

Cruising Program Guidelines

The purpose of the Cruising Program is to foster fellowship among the North Star Sail Club cruisers. The cruising flag is awarded in recognition of participation in Cruising Program events and personal cruising experiences during your membership at North Star. Cruising is defined as traveling from one place to another, staying overnight, and continuing to the next destination. Cruising miles may be recorded on a vessel for which you are captain, not as a crew. This enables credit to be established for leased and chartered vessels in addition to one which you own.

- Mileage is counted in **statute miles**.
- One cruising flag may be earned by each program member. It may be updated annually.

Requirements to earn the cruising flag in a given year are the following:

1. You must submit a completed cruising log by January 1.
2. You must cruise a minimum of 250 miles.
3. You and your vessel must participate in at least one of the scheduled Cruising Program events.

Blue stars will be sewn on the cruising flag for each 250 mile increment travelled in a year. The number of blue stars on the flag represents the most miles cruised in a year. One anchor will be sewn on for each Great Lake cruised, as well as Lake St. Clair. Additional gold stars will be sewn on the cruising flag for each 1000 miles accumulated from year to year.

As recognition for cruising in waters beyond the Great Lakes, cruising in the following oceans, seas, canals, gulf, and bays receive additional recognition on the flag. As with other recognitions, this must be earned while a member of North Star.

- **Oceans:** Atlantic (AO), Indian (IO), Pacific (PO)
- **Seas:** Caribbean (CS), Mediterranean (MS), Red (RS)
- **Canals:** Erie (EC), Panama (PC), Suez (SZ)
- **Gulf:** Gulf of Mexico (GM)
- **Bays:** Chesapeake Bay (CB), Delaware Bay (DB)

Other forms of recognition may be awarded by the Cruising Committee, under the leadership of the rear commodore, for members who have cruised a minimum of 250 miles, attended at least one of the scheduled cruising events, and submitted a cruise log for the season.

A cruising log, or its equivalent, and the cruising flag, if it is to be updated, must be turned in to the cruising chairman no later than January 1. Cruising logs and flags should be sent to the cruising chairman or placed in the cruising mailbox at NSSC at the end of the year. A maximum of 12 work hours may be earned by the cruise hosts. Work hours are to be submitted to the cruising chairperson.

Recognizing that a member may not be able to attend any scheduled Cruising Program event because of an extended cruise, the member must submit a written request to the rear commodore before May 31 to be considered for season recognition awards. The request should include the reasons for missing the scheduled cruises. The member must also submit the fee that has been charged for one of the scheduled Cruising Program events.