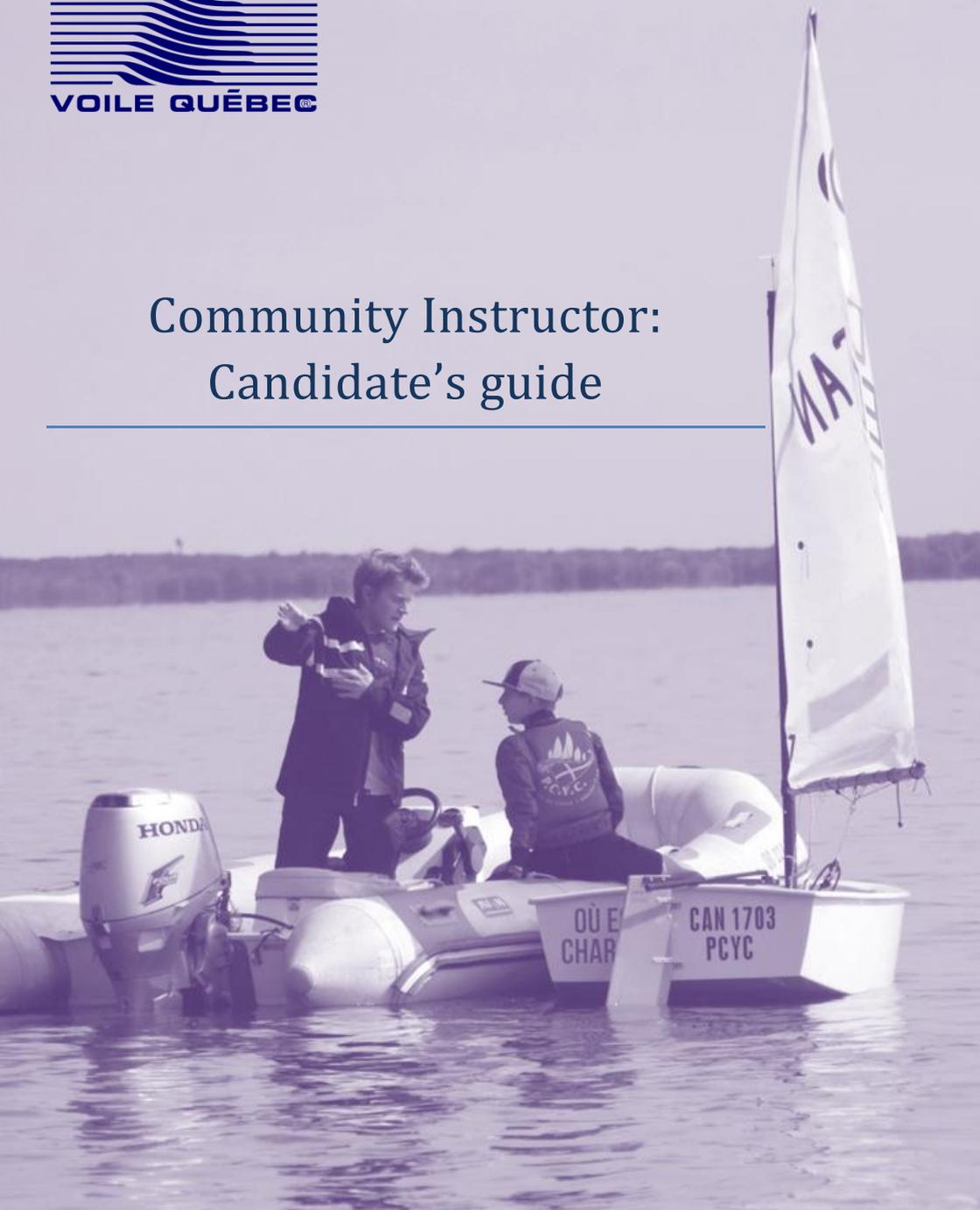




# Community Instructor: Candidate's guide

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*In this document, you will find the information concerning the training to become dinghy instructor. If you have any questions, or to send your prerequisites, contact us at: [formation@voile.qc.ca](mailto:formation@voile.qc.ca) / 1-514-252-3097.*

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Fédération de Voile du Québec  
4545, Pierre-de Coubertin  
Montréal (Qc), H1V 0B2  
514-252-3097 - [formation@voile.qc.ca](mailto:formation@voile.qc.ca)

## Introduction

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The community Instructor program has been designed to enable instructors of multi-sport camps and leaders of smaller communities to introduce beginners to sailing. This training also allows candidates to develop their sailing teaching skills from the age of 15 and having only obtained a minimum CANSail 2 level.

The community instructor training is recognized by Sail Canada. So, once the training is succeed, and from the age of 16, sailing instructors can accompany beginners in the discovery of sailing and deliver ICANSail certifications.

Community instructors are key actors in camps, community organizations and places where people discover sailing. Many people try to sail on a dinghy thanks to the advices and teaching of community instructors, which means they often are the best ambassadors of our sport.

Even if the community instructor training is NOT a prerequisite to become a Dinghy Sailing Instructor, it is still a great way to start a training that will eventually lead you to the status of instructor. In many sailing schools community instructors are a key help for instructors and they are, quite often, the very future instructors of the school!



## Your prerequisites

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Each candidate must have all his prerequisites up to date in order to join a practical course. In order to do so, candidates will either download their prerequisites in the registration form or mail them to us (maximum size per document: 500 ko, named as follow: name\_first-name\_type-of-prerequisite).

### What are the prerequisites, and how to get them?

#### First Aid

Since 2018, all instructors have to attend a General First Aid and CPR course. It is a minimum 16-hour course. The organization providing the course must be nationally recognized (Red Cross, Ambulance Saint-Jean, Heart and Stroke Foundation, etc.). If you have any doubts, contact us to find out if the program is recognized. Online trainings are not accepted. The first aid training remains valid for a period of 3 years.

#### CANSail level

Future Community instructors must have good sailing abilities, and a consistent experience on the water. They need have a **CANSail 2** certification to start their training.

#### Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC)

There are many companies enabling you to get your PCOC. Amongst the

companies enabling you to get your PCOC online, Cartebateau.com offers a special price for instructors and future instructors. To have access to the special price, follow the link on our [page dedicated to the PCOC](#)

#### Coach Boat Driving Experience Certificate

We strongly encourage young sailors interested in becoming instructors to join the assistant program of their sailing school. By doing so, after having obtained their CCEP, they will be able to practice driving a motor boat. The head instructor will then grant them a Coach boat driving experience certificate.

If you did not have the opportunity to gain this experience with your sailing school, the FVQ organizes Coach boat basic courses with our learning facilitators. After half a day discovering the basics, they will deliver a Coach Boat Driving Experience Certificate.

## Boat Safety

**Note: The Boat Safety course is not mandatory to become a multisport community instructor. In this case, you will not be allowed to operate a motor boat as part of the sailing lessons. If you wish to become a sailing community instructor, then the boat safety course is required.**

This coach boat driving course enables candidates to learn and practice safety maneuver (man overboard, righting and towing a boat...). The course takes place in a sailing school and last a whole day. Both theory and practical periods alternate. This course provides instructors with the necessary resources to teach in a safe environment and to drive safely the coach boat. Please note that you can only join the course if you already have your PCOC. The course is open to all candidate aged 14 and older with a Coach Boat Driving Experience Certificate. The Boat Safety prerequisite remains valid for 5 years following the date of the course. A re-certification course must be taken after this period.

## Enhanced Police Information Check (EPIC)

Since 2019, Sail Canada requires an Enhanced Police Information Check (EPIC) for adult 18 or older, to be renew every 5 years. Sail Canada has signed up with [Sterling Talent Solutions](#) to allow CANSail instructors and coaches to complete their EPIC online. It will automatically be added to your Sail Canada profile. Cost for this service is 25\$.

## Safe Sport Training

Since 2021, all CANSail instructors must take a Safe Sport Training course every 5 years. This training is on its way to setting the standard for sport in Canada. This training allows you to know the basic principles in the practice of safe sport and to create an environment in which all participants can flourish. Two modules are currently approved by Sail Canada: [Safe Sport Training](#) (offered by the Coaching Association of Canada) and [Respect in Sport training](#) (offered by Sail Canada at a cost of \$ 30).

## The training

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*The minimum age to start the training is 15.*

### Practical Course

The practical course is delivered by a Voile Québec – Sail Canada Learning Facilitator, most often in a sailing school.

During the two and a half day clinic taking place between May and late June, candidates learn the basis on how to teach sailing, how to advise

and preserve a safe environment. Candidates also practice their driving skills with the coach boat.

At the end of the clinic, the candidate is evaluated by the Learning Facilitator, and either becomes a *trained* instructor or, in case he doesn't meet the standards, he remains an *instructor in training*.



## Develop your skills and deliver new certifications

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Community instructors can develop their competences and their training by following two courses: the Fundamental course (2.5 day, theory course) and the Boat safety certification (1 day, practical course). As mentioned in the section on prerequisites, the Boat Safety course is optional only if you want to become a Multisports Community Instructor. These two courses will help the candidates deliver high quality lessons allowing them to deliver CANSail 1 certification. Once these courses have been passed, and with a CANSail 4 certification or higher, the candidate only has to follow a 5 day practical course to become an instructor.

These courses are optional for Community instructors but mandatory for Dinghy Sailing Instructors. They are offered by the FVQ and you may [register online](#).

### Fundamental Course

This is a theory course taken in a classroom or online in late winter or early spring. From Friday evening to Sunday evening for classroom lessons, or in the evening on weekdays for online lessons. This course provides candidates with pedagogical and teaching resources. They will also learn how to plan a course, how to install and preserve a safe environment, how to supervise a group, how to make ethical

decisions, etc. The Fundamental course is a mandatory step in the training process enabling CANSail instructors to enter the NCCP ([National Coaching Certification Program](#)). Once this course is completed, all CANSail Dinghy Instructors are required to complete the Make Ethical Decisions online evaluation by logging into their [Locker Profile](#).

## Prices and schedule

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You will find the courses calendar on [our website](#) in the Instructor section.

Upon request, we may open new courses in other places if there are enough candidates. If you would like a course to take place near your place please ask your school manager to contact us.

Please note that the planning might change in case of major problem (such as water level), and that courses might be canceled if the number of candidate is insufficient.

## Ready to register?

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*Click on the picture to access the registration form!*



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