



**BARNEGAT BAY YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION
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GREEN FLEET GUIDELINES FOR OPTIMIST CLASS

1. BACKGROUND

The United States Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA) is the national class organization for Optimist sailing in the United States. The USODA defines Green Fleet as a special fleet for beginners. Green fleeters can be any age up to 15. A green fleet might have skippers who are as young as 6 and as old as 15, but sooner or later they'll move into their age-appropriate fleet. A ten year old green fleetier would move into white fleet, a thirteen year old green fleetier would move into red fleet, etc.

The purpose of the green fleet is to encourage novice sailors. To discourage sailors from staying in green fleet, in order to win races and receive awards, USODA's policy is to present "Participation Awards" to all skippers sailing in the green fleet. By not crowning a champion, sailors and their parents, are encouraged to move to the appropriate age fleet as they become more confident of their abilities.

2. THE BBYRA

Consistent with the USODA, the Barneget Bay Yacht Racing Association (BBYRA) wants to encourage novice sailors to attend and participate in regattas. We look to avoid "trophy hunting" by experienced Optimist sailors who continue to compete in Green Fleet after having demonstrated they have mastered the skills for higher-level sailing.

3. CONDITIONS FOR GREEN FLEET

The Junior Sailing Committee has adopted the following conditions for Green Fleet effective December 15, 2009.

3.1 The top three (3) Green Fleet finishers will be tracked by the Junior Sailing Committee. A sailor who finishes in the top three (3) in any three (3) regattas or interclubs during any two consecutive calendar year period shall move up to their next respective fleet (White, Red, Blue).

3.2 Rookie Regatta at Manasquan River Yacht Club (MRYC) - The Rookie Regatta at MRYC is designed for ***First Year Sailors*** only. Any child who competed in the prior calendar year shall not be eligible to compete in the Rookie Regatta.

3.3 No Tears Regatta at Toms River Yacht Club (TRYC) - The Beginner (Green) Fleet in the No Tears Regatta at TRYC is designed for ***First Year Sailors*** only. Any child who competed in the prior calendar year shall not be eligible to compete in the Beginner (Green) Fleet at the No Tears Regatta.

4. PRIZES

The BBYRA encourages Regatta Organizers to:

- a) Post all scores the day of the regatta
- b) Present "Participation Awards" to all skippers sailing in the Green Fleet
- c) Awards should be given to Green Fleet sailors in a manner that does not disclose the order of finish (ex. by sail number or name) except for the top three (3) finishers