



## OCC Mentoring Programme



The OCC Mentoring Programme is looking for Mentors and Members who seek mentoring.

In order to fulfil the mission of the Club “to foster and encourage ocean cruising in small craft, including all aspects of seamanship and navigation”, the OCC has a one-on-one Mentoring Programme to assist members seeking advice on ocean passages, exploration and adventuring in distant waters, and coastal cruising to unfamiliar areas.

The programme is available to Associate and Full members.

We have many vastly experienced members who have done the ARC, the Caribbean 1500 and other rallies, who have circumnavigated by means of the Capes and the “Coconut Milk Run”, sailed the oceans singlehanded or as a couple, with friends or as a family with children, and who have sailed with the seasons or full time as liveaboards. They have much to offer in personal experience, expertise and advice.

There is always room for **new mentors** so that we can expand the coverage of oceans and cruising areas. The only requirement for mentors is that they have a desire to help other members, and that they have a mutually-agreeable way to communicate with their mentees (yes, that’s a real word now): in person, by telephone or Skype, or by email. This means that if you are away cruising and want to be a mentor or mentee, you can use the method that works for both of you. Members who are not currently cruising but who have recent information to share may also volunteer to be mentors.

Also, in addition to your voyaging and cruising experience, when you sign up to be a mentor, please include additional information (such as cruising with children or pets, maintenance in exotic ports, singlehanded, women’s issues afloat, safety and security, minimalist cruising, electronics, commissioning a new yacht, etc.). The more specific you are, the easier it will be to match mentors with mentees. To put your name on the mentor database, please email [mentoring@oceancruisingclub.org](mailto:mentoring@oceancruisingclub.org).

### How the programme works:

1. A member looking for a mentor emails the programme supervisor, OCC member Priscilla Travis, at [pmtravis41@atlanticbb.net](mailto:pmtravis41@atlanticbb.net), writing the details about what he or she is seeking.

2. The mentor database is checked for one or more mentors (perhaps a total of three) who could assist with the enquiry. There may be only one mentor with expertise in the particular area or there may be several mentors available to address the request. Every effort will be made to provide contact information for at least one mentor per request. page 1 of 2 27 March 2014 OCC Mentoring Program
3. Potential mentors are contacted with the information in the enquiry, and asked if they would be available to serve as a mentor for the person.
4. When a mentor agrees, contact information is shared between the parties, and they work out the details of their relationship.

Please understand that if you are not tapped to be a mentor, it is likely to mean that there have been no enquiries that fit your areas of expertise. As the Mentoring Programme grows, we hope to increase participation and get more people involved on a regular, but not burdensome, basis.

The first purpose of the Mentoring Programme is to assist new Associate members who are about to embark upon their first ocean passage and help them with some of those unresolved questions that may hinder them from reaching their goal. By connecting them with experienced and seasoned members, either in person or electronically, the Associates may soon feel confident to set sail on their qualifying passage.

The second purpose of the programme is to provide mentoring for any members who seek advice, whether they're crossing an ocean or sailing to new waters close to home.

OCC mentors can provide valuable information not found in the cruising guides, and offer the friendly support that bonds us to the OCC community.

Contact: [mentoring@oceancruisingclub.org](mailto:mentoring@oceancruisingclub.org)