

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Nat Earle Opti Regatta

Weekapaug Yacht Club

July 21, 2026

1. RULES

The regatta will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025-2028, except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions. Sailors will be placed in appropriate divisions [Red (13-15), Blue (11-12), White (10 & under), or Green (novice)] according to age and experience on the day of the regatta.

2. ENTRIES

This regatta is open to class-legal Optimists. Eligible boats will have registered online through clubspot.com. All boats must have a distinct sail number. Any duplicate numbers will need to be temporarily altered for participation in this regatta.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

All competitors are responsible for information contained in the sailing instructions.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change in the sailing instructions will be made by informing visiting sailing instructors by radio. [Monitor frequency 72]

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals Made Ashore will be displayed in front of the WYC clubhouse .

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP. Code flag "AP" (red and white vertical striped pennant) with two sound signals means 'The race is postponed.'

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 The warning signal for the first race on each day is scheduled as indicated below. Multiple races are scheduled. One race shall constitute a regatta. (Times are subject to change as conditions indicate):

RWB OPTI Tuesday, July 21

- Check in & Registration 0830hrs to 0930 hrs
- Skippers Meeting 0945hrs
- RWB Harbor Start 1000hrs
- RWB First Signal on Race Course 1030hrs
- RWB Last race begins no later than 1430hrs
- Awards and Final Results 1530 hrs (approx)

GREEN OPTI Tuesday, July 21, 2026

- Check in & Registration 0830hrs to 0930 hrs
- Skippers Meeting (TO FOLLOW RWB)
- Green Fleet Harbor Start 1045hrs
- Green First Signal on Race Course 1130hrs
- Green Last race begins no later than 1430hrs
- Awards and Final Results 1530 hrs (approx)

6.2 Races will be run back to back. Lunch will be on the water, in between races.

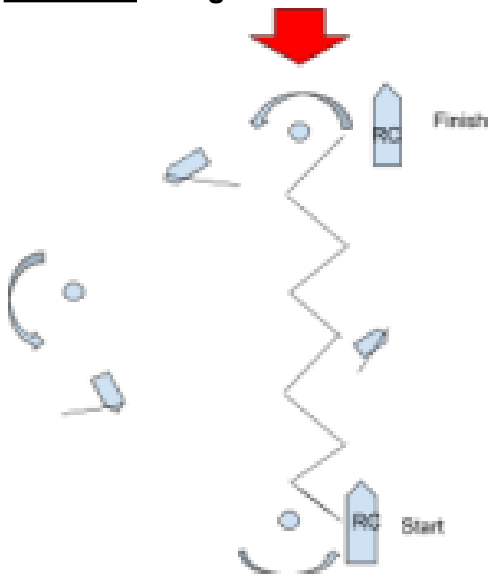
7. RACE COURSES

7.1 A race course could consist of any of the following, depending on wind direction. For these diagrams, assume the wind is blowing due south.

Course 3 Modified Triangle with Start-Finish in the Middle, marks to port.
(GREEN FLEET ONLY)



Course 4 Triangle-Windward. Start at the bottom; finish at the top; all marks to port.



Course 5 Windward--Offset--Leeward--Windward. All marks to port. .



7.2 Courses will be posted on a whiteboard on the committee boat before the start sequence.

8. MARKS

All marks will be orange balls.

9. THE START

9.1 The starting sequence will be 3-minute dinghy start.

9.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying a flag on the Race Committee boat and the start mark.

9.3 A boat shall not start later than 15 minutes after her starting signal.

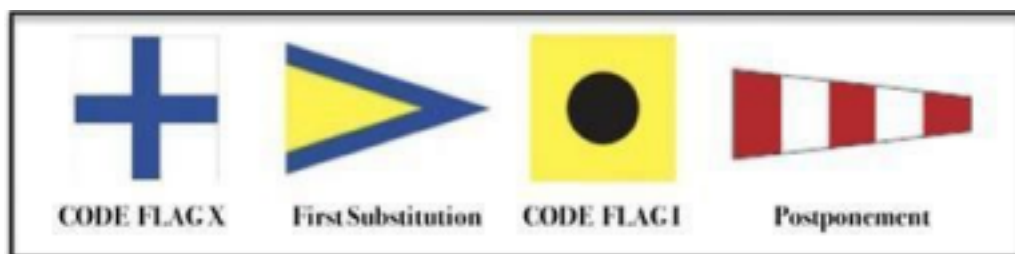
9.4 A second Race Committee boat may be in the vicinity of the start mark to aid in identifying premature starters.

10. RECALLS AND STARTING PENALTIES

10.1 The race committee will attempt to hail boats subject to rule 29.1, and will raise flag X if one or several boats are over the line.

10.2 If the race committee signals a general recall by displaying the First Substitute, rule 30.1 (Round-an-End Rule) will automatically be in effect for that race.

10.3 Rule 30.4 (Black Flag Rule) will be in effect for any race in which there has occurred consecutive general recalls.



11. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

The Race Committee may shorten course during a race. When shortening the course, the Race Committee will signal such a change by hoisting of Code Flag "S" (blue square in white field) accompanied by two sound signals. The race will be finished at the mark which the leading boat is approaching. The finish line will be established as described in section 12.

12. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a flag on the Race Committee boat and a nearby mark.

13. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the first boat to finish will be 1 hour from the starting signal. Boats not finishing within 15 minutes of the first boat to finish may be given their place by the race committee. This changes rule 35.

14. PROTESTS

14.1 A boat intending to lodge a protest shall inform the Race Committee at the finish line of the race in which the foul occurs. No protest will be allowed if filed at any other time.

14.2 Protests will be heard upon returning to the yacht club immediately after the race day concluded by a protest committee made up of three impartial parties.

15. SCORING

15.1 The low point scoring system, rule A4, will apply, modified such that each boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, with her worst score discarded if 6 or more races have been completed.

15.2 A DSQ may not be discarded. A DSQ will be scored as the number of boats in the series plus one. If a DSQ occurs, each boat with a worse finishing place shall be moved up one place.

15.3 DNS, DNC, OCS, DNF, RAF will be scored as the number of boats in the series plus one.

15.4 If two or more boats are tied at the end of the series, the first tiebreak will be the highest finish in the discarded race. This changes appendix A8. If there is no discarded race or if there remains a tie after this tiebreak, then series ties will be broken according to Appendix A8.

16. SAFETY

16.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee boat or a Race Committee support boat before leaving the course area. Boats failing to do so may be disqualified.

16.2 Each boat must carry on board during the regatta a line suitable for towing. 16.4 All participants must wear an approved PFD at all times on the water for this regatta.

17. RADIO/PHONE COMMUNICATION

A boat shall neither make nor receive electronic transmissions while racing.

18. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in all divisions at the end of the regatta on the water.

19. PARKING; UNLOADING AND LOADING BOATS

Parking is limited. Please arrive early to unload boats and sailors and then proceed to off-site parking at the Weekapaug softball field (Chapman Road next to the Tennis Club). This allows others to unload as efficiently as possible. Wherever possible to carpool and reduce motor vehicle traffic and parking pressure, please coordinate accordingly.

20. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority [Weekapaug Yacht Club] will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.