

WATCH HILL YACHT CLUB

Opti Regatta 2026 Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

This regatta will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028, unless modified by the US Sailing prescriptions and the rules of the USODA, or unless modified by these instructions.

2. Changes to the Sailing Instructions

The race committee reserves the right to make verbal changes to these sailing instructions at the skipper's meeting.

3. Schedule of Races

8:00- 9:30AM	Competitor's Check In and T-shirt Pickup
9:30AM	Skipper's Meeting
9:45AM	Harbor Start
10:15AM	First Race (One race shall constitute a regatta)
12:00PM	On water Lunch Break (Approximate Time - LUNCH IS INCLUDED)
3:30PM	No race will be held after this time. Awards to Follow.

4. Eligibility

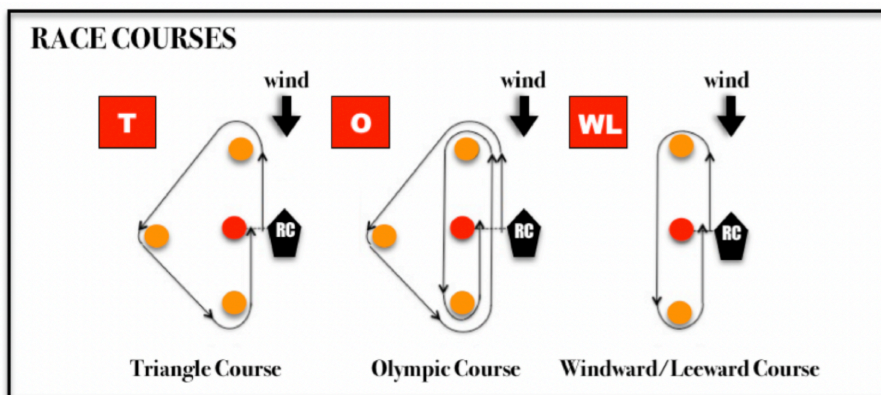
Eligible sailors must be eighteen years or younger as of December 31st, 2026.

5. Racing Areas

Unless otherwise specified, all races will be sailed in Little Narragansett Bay.

6. The Courses

The course will be either a modified triangle (T), a windward/leeward (W/L) or an Olympic (O), both with the start and finish in the middle of the upwind beat. The course type will be displayed on a dry-erase board on the race committee boat prior to the start. GATE WILL BE OPEN.



7. Marks

The marks will be large orange inflatable tetrahedrons, with the exception of the starting pin, a yellow cylinder.

8. The Start

The sequence will be three-minute dinghy starts. The starting line will be between the race committee flag on the committee boat and the windward edge of the starting pin.

9. Recalls

Individual recalls will be signaled by use of the code flag X. The committee boat will make every attempt to hail the sail numbers that are over early; however, failure to hear a hailed number will not be grounds for redress. General recalls will be signaled by multiple horn blasts and/or whistles, and by the use of the First Substitute signal flag. After a General Recall, the I Flag will be displayed. A boat over early (with the I-Flag raised) must round an end of the starting line to clear themselves.



10. Penalties

A boat may take a Two-Turns Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing. She may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken Rule 31.

11. Protests

Protest flags are not required. Any sailor wishing to protest must inform, to the best of their ability, the boat in which they are protesting, as well as the committee boat, of their intent immediately upon finishing. Protest forms must be turned in no later than 30 minutes after the race committee has docked. Hearings will be held as soon as possible following the last race.

12. Scoring

The low-point scoring system will be used. For every six (6) races completed, there will be one (1) throw out.

13. Safety

All sailors must wear properly fitted USCG-approved personal floatation devices while on the water.

14. Spectators/Coaching

Spectators are requested to stay clear of the racing area to avoid interfering with the race. Coaching is only allowed between races and well clear of finishing boats. The WHYC Race Committee reserves the right to remove Coaches/Spectators from the course who are found to be interrupting fair competition amongst the sailors. This may include, but is not limited to, abrupt or unsafe maneuvering of a motorboat or coaching sailors during races.

The WHYC Race Committee and Instructor staff appreciate your cooperation and wish all sailors the best of luck in this year's regatta.