



Hingham Bay Junior Regatta, Hingham, MA
July 9-10, 2026
The Organizing Authority (OA) is Hingham Yacht Club.

NOTICE OF RACE

Hingham Yacht Club is excited to host the 2026 Hingham Bay Junior Regatta. The regatta will be run in accordance with current federal, state, and local regulations in place at the time of the event. Regulations may be amended by modification to the NOR and/or SIs, or posted at HYC or on the digital notice board, at any time leading up to, or during, the event.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025-2028* and the prescriptions of US Sailing. Class rules are altered so that membership in a class organization is not required for participation in this regatta. Additional rules may also be changed in this NOR and/or the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. RRS Rule 40 is changed as follows: competitors shall wear a US Coast Guard (USCG) approved life jacket, that is 100% dependent on foam for floatation and the appropriate size for the sailor, at all times while launching boats, on the floats, and on the water, except for brief periods of time while adding or removing clothing. RRS 40 is further amended to require that life jackets shall have a whistle attached.
- 1.3. By participating in this regatta, a competitor (and each parent/guardian if the competitor is under 18) grants to the OA, US Sailing, their sponsors, and the organizing authority the right in perpetuity to make, use, and show, from time to time at their discretion, any photographs, motion pictures, and live, taped, or filmed television and other reproductions of him or her during the period of the competition without compensation.
- 1.4. Support team vessel use of ECO Link (AKA kill cord). Individuals operating vessels less than 26 feet are required to use ECO Links (kill cords) except when docking, launching, and loading on a trailer. Non-compliance will result in exclusion from the racing area for the day without a hearing. Flagrant and/or repeated non-compliance will result in a hearing to consider whether a support person has broken this rule under RRS 60.3 (d). This changes RRS Rule 63.1.

2. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

- 2.1. **classes:** The event shall include International Optimist Dinghy green fleet *for novices only*, International Optimist Dinghy white, blue, and red fleets, Club 420 green fleet *for novices, without spinnakers*, and Club 420. The OA reserves the right to limit the number of registrations to 40 for the Opti green fleet, 50 for the Opti champ line, and to a total of 40 on the 420 line.
- 2.2. **age:** Applicants for all classes must not turn 19 years old in the year of the event. Optimist class age rules apply.
- 2.3. **US Sailing membership:** Membership in US Sailing is not required, but is recommended for each competitor or family (helmsman and crew for double-handed classes). Sailors can join online at www.ussailing.org/membership.
- 2.4. **green regatta:** This regatta is a Sailors for the Sea "Clean Regatta." All competitors are encouraged to use non-single-use water bottles and to recycle all appropriate items. Competitors are reminded of Rule 55, which states that competitors "shall not intentionally put trash in the water."

3. **REGISTRATION**

- 3.1. Competitors shall register online in advance through the event registration page at hinghamyachtclub.com. The registration deadline is July 3rd, 2026 in order to be considered on time. A late fee of \$50 applies thereafter. Registration closes on July 6th, or whenever event participation reaches capacity, whichever comes first.

4. **FEES**

- 4.1. The entry fee for all classes is \$125 per competitor. A late entry fee of \$175 per competitor will apply after July 3rd. The entry fee includes lunch on the water on Thursday, dinner and entertainment on Thursday evening, a cookout following sailing on Friday afternoon, a regatta T-shirt, and trophies.

5. **BOATS/MEASUREMENT**

- 5.1. Boat class **Club 420**, with a crew of two including helmsman, will be used. No crew substitutions will be allowed without prior written approval of the JURY. Boat class **Optimist**, with a crew of one including helmsman, will be used.
- 5.2. Competitors are required to bring their own boats. There are no boats available for charter.
- 5.3. Each competitor shall be responsible for their boat being in compliance with the class rules.
- 5.4. Opti class rules require a bowline of buoyant rope, which is at least 8 meters in length, with a diameter of at least 5 mm. In addition to a bowline, Optis must have a paddle and bailers (one required, two preferred), which shall be attached to the hull, as well as three airbags.
- 5.5. Club 420 class rules require a bowline that floats, which is at least 40 feet in length, with a diameter of at least 3/8 inch. In addition to a bowline, 420s must have a bailer, which shall be attached to the hull.
- 5.6. No boat shall be allowed to compete without the necessary safety equipment required for their class. Competitors shall be required to confirm that all necessary equipment is present prior to checking in.

6. **COACHES**

- 6.1. All coaches shall register with the OA. Coaches shall register through the event registration page at hinghamyachtclub.com. All registered coaches will be eligible for the daily sailor lunch.
- 6.2. The conduct of registered coaches, support boats, and all other boats, including spectator boats, shall be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and the Sailing Instructions.
- 6.3. All clubs that are sending green fleet Opti sailors shall be required to send a coach specifically to remain with their green fleet sailors. A club's designated green fleet Opti coach shall remain on the green line at all times during racing.
- 6.4. Each coach boat shall have a working VHF radio. Coaches shall monitor the appropriate channels for the lines on which their sailors are competing.

7. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 7.1. The Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be available online at hinghamyachtclub.com after July 3rd.

8. **SCORING**

- 8.1. There will be no maximum number of races. The RC will start as many races as practical. The Low Point scoring system, RRS Appendix A, will apply, modified so that each boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, with her worst score (other than a disqualification for violation of RRS 2 or RRS 42) discarded if more than five races are completed. Seven races are scheduled, of which one race shall be completed to constitute a series.

9. **LOGISTICS**

- 9.1. The Hingham Yacht Club facilities will be available for spectating during the event.
- 9.2. The Hingham public launch area, located in the inner harbor on Rt. 3A, will be available for launching boats arriving by trailer. Tide is a factor at the public launch area. The ramp is usable for roughly two hours either side of high tide.
- 9.3. Space will be available within the Foster Elementary School parking lot for the storage of trailers.
- 9.4. Hingham Yacht Club will make an effort to provide moorings and/or dock space for those who need overnight storage, but space is limited.

- 9.5. Optis may be launched and stored overnight on the docks at HYC. 420s may be launched and stored on North Beach.
- 9.6. The racing area is Hingham Bay.
10. **HOUSING**
- 10.1. Housing shall be offered on a first-come, first-served basis to sailors and coaches who request it during the registration process. All housing requests must be made by July 3rd. No guarantee is made that housing will be available for all those who request it, as space is limited.
11. **DISCIPLINE**
- 11.1. Per US Sailing Regulation 10.03, no participant or competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water: 1) marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law; or 2) any alcoholic beverages. This regulation is in effect from the date and time of arrival through the date and time of departure from the venue. The penalty shall be that the contestant, after a proper hearing, shall be immediately removed from the regatta venue and, where practical, sent home.
12. **PRIZES**
- 12.1. Trophies will be awarded to competitors placing first through fifth in the Opti white, blue, and red fleets, and in the Club 420 fleets. For the Club 420 fleets, trophies will be awarded to both the skipper and the crew.
- 12.2. In lieu of trophies, green fleet participation medals will be awarded to all Opti green fleet sailors.
- 12.3. Three special awards will also be presented. The **Thomas E. Curtis Trophy** will be awarded for the best overall performance, with preference to fleet size. The **Virginia “Ginny” Gray Trophy** will be awarded to the sailor(s), coach(es), or volunteer(s) who displayed, over the course of the regatta, a significant act of seamanship and/or sportsmanship. The **Rebecca Binder Award** will be presented to the top finisher in the Opti green fleet.
- 12.4. Additional trophies may be awarded at the sole discretion of the OA.
13. **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**
- Wednesday, July 8**
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| boat drop off and <u>check-in</u> at HYC: | 4:00-7:00 p.m. |
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- Thursday, July 9** race day #1
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| <u>late check-in</u> | 8:00-9:00 a.m. |
| meeting for coaches: | 9:00 a.m. |
| meeting for competitors, coaches, and parents: | 9:15 a.m. |
| harbor start: | 10:00 a.m. |
| first warning signal: | as determined by the PRO for each line |
| lunch on the water | |
| competitor and parent entertainment: | after racing |
- Friday, July 10** race day #2
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| meeting for coaches: | 9:00 a.m. |
| meeting for competitors: | 9:15 a.m. |
| harbor start: | 10:00 a.m. |
| first warning signal: | as determined by the PRO for each line |
| no warning signal after this time: | 3:00 p.m. |
| cookout on the HYC deck | after racing |
| awards presentation: | after racing |

The Opti green fleet schedule will be the same through the competitors meeting, after which a second, separate meeting for Opti green fleet sailors may be conducted, and the remainder of the schedule for that fleet will be announced.

****Please note that competitors must register online in advance.****

14. **FURTHER INFORMATION**

- 14.1. Questions may be addressed to HBJR@hinghamyachtclub.com,
or to Lindsey Reardon at (781) 264-0553 or Lindsey.Blampied@gmail.com.
14.2. Also check the event website at hinghamyachtclub.com for further information.

Host Club: *Hingham Yacht Club*
211 Downer Avenue
Hingham, MA 02043
781-749-9779
www.hinghamyachtclub.com

15. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 15.1. *Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property, or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.*