

Sailing in Portland Meetup Group Finances

The Sailing in Portland Meetup Group is run entirely for the benefit of the group and with complete financial transparency:

- No person receives any financial benefit from group revenues.
- The organizers will attempt to generate revenues to compensate the organizer for paying the Meetup.com monthly fee and other expenditures supporting the group. Any revenue in excess of the Meetup.com monthly fee will all go into promoting the group.
- Sailing in Portland Meetup Group members can see [on-line the list of on-going group expenses and revenues handled by the organizer, and the current net for the group](#).

When you view [the group's net expenses on the group's money page](#), a negative net (in red) means that the group's organizer has lost, is in the hole, that much money.

For example, as of December 2013 the organizer was \$260 in the red, i.e. \$260 below the break-even point. In February 2014, after receiving revenues from the introduction to sailing class, the organizer was \$66 in the red.

During the first four years of our group the normal condition was that the organizer was in the red, i.e. losing money. After our August 10, 2014 fundraiser our meetup group was for the first time \$200+ in the black. That gave us the flexibility to buy some Sailing in Portland logo hats and/or shirts for our active event organizers. We now think that it would be good to retain conservatively some funds to cover the twice-a-year Meetup.com charge, and to try to stay a little in the black instead of the red.

Meetup.com now bills the organizer for the meetup group \$178.99 every 6 months, \$356.98 a year (Yes, a terrible "rip-off"). To pay this expense we have tried several methods including charging a fee when we teach the introductory sailing course, and applying any excess funds from the San Juan Islands cruises to the group..

Any donations received for running the group are listed as a "Cash in" transactions, viewable on [the group's money page](#) and listed as a donation from that person, and will count as income towards the current net dollar figure. As stated above, should the net for the group be in the black instead of the red, the extra funds will be spent entirely on the group.

Note regarding Monetary Contributions to Boat Owners: Meetup group members who host meetup events and take other members out in their boats of course incur substantial expenses to own and operate their boats. Whether boat owners want to solicit contributions to help cover their expenses for a meetup event outing, or whether meetup members want to offer to contribute towards covering those expenses, is between individual boat owners and individual meetup participants, and is subject to rules of the USCG which govern commercial boating

operations.

Note that contributions to individual boat owners and contributions towards the operation of the Sailing in Portland Meetup Group are entirely different.

