

The chart below lists a series of progressive requirements for the Celtic Song training program. It is not an all-inclusive list but serves to illustrate that crewing on our boat represents a commitment to continuous learning.

In addition to learning by doing on Celtic Song, we recommend that you also consider pursuing formal instruction from the American Sailing Association or US Sailing. The courses that take you through bareboat chartering and navigation provide a good foundation.

The rating system below is meant to be a helpful guide in charting your progress through our program. It is meant to reinforce the learning process, not penalize you in any way.

Our intent is to use a simple 3-point scale for the assessment, understanding that this is an imperfect process.

The scale would work like this:

1. Understands and practices the tasks without hesitation. Capable of teaching them.
2. Has a working knowledge of the task, but needs more time and practice to master the skill.
3. Struggles with the concepts; often guesses rather than understands the process or procedure; needs additional help.

We don't expect everyone to master everything, and anticipate that the more experienced crew members will help and mentor those who have not been able to spend much time on the boat. For many, a 2 rating will be sufficient for program participation.

We would also recommend that you keep a log of the time you've spent on Celtic Song in addition to using this checklist.

Let us know if you have questions of concerns. We are in this together.

Celtic Song Crew Requirements	Your rating	Captain's rating
<b>LEVEL 1 – LOCAL COASTAL RATING</b>		
Log minimum of 25 sailing days before entering the program; understand sailing terms and the dynamics of how a boat sails		
<b>The 5 Basic Lessons</b>		
<b>Basic</b> – Boat checklist, line handling, sailing, wrapping winches, dock lines; leaving and returning to the dock, hoisting sails; knots – square, slippery hitch, bowline,, cleat hitch, rolling hitch, round turn and two half hitches. Understands location and function of all the boats lines and winches		
<b>Docking</b> – Effects of wind, current, tide. Use of spring lines to spring bow and stern off dock. Rule of twelfths, prop walk, FWP, power turn, steering in reverse, stopping at mark		
<b>MOB</b> – Quick Stop, heaving to, use of life sling and block and tackle, MOB button on GPS, safety position		

Celtic Song Crew Requirements	Your rating	Captain's rating
<b>Reefing</b> — Demonstrate how to put in 1st and 2nd reefs; staysail and running backstay operation		
<b>Anchoring</b> — Windlass operation, hand signals, how to choose a location, securing a bite, use of snubber, helm operation, deploying bow and stern anchors		
<b>LEVEL 2 — OFFSHORE COASTAL: ONE OR TWO NIGHTS</b>		
Overnight anchorage; pre- and post-cruise checklists; passage planning, menu planning; galley operation		
Review of Inland and International Rules		
Use of propane system		
Fuel boat		
Dinghy and outboard operation		
Life ring deployment, ditch bag		
Operation of electronics: chart plotter, radar, AIS, autopilot, other instruments; tracking to way points; radio operations, satellite phone		
Manage onboard resources: water, fuel, batteries		
Log entries		
Use of lazy jacks, boom brake, genoa pole		
Overnight passage: watch schedule, navigation lights, ATONS, log entries		
<b>LEVEL 3 — OFFSHORE COASTAL: MULTI-DAY TRIPS</b>		
Night passages		
Determining course, distance, speed, time, distance, bearings, fixes, latitude and longitude		
Watch schedule		
Boat clean up and sanitation		
Monitor use of resources: food, water, fuel, waste		
Rotating galley schedule: cooking and cleaning		
Maintenance of boat: bilge, oil, belts, raw water filter, water maker		
Heavy weather sailing techniques: staysail, storm sail, reefing, heaving to		

Celtic Song Crew Requirements	Your rating	Captain's rating
Use, cleaning and maintenance of marine head		
<b>LEVEL 4 – OCEAN CROSSING</b>		
Understand and be able to trouble shoot all boat systems – navigation, electronics, water maker, engine, heater, generator, SSB		
First aid and CPR certification		
Steering by compass and stars		
Location of thru-hull fittings and attached wooden plugs		
Deployment and use of emergency tiller		
Testing and use of jack lines and safety harnesses		
Inventory and identification of spare parts and tools		
Sail repair		
Dismantle, service and reassemble winches		
Sources of marine weather and weather forecasting		
Use of cruising guides, Chart No 1, Light List, tide tables		
Working safely aloft		