

2026 Little Bay Day Regatta
Seaside Park Yacht Club
July 17th, 2026

Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

- i. The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS); the prescriptions of; US Sailing, the participating Classes and these Sailing Instructions will govern all races.
- ii. Rules of all classes are altered so that Class membership is not required.
- iii. If there is a conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence.

2. SCHEDULE

Thursday July 16, 2026

1:00PM: Arrival of boats permitted

5:00PM – 7:00PM: Early Check-in at Clubhouse

Friday July 17, 2026

7:30AM – 9:15AM Check-in at Club House

9:30AM Skippers Meeting

9:45AM Harbor Gun

10:15AM First Warning Signal for All Classes, races to follow

- Races will be sailed back to back
- Protein packs will be provided for on water snacks
- Lunch will be served on land at SPYC after all races
- Awards to follow racing

3. NUMBER OF RACES

Five (5) races are scheduled. One race constitutes a regatta. No races will begin after 3:30pm. Races will be on the Barnegat Bay

4. CLASSES, FLEETS, AND COURSES

Course A: Optimist Green

Course B: Optimist White

Course C: Optimist Blue and Red

Course D: Sunfish and Feva's

Course E: Laser 4.7, Laser Radial, and Club 420

The course locations will be posted on the official notice board and will be announced at the Skippers Meeting. The Courses used will be windward/leewards, port triangles, and modified Olympics. Racing will be on the Barnegat Bay.

5. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- Notices will be posted on the official Regatta Notice Board Located on the Clubhouse deck.
- Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no fewer than 30 minutes prior to the Harbor Start.
- Notices shall be considered as given to the competitors once they are posted to the notice board.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the club flagpole.

7. MARKS

All marks will be orange or yellow inflatable pyramids or spheres or as designated otherwise by the race committee before sailing begins. If a course is shortened for any fleet the race committee will notify the affected fleet before sailing begins at the skippers meeting.

8. STARTING AND FINISHING

8.1 OPTIMIST Red and Blue START -

<u>Signal</u>	<u>Sound</u>	<u>Time Before Start</u>
Class Flag	1 cannon	4 Minutes
Preparatory Signal		
	3 Long	3 Minutes
	2 Long	2 Minutes
	1 Long 3 Short	1 Minute 30 Seconds
Prep. Flag Removed	1 Long	1 Minute
	3 Short	30 Seconds
	2 Short	20 Seconds
	1 Short	10 Seconds
Class Flag Removed	1 cannon	0 (Start)

8.2 All Other Race Courses – Will be the “3 minute Dinghy Start”. The RC will be using horns or Whistles.

8.3 The Starting and finishing line will be in the middle of the racecourse between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Boat and an inflatable mark or similar mark or flag at the port end.

8.4 Failure to hear sound signals on the courses will not be grounds for redress.

8.5 Boats may not cross the Start/Finish line except when starting or finishing the race.

8.6 White, Blue and Red fleets will be scored separately.

8.7 Boats that have finished shall stay clear of the finish line. After crossing the finish line the finishing boat shall round the committee boat end of the line and not the pin end of the line. While waiting for the next race to commence, all boats shall wait to starboard of the committee boat.

9. RECALLS

9.1 Individual Recalls will be signaled by one sound signal. The Race Committee will attempt to hail the sail numbers of boats that are over early. Failure to hear a recall hail is not an excuse for a boat failing to exonerate itself.

9.2 A General Recall will be signaled by flag "First Substitute" (a triangular flag with blue edges top and bottom and a yellow center) and two sound signals. After a General Recall, the four minute sequence (or three minute sequence if other than OPTI Red, White or Blue) will begin one minute after the lowering of flag "First Substitute." The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed (one sound), and the starts for any succeeding classes shall follow the new start.

10. PROTESTS

10.1 A boat that intends to protest must notify the Race Committee finish boat of its intention, including the sail number of the protested boat, immediately after finishing. This changes RRS 61.

10.2 The Protest Committee will hear protests in approximately the order of receipt, as soon as possible.

10.3 Upon completion of the races for the day a protest form must be fully complete and submitted to the Race Committee within 30 minutes from the time the Race Committee boat reached the SPYC dock. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2. If the Race Committee finish boat has not been notified and/or a protest form has not been filled out, the protest will not be heard. The Protest Committee as appointed by the Regatta Committee will make a decision regarding the protest.

10.4 Protest forms are available at the Clubhouse in the registration area.

10.5 Protest Notices will be posted within ten (10) minutes after the Protest time limit has expired or earlier to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a protest or named as witnesses.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

The One-Turn Penalty, one tack and one gybe, is in effect for all races. This changes RRS 44.1 and 44.2.

12. SCORING

12.1 The Low-Point Scoring System, Appendix A2 of the RRS.

12.2 If more than three races are completed, each boat's worst finish will be excluded from its series score. This changes Rule A2.

12.3 A boat may not drop a disqualification. The next worse score shall be excluded instead.

12.4 Boats scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) will be scored points equal to the number of boats finishing within the time limit plus two points by the Race Committee without a hearing. This changes RRS A5, A9 and A11.

13. ABANDONMENT & CANCELLATION

The Race Committee may abandon or cancel a race when changes in weather conditions or any other factor, inter discretion, prevents the regatta to continue safely or satisfactorily. The signal will be five (5) long horn sounds. Upon cancellation or abandonment the racecourse shall be cleared immediately.

14. SAFETY

14.1 All competitors shall wear life jackets at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while changing clothing.

14.2 Towlines are required for all competitions

14.3 A boat that does not finish a race shall notify a Race Committee boat before leaving the race area. If this is impossible, the competitor shall notify a Regatta representative immediately after arriving ashore.

15. TIME LIMITS

If no boat rounds the first mark within 30 minutes of the Starting Signal, that race will be abandoned. The time limit for the first boat in each division in each race to finish sailing the course will be 60 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired. See SI 11.1.5)

16. SUPPORT BOATS

16.1 Instructors, coaches, or other support personnel shall not make contact or communicate with competitors from the time of the preparatory signal until competitors have completed the race. The penalty, as determined by the Protest Committee, for failure to comply with this requirement, may be disqualification of all boats associated with any personnel who violate this rule. Instructors, coaches or other support personnel and family members shall not enter the racing area at any time during the race.

16.2 All support boats shall comply with instructions from the Race Committee.

16.3 All support boats shall obey requests made by Official Safety and Patrol Boats, concerning location of support boats to competitors.

16.4 The Race Committee may request assistance from support boats without any penalty. This changes Rule 41.

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of property damage and bodily injury. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority, Race Committee, Protest Committee, Host Club and any

other Organization or Official 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.