

**2025 West Michigan Youth Sailing Association WMYSA “No Tears” Optimist Green Fleet Regatta
July 18, 2025**

The Organizing Authority for this Regatta is
The Grand Rapids Junior Sailing Association
740 Lakeside De SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49605

NOTICE OF RACE

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* except as modified by the WMYSA 2025 “No Tears” Optimist Green Fleet Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.
- 1.1.a *RRS Rule 44.1* is changed so that the words “Two-Turns Penalty” are replaced by “One-Turn Penalty”.
- 1.2 In accordance with Michigan State Law, the WMYSA requires that any competitor who experiences a potential concussion injury be immediately removed from competition – and will not be allowed to return to competition without a written clearance from a health professional.
- 1.3 Every sailor must wear a non-inflatable Coast Guard Approved PFD (personal flotation device).

2 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1 The regatta is open to beginner and inexperienced Optimist sailors who are entered representing one of the following sailing organizations:
- The Diamond Lake Junior Sailing Program
 - The Eagle lake Junior Sailing Program
 - The Grand Rapids Junior Sailing Association
 - The Gull Lake Junior Yacht Club
 - The Macatawa Bay Junior Association
 - The Muskegon Yacht Club
 - The Saugatuck Yacht Club Sailing Program
 - The South Haven Yacht Club Sailing Program
 - The Spring Lake Junior Sailing Association
 - The St Joseph Junior Foundation
 - The White Lake Junior Yacht Club
- 2.2 Eligible sailors may enter by completing the race registration form and sign-in prior to 10:00am on the day of the event. The same deadline applies to any participating yacht club that may establish or collect its own entries prior to the event.
- 2.3 All parents or guardians must sign the “Disclaimer of Liability” and this form must be submitted at registration. The Disclaimer of Liability is part of the Entry Form. This document is available from your coach, on the WMYSA web site www.westmichiganyouthsailing.org and at the registration table at the event. Coaches are strongly encouraged to have parents sign this form prior to competitors traveling to the regatta.
- 2.4 All parents and guardians of competitors must read and sign the “Parent and Athlete Concussion Information Sheet” required under Michigan State Law. Each WMYSA member program is responsible for collecting these forms and keeping them on file. Concussion forms do not need to be submitted to the WMYSA unless requested by the WMYSA.

3 SCHEDULE

- 9:00-10:00 Registration and sign in
10:00 Safety, Coach and Race Committee meeting
10:15 Competitors Meeting
A review of the importance of Race Documents may take place
11:00 Launching of boats will start at 11:00am. All boats will be inspected for proper rigging and safety prior to racing.
The first start will take place once all competitors are launched and ready to race.
Additional races will follow as time and weather permit.
15:00 No races will be started after 3:00pm.

4 MEASUREMENTS

The West Michigan Youth Sailing Association reserves the right to request a valid measurement or rating certificate for any boat entered in any class at any event.

5 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions are posted at www.westmichiganyouthsailing.org and will be available at the Competitors Meeting at the event.

6 VENUE

Races will take place on the waters in front of Grand Rapids Yacht Club.

7 COURSES

A complete description of the sailing course will be provided at the Competitors Meeting.

8 PENALTY SYSTEM

Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

9 SCORING

The No Tears Optimist Fleet is not scored. All participants receive participation awards. While placement and progress may be tracked, scores are less important than learning, improving, and having fun along the way. Good sportsmanship is encouraged at all times.

10 SUPPORT BOATS

- 10.1 Coaching in the Green Fleet is strongly encouraged. Coaching should place priority on the bottom half of the fleet. Coaching on the water is for all, and all coaches are expected to assist all sailors. All coaches are required to have VHF radios on and operating on the No Tears Opti Fleet race committee channel at all times with racing is underway. The Race Committee has the right to remove from the course any coach who disregards the instructions of the race committee.
- 10.3 Coach boats and designated safety boats are to carry only officially designated coaches and safety personnel. Other spectators shall not ride on coach or safety boats.
- 10.4 The consumption of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited on all coach, safety, support and spectator boats.
- 10.5 All coaches and safety boat passengers are required to wear a personal flotation device (PFD) at all times while on the water. This is in keeping with many other youth sailing organizations and sets a good example for the competitors.

11 PARKING, LAUNCHING AND DOCKING

- 11.1 Competitors and support boats shall comply with any and all parking and launch rules and instructions at the venue.
- 11.2 If specified by the host venue, boats shall be kept in their assigned areas.

12 FOOD AND BEVERAGES

- 12.1 GRYC will provide lunches after the races.
- 12.2 **Competitors are strongly encouraged to bring their own pre-race meals or snacks.** The host venue may offer pre-race food, but this should not be expected.
- 12.3 Competitors are expected to carry drinking water on their boats. Competitors are encouraged to use environmentally friendly bottles or containers. Littering is strongly discouraged and will be prohibited in the Sailing Instructions.

13 PRIZES

All participants receive participation awards.

14 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See *RRS Rule 4 Decision to Race*.

The organizing authority 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.

Parents/guardians are responsible for the safety of the sailor(s) whom are less than 18 years of age. It is the responsibility solely of the parent of the sailor to decide if the sailor should sail in the weather and conditions that might arise during any of the events in the series. Parents not personally attending any part of the event must ensure that another adult is authorized and designated to make these decisions for the sailor.

15 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact your local Club's Race Coach or:

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