



Optimist Spring Series Harken Challenge #1

Saturday and Sunday, February 25 & 26, 2017
Marina del Rey, California USA



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS GREEN FLEET

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Organizing Authority is California Yacht Club (CYC), located at 4469 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292

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Opti Class Philosophy: USODA is a teaching class and GREEN FLEET is its introductory fleet for novice sailors. The Racing Rules of Sailing are important, but learning to race while having fun is equally stressed. These sailing instructions are structured within The Racing Rules of Sailing to provide a flexible, less structured, less formal racing environment. Green Fleet is not scored; all sailors receive participation awards. While race scores and progress may be tracked, who places first is less important than learning, improving, and having fun along the way. Parents and competitors who are looking for a more competitive environment should consider the Championship Fleet red, blue and white racing divisions.

1. RULES

- 1.1 This regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
- 1.2 The class rules are the [2016 International Optimist Association Class Rules](#).
- 1.3 "USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships", including the USODA 'Code of Conduct', will apply, and can be found at <http://www.usoda.org/>. Competitors, Coaches, Parents, and Guardians shall abide by the USODA 'Code of Conduct'. This includes behavior both on and off the water, especially respect for all other persons, personal property of others, CYC and Santa Monica Bay.
- 1.4 In addition to the requirements of RRS 40 and its US Sailing Prescription, a condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a US Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD), or a PFD approved by the country of their citizenship or residence, properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing. Wet suits, dry suits and inflatable PFDs do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. All PFDs must be suitable for the competitor's weight. Violation of this provision will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification at the discretion of the Protest Committee.
- 1.5 RRS 82 does not apply. Competitors must submit the standard CYC Entry Form, available through the online entry process or at CYC.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located at the CYC Junior Sailing Center.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by on the Official Notice Board.
- 3.2 The Race Committee (RC) may change the sailing instructions on the water by displaying flag L with one sound and announcing the change by loud hailer.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole on the CYC front lawn.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than thirty (30) minutes” in race signals AP. AP displayed ashore means “Racing is postponed, do not leave the dock.”

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Green Fleet sails an informal schedule and will meet at the pool patio adjacent to the Junior Sailing Center after the Championship Fleet Competitors’ meeting at 0930 on Saturday and at 0930 on Sunday. At this meeting, the Principal Race Officer (PRO) will announce the plan for the day and time of the first warning. This information will be posted on the Official Notice Board. The schedule may change based on conditions and the requirements of the sailors. Watch the Official Notice Board for information.

6. CLASS FLAG

The class flag is an Optimist Dinghy symbol on a white background.

7. RACING AREA

The racing area will be announced at the Green Fleet meeting. This area may change the next day.

8. MARKS

Marks will be orange inflatable balls or small tetrahedrons.

9. COURSES

The courses may be windward/leeward, triangles or other courses as described by the PRO. The course will be hailed by the RC and posted on a white board on the RC signal boat.

10. THE START

- 10.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 (5-minute sequence) or Appendix U – Audible Signal Racing System (3-minute sequence), as announced by the PRO. Should Appendix U – Audible Signal Racing System (3-minute sequence) be announced, the starting sequence shall consist of the following sound signals made at the indicated times:

Signal	Sound	Time before start
Attention	Series of short sounds	Before the warning
Warning	3 long	3 minutes
Preparatory	2 long	2 minutes
	1 long, 3 short	1 minute, 30 seconds
	1 long	1 minute
	3 short	30 seconds
	2 short	20 seconds
	1 short	10 seconds
	1 short	5 seconds
	1 short	4 seconds
	1 short	3 seconds
	1 short	2 seconds
	1 short	1 second
Starting	1 long	0

- 10.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange and white checkered flag on the RC signal boat and the nearby inflatable mark.

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

The RC may make slight adjustments to the course by dragging the original marks. This changes RRS 33.

12. THE FINISH

12.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange and white checkered flag on a race committee boat and the nearby inflatable mark.

12.2 Code flag A displayed from the race committee finishing boat means "no more racing today".

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

Appendix V, Section V1, Penalty at the Time of an Incident, applies.

14. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

Protests are teaching and learning opportunities. An open discussion (mock protest) will be held with judges if resources are available. All competitors, parents and coaches are invited to attend and observe.

15. SCORING

Green Fleet is not scored. All competitors receive participation awards. While scores and progress may be tracked, who places first is less important than learning and improving, and having fun along the way.

16. COACHING

Coaching is allowed at the discretion of the PRO. Coaching should focus on the bottom half of the fleet. Coaching on the water is for all, and all coaches are required to assist all sailors. All coaches are required to prominently display their numbered coach flag and to monitor the Green Fleet RC VHF channel at all times while on the water with the Green Fleet. The RC has the right to remove from the Green Fleet course any coach who disregards the instructions of the PRO or other RC personnel.

17. SAFETY

Prior to launching each day, every competitor shall sign out with the dock supervisor. Immediately upon returning to shore each sailor shall sign in with the dock supervisor. A competitor who leaves the racing area, for any reason, shall immediately inform the RC on the water or dock supervisor ashore.

18. ADULT RESPONSIBILITY

An adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of each sailor. It is this adult's sole responsibility to decide if the sailor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the regatta. The adults supervising the sailors are ultimately responsible for the risks.

19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. By participating in this regatta, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers (organizing authority, host yacht club, race committee, protest committee, sponsors, and any others acting in an official capacity for this regatta) from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.