



Signing up for Coastal Passage Making

A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE/FAQs

1. What is Coastal Passagemaking (CPM)?

Coastal Passagemaking is a US Sailing course that Club Nautique teaches as a multiple-voyage program designed to prepare and certify students to safely skipper a boat off the California coast, and to sail offshore-equipped Club Nautique boats outside of the Bay.

2. Who is qualified to sign up for CPM classes?

Club Nautique students who have completed the prerequisites (Bareboat Cruising, Coastal Navigation, CPM Info Seminar, and charter practice) are qualified to sign up for the program.

3. What kind of practice does Club Nautique require before taking CPM?

We require that you get at least three (3) charter days on Bareboat Cruising level boats (36' and up) before starting the CPM program. These charters can also include skills clinics that the club offers, such as Big Boat Motoring, Radar/GPS, Anchoring and Coastal Navigation clinics. Ask the CN staff for a Coastal Passage Making passport booklet to help you keep track of your prerequisites and charter practice days.

4. What months of the year do CPM classes run?

CPM seasons generally run from February or March through October. Check the Club Nautique website or current CPM Program letter for class dates.

5. What are the crew positions that I will need to pass to become CPM certified?

There are five (5) positions that you must pass to complete the CPM program: Crew, Junior Navigator, Navigator, Skipper and Tag-Along. For more details, see our CPM Orientation Handout.

6. How do I get my name on the list for CPM class dates?

To sign up for CPM class dates, call or email either CN clubhouse and request to be added to the lists for each date that works for you. Every student who signs up will be on standby until the final trip lists are determined for each voyage.

7. How many CPM class dates do I need to sign up for during the season?

You are not required to sign up for multiple class dates all at once, but having more than one date at a time helps the CN school keep track of your interest; it is also a good idea to have backup dates if you are unable to get on a particular voyage.

8. Why are all students listed as standby in CPM class dates when they sign up?

All students are booked as standby on CPM class lists because we cannot be sure of everyone's next crew position upon signup, or whether we can accommodate all signups. Often we are determining next positions based on the outcome of the last trip. Because we run CPMs every month, the last trip is sometimes only three weeks prior. Also, not all students confirm availability as the class date approaches, so the numbers of boats and crew members may change.

9. What is my priority for class crew assignments based on?

Class priority is based on many factors: date of last a student’s last voyage, whether a student late canceled for that trip, if a student was “bumped” from a previous trip, whether a student is going in a position for the first time, and when a student signs up. For more details about priority guidelines, please refer to the CPM Orientation Handout.

10. When will I know if I get a seat on a class boat for a CPM class date?

The final boat/crew lists are sent out two (2) weeks prior to the voyage date. If you were on the standby list for that voyage date, you will have received an email asking everyone to confirm availability and indicate their next requested position for that trip. Confirming your availability does not guarantee you a class position, but we do our best to accommodate as many students as possible on each voyage.

11. When will I find out my instructor, class location and boat for each trip, and what happens then?

You will find out which instructor, which location you will depart from and your boat assignment when the final boat lists are sent to each confirmed student two weeks prior to the voyage. Once the final boat lists are sent, the crews will begin to receive correspondence from the student Skippers and begin class preparations.

12. Will I automatically be signed up for all CPM dates of the season once I start the program and be contacted about upcoming trips?

No. You will not be contacted about a particular CPM class trip unless your name is on the standby list for that date. Since everyone’s schedules are different, it is best if you determine which class dates you think will work for you and sign up accordingly. You can update your availability as things change; we are happy to shift your class dates as needed outside of the late cancellation period.

13. What is the late cancellation period for CPM?

In fairness to all students, and to discourage late cancellations, a confirmed student who cancels within ten days of a voyage will be assessed a late cancellation fee of \$325 and will be given the end-date of the missed voyage for determining priority on his/her next voyage.

14. Do I need to complete the entire CPM program in one season?

No, you are not required to get through every position of CPM in one season. It is not unusual for students to take more than the minimum four required instructed voyages in order to become proficient enough in all necessary skill levels before doing his or her Tag voyage. Please keep in mind that you must complete your Tag voyage within six months of passing the Skipper position. If it has been more than six months, you will be asked to repeat an instructed voyage before doing your Tag voyage.

Welcome to the Club Nautique CPM Program!