QUICK HELP

Map:

You can pan the map by dragging it with the mouse, and zoom using the '+' and '-' buttons in the toolbar to the left. Hold the button to continuously zoom. You can see the current map scale in the bottom left of the map. Clicking the boat icon in the toolbar will centre the map on your boat. Hovering the mouse over another boat will display the name of the boat and other information. Moving the mouse over the map changes the display in the top right corner. The top line of this display is the wind data at that location, the bottom line is the distance and bearing from your own location.

Steering:

Click the button with the steering wheel icon, and the steer tab becomes active (if not already) and you can use the mouse to set the direction you want to sail to (the line extending from your boat). The heading and true wind angle (TWA), SOG and VMG change in a pop-up box on-screen and changes as you move the mouse. When you are happy with the direction, click the mouse on the map to fix the current direction on the steer tab input. You can choose to sail on a constant heading (COG) or to maintain a constant angle to the wind (TWA) by selecting the corresponding option on the steer tab. Click 'Set Boat Course' to send to course change command to the server, to be executed. If you would like the course change to occur in the future, check 'Delay for' and enter a value for how long you would like the server to wait before making the course change. You can set as many 'Delayed Commands' as you wish, by using different times to delay the command. These delayed (or future) commands can be viewed and edited in the tab with the clock icon. The TWA input box will change colour depending on the tack it represents.

Weather:

There is a grid of arrows on the map, colour coded as on the Polar diagram, which show the direction from which the wind is blowing at that location. You can also use the slider to look ahead in time to see how the wind will develop. You can also limit how far ahead the slider will go, with smaller times (ie 24hr) using a smaller time step when sliding ahead in time, so you can see more detail. With the full weather forecast the weather slider steps in 10 minute increments.

Ruler:

The ruler tool, allows you to draw or mark lines on the map, and see the direction and distance between the end points. You can start different lines by clicking on the Ruler button each time. Options to delete last or delete all appear on-screen. Click the Ruler button and then click on the map where you would like to start the path, and then each point to make a new segment. To end a path, double click the map.

Chat:

You can chat with other players online by switching to the chat tab, with the speech bubble icon. Enter the text you want to send in the input box at the bottom, and hit Enter or click Send to send the message. New chat from yourself or other players appears at the top of the Chat list. If you wish to have more than one chat open at a time, click on the [+] button at the bottom of the column and a second chat opens – you can choose where to chat from the drop down menu.

The Fleet:

The tab with the podium icon displays a list of every boat in the fleet. You can also create your own custom lists containing either a specific set of boats, or all boats within a certain distance (in NM) from your location. Click the appropriate button at the bottom of the Boats tab to create a new list (you can create more than 1 list of specific boats, but only 1 based on distance). Enter a name for the list, select the boats you want to include in the list and click add. When all the boats are listed in the right side panel of the popup window, click 'Done'. You can edit these lists, either the name or boats contained in them. These Lists are saved when you close the game client, and re-loaded when you open it again. When you click 'Dist' enter a distance to filter boats by. The list will then contain only those boats within this distance from your own boat, updated once per minute - with the current number of boats indicated in the list header. You can change the distance by clicking 'Edit'. Tip: 5nm is approximately the distance to the horizon. You can display only boats from a certain list by checking 'Show only boats from this list'.

Other:

On the Misc tab you can access various options available in the game client. Click the Settings button to modify them. Any options you set are saved, and will be activated next time you open a race, or open a different race.

For more comprehensive help, see the Official Sailonline Manual, found here