



# Sailing Instructions: Opti GREEN FLEET

## 1. RULES.

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS),* the prescriptions of US Sailing, the Rules of the USODA Optimist Class Association.
- 1.2 In any instance where these Sailing Instructions are different than *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS),* these Sailing Instructions shall apply.
- 1.3 Class rules will be used except that RRS 60.1(a) is changed to prohibit a boat from protesting another boat for an alleged breach of a Class rule requiring class membership or imposing a weight limit.

## 2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES.

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located near the registration table.
- 2.2 Changes to these sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board and/or announced at the Skippers Meeting.
- 2.3 The Green Fleet Race Officer (PRO) reserves the right to change these sailing instructions on the water.

### 3. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE.

3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on a flagpole or staff on the yacht club property.

### 4. MEASUREMENT AND CHECK-IN.

4.1 All boats will be inspected for proper rigging and safety prior to racing.

### 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES (may change in response to weather conditions and launch ramp availability)

#### Friday October 4th

6:00pm-8:30pm Registration and Check in

### Saturday October 5th

0730 -0900	Registration
0945	Skippers Meeting (Optimist Green Fleet)
1030	HARBOR START (Optimist Green)
1115	Warning Signal for the first race of the day (Optimist Green)

Lunch will take place either on the water or on land at the discretion of the PRO After sailing: Chalk talk with coaches and Race Committee

#### Sunday October 6th

0900	Skippers Meeting for Green Fleet inside the MBYC Junior Center
1000	HARBOR START
1045	Warning Signal for the first race of the day (Optimist Green)
Additional races to follow depending on sailing conditions.	





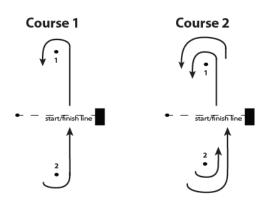
No warning signal will be signaled after 1330. After sailing: Lunch on land and Awards Ceremony

## 6. RACING AREA.

6.1 The racing area will be Lake Macatawa.

## 7. COURSES.

- 7.1 The courses will be windward leeward (rounding marks to port).
- 7.2 A course designated as "1" will be one lap around the race course.
- 7.3 A course designated as "2" will be two laps around the race course.
- 7.4 The Race Committee will indicate course 1 or 2 on a white board on the Signal Boat.
- 7.5 The start-finish line will not be an "obstruction" and will be open to boats sailing downwind.



### 8. MARKS.

8.1 The windward and leeward rounding marks and the start/finish mark will be inflatable buoys.

### 9. THE START AND FINISH.

- 9.1 In accordance with RRS Appendix S, starts will be a 3 minute sound signal sequence with horn blasts at 3 minutes, 2 minutes, 1.5 minutes, 1 minute, 30 seconds and the start. The Race Committee may count down the final seconds to the start using a loud hailer.
- 9.2 The starting line and finishing line will be between a staff flying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat and the course side of the start/finish mark at the port end of the line.
- 9.3 The Race Committee will attempt to notify any boat that is on the course side of the line at the start.
- 9.4 Boats that have finished shall immediately sail to the left or right of the finish line and stay clear of all other boats that are still racing.





# 10. TIME LIMITS.

10.1 The Race Committee may choose to assign scores to boats that have not yet finished.

## 11. PROTESTS AND PENALTIES.

- 11.1 Sailors must tell the other sailor that they are being protested immediately after the incident. When sailors are protested on the racecourse and want to take a penalty to offset the foul, they should immediately do a single "turn" that includes one tack and one gybe.
- 11.2 A sailor intending to file a protest must tell the Race Committee at the end of that race if they intend to protest, otherwise there will be no hearing. Telling the Race Committee is all that is required to file a protest.
- 11.3 Protests that are reported to the race committee on the water will be posted on the notice board ashore right after the Race Committee boat docks. All sailors should check the 'protests filed' list and if they are on that list, report to the Protest Committee to learn when the hearing will take place.
- 11.4 A sailor who has been protested and did not take a penalty turn immediately after the incident, may request a 20% scoring penalty from the Protest Committee, and there will be no hearing.

## 12. SCORING AND PRIZES.

- 12.1 Finishes in the Green Fleet will be recorded but scores will be for informational purposes only.
- 12.2 No prizes for finish places will be awarded in the Green Fleet. All competitors will receive participation awards.

# **13.** SAFETY REGULATIONS.

- 13.1 Every sailor must wear a Coast Guard Approved PFD (personal flotation device). PFDs must be fully secured (zipped, clipped and strapped) at all times on the water.
- 13.2 Each competitor must have a whistle attached to his or her PFD at all times on the water.
- 13.3 Each boat shall have a secure loop tied at the end of its painter line.
- 13.4 Any sailor retiring from a race must notify a Race Committee boat or safety boat before leaving the course.
- 13.5 In accordance with the Laws of the State of Michigan, any sailor who is suspected of experiencing a concussion injury will be immediately removed from competition and will not be allowed to re-enter competition without written permission from a health professional.

## 14. SUPPORT AND COACH BOATS.

- 14.1 All coach and support boats must display a flag provided by the Organizing Authority and shall monitor VHF radio broadcasts from the Race Committee. The Race Committee will announce which VHF channel during the Skippers Meeting.
- 14.2 Coaching is allowed and encouraged in the bottom half of the Green Fleet during any race. Coach boats must not create wakes or interfere with competitors in any way. The Race Committee reserves the right to alter this instruction on the water during races.
- 14.3 Coaching and providing drinks and/or snacks to competitors are encouraged between races. Support boats providing this assistance must do so outside the racing area.





- 14.4 Coach and support boats shall not make any independent decisions regarding the race or the actions of a competitor without first consulting the Principal Race Officer for the Green Fleet.
- 14.5 In a general emergency situation, the signal boat will fly the "N" flag and all support boats will come under the direction of the Race Committee.

# 15. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY.

15.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta. A waiver shall be signed by all competitors and their parent/guardian.