

**2004 USODA Atlantic Coast Championship
October 9 - 10, 2004
Fishing Bay Yacht Club, Deltaville, VA, USA**

Green Fleet Sailing Instructions

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be hosted by the Fishing Bay Yacht Club, Deltaville, VA, and the United States Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA).
- 1.2 The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.3 Where there is discord or ambiguity, the Sailing Instructions will take precedence over the Notice of Race.

2 FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

- 2.1 Green fleet is a special fleet for novices. It has two purposes:
1. To encourage novices to attend their first Optimist regatta, and
 2. To encourage their continued participation in Optimist racing.
- 2.2 This fleet may not race in some conditions, even though the Championship fleet may race.
- 2.3 Sailors (parents and coaches) should expect the Green Fleet at this event to de-emphasize (but not exclude) competitiveness and to accentuate the FUN and learning aspects. This will include group games, clinics and coaching each day as well as the racing. Participation medals will be awarded to all competitors in lieu of trophies.
- 2.4 On each day of racing, there will be a mandatory skippers meeting where the schedule for the day will be presented.

2.5 Expected Green Fleet Program

Friday, October 8	0900-2100	Registration and Check-in
Saturday, October 9	0730 - 0830	Continental breakfast
	0800 - 0900	Check-in (but no initial registrations)
	0900	Coach & safety boat meeting
	0930	Skippers meeting
		Harbor start
		Racing to follow
		Lunch on shore
		Racing to follow
	1800	Dinner (with purchase of meal ticket)
Sunday, October 10	0730 - 0830	Continental breakfast
	0900	Coach & safety boat meeting
	0930	Skippers meeting
		Harbor start
		Racing to follow
		Lunch on shore
		Racing to follow

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the case on the Junior Shed.

4 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole located on the Fishing Bay dock.

5.2 When flag D is displayed with one sound signal, "Boats may leave the launching area and proceed directly to the race area."

5.3 When flag AP is displayed, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 30 minutes" in race signal AP.

5.4 All signals on shore may be displayed with the class flags.

6 RACING AREA

6.1 The racing area will be in the mouth of the Piankatank River in the vicinity of Fishing Bay, Godfrey Bay or Hills Bay, as shown on the attached chart.

7 THE COURSE

7.1 The courses will be triangle, windward/leeward courses, modified Olympic, or as discussed at the daily green fleet skippers meeting. The course length will be based on the sailing conditions.

8 MARKS

8.1 The course marks are orange inflatable balls.

9 THE START

9.1 Races will be started using rule 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.

9.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end and a mark at the port end of the line.

9.3 The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end and a mark at the port end of the line.

10 PROTESTS (The Short Version): When protesting, a sailor shall display a red protest flag and say the word "protest" immediately after the incident. After finish the protest shall be reported to the Race Committee (RC).

Here is the Long Version:

10.1 A boat intending to protest shall display a red flag. This changes rule 61.1(a).

10.2 Boats intending to protest an incident occurring in the racing area shall notify the race committee measurement boat displaying a teal flag at the completion of the pertinent race of her intention to protest, including the sail number of the boat(s) being protested. The RC measurement boat will be located to starboard of the finish line.

10.3 The helmsman shall represent the boat. This changes rule 63.3(a).

10.4 Protests shall be in writing and delivered to the Jury Secretary at the protest desk, located on the second floor of the main clubhouse, within protest time which begins when the race committee finish boat docks and signals with one sound signal and ends 30 minutes later. Protest forms are available from the Jury Secretary.

10.5 The Race Committee will post the time of the Race Committee finish boat docking on the official notice board as soon as practical after docking.

10.6 Notices will be posted on the official notice board within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held upstairs in the main clubhouse. This posting constitutes the notification required in rules 63.2.

10.7 Notices of protests by the race committee or Jury will be posted on the official notice board to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

10.8 Protests will be heard in approximately the order posted as soon as possible.

10.9 On the last day of the regatta a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered

(a) Within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day;

(b) No later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rule 66.

10.10 Sailing instructions 17, 19, and 20 can not be protested by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for upheld protests under SI 17, 19, or 20 may be less than disqualification at the discretion of the jury.

11 SCORING

11.1 The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply.

11.2 Each boat's series score will be the total of her race scores with her worst score excluded when six or more but less than 11 races have been completed, or excluding her two worst scores when 11 or more races have been completed. This changes rule A2.

12 SAFETY REGULATIONS

12.1 A boat retiring from a race shall notify a Race Committee boat or safety boat displaying a yellow flag before leaving the course, or notify the Race Committee immediately upon returning to shore.

12.2 All competitors must at all times on the water wear a safety tag provided to the competitor at the Safety Check Point at the launching area. When arriving back after the end of racing all competitors must return the safety tag immediately upon exiting the launching area. This must be done before the end of protest time. Competitors failing to return the safety tag before the end of protest time may be protested by the Race Committee. The protest may result in any penalty the Jury sees reasonable, up to disqualification for all races on the day the incident happened.

12.3 Each competitor must wear a US Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD), properly secured at all times, from dock to dock, unless when temporarily adding or removing clothing. Failure to wear the PFD as required will result in disqualification. This changes RRS 40.

12.4 All competitors must have proper safety equipment including: correct size life jacket with whistle attached by a lanyard / 28' floating bow line free of knots (but 6" bowline in end), adequately secured to the maststep and led through a bow loop / mast tie down system (not just a clamp) / 3 good airbags / adequate bailer (2 are highly recommended, not "Clorox" type bottles / boom bridle within 10 cm of boom.

13 SUPPORT BOATS

13.1 The USODA Green Fleet policy applies.

13.2 Coaching of Green Fleet skippers while racing is permitted, however coaching shall be limited to skippers in the bottom half of the fleet in any given race. Only boats which have registered with the Organizing Authority and carry identification satisfactory to the Organizing Authority will be allowed to be in the race area.

13.3 Coach boats shall neither create wakes nor otherwise interfere with competitors

13.4 Coaches shall provide fair and consistent support to all competitors, not just their team or sailor. Violation of this instruction may result in any penalty that the jury deems appropriate, up to, and including the disqualification of the coached skipper from the regatta.

14 ENVIRONMENT

14.1 Discharge of drink containers, food wrappings and other trash into the water is prohibited by all competitors, support boats and race committee boats.

15 PRIZES

15.1 Participation awards will be presented to all competitors in lieu of trophies.

16 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

16.1 Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race.

16.2 The organizing authority and all parties involved with the organization of the event disclaim any and every responsibility whatsoever for loss, damage, injury, inconvenience or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta that might occur to persons and goods, both ashore and at sea as a consequence of participation in the races covered by these Sailing Instructions.

17 LAUNCHING

All boats shall launch and pull out using only the assigned areas. Green Fleet shall use the wooden ramp in front of the main clubhouse.

