



## OCEAN CITY YACHT CLUB Junior Sailing Program 2011

Dear Sailors and Parents,

Welcome to the Ocean City Yacht Club 2011 Junior Sailing program. We have made some changes and improvements for this coming season.

Highlights include:

1. This handbook is available on the OCYC website.
2. Lesson and rental fees have not increased from last year.
3. May 14th is the due date for registration.
4. 420 and Laser rentals will go to Racers First.
5. Cruisers Club- 1 day per week. Must use your own Sunfish.
6. Opti rentals for racing are for Green Fleet only.
7. Junior Membership- available to sailors registered for lessons or racing only.
8. Boat rentals are limited to two years in each fleet.
9. Yard fees are not collected by Junior Sailing, you will be contacted by Mike Pinto.
10. Class recommendations and registration forms will be sent by email.
11. Sailing instructions and Notice of Race are available for download at OCYC.org.

In this package you will find the 2011 program information. Please review this information carefully and pay very close attention to the due dates. Return the registration forms as early as possible so as to allow a poll of returning sailors. This will allow us to fill in class openings with new sailors. Registration forms are due no later than May 14, 2011.

**Season Kick-Off Day** is scheduled for Saturday June 11th, 9 AM to 12 PM with boat inspections by sailing staff.

If you have any questions about the upcoming season or the enclosed materials, please contact me at the OCYC (609-399-6600) or email to [mail@captainbill.us](mailto:mail@captainbill.us). Please be sure to note the registration deadline of May 14 th.

Sincerely,

*William Hancock*

William Hancock  
Junior Sailing Chairperson

## OCYC JUNIOR SAILING PROGRAM--2011

Below you will find information that will answer most questions about the program. Please feel free to contact the Junior Sailing Chairperson and/or Program Director if you need additional information.

### A. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The OCYC Junior Sailing Program offers an instructional program that follows a specified sequence, with various tracks to meet the different skills, needs and interests of our junior sailors.

The Optimist is the club's official instructional boat, and the only boat used for "learn-to-sail" instruction. Once a junior sailor masters a specified set of sailing skills on the Optimist, he or she may choose to participate in the "racing program" or the "cruising program." Junior sailors choosing to follow the racing track advance through a series of Optimist classes designed to prepare the "Racers" for higher-level racing when they advance to larger boats. When Racers "age-out" of Optimists and have met all of the requirements to participate in our advanced boat program, they may choose to sail either the Radial Laser or the Laser 4.7 as their advanced single-handed boat, and they may also choose to sail the Club 420, the club's official double-handed boat. The cruising program is a recreational sailing program designed to encourage our non-racing junior sailors to continue sailing and to improve their sailing skills. To participate in the cruising program, "Cruisers" must demonstrate mastery of boat handling skills and sailing knowledge necessary to fulfill the introductory sailing requirements.

*The number of classes during the 8 week and 4 week programs may vary according to scheduling requirements.* Also, the number of Sailors in each class may be capped based on available resources and safety issues.

### B. Class Offerings and Enrollment Criteria

#### *Opti Camp*

Opti Camp is designed to introduce future junior sailors to the sailing environment. Basic sailing information is taught informally. Classes feature water games and play designed to prepare the future junior sailor for formal sailing instruction the following year. For the July Opti Camp children must be 8 years old on or before 7/1/11 (8/1/11 for the August Opti Camp) or entering the third grade in September, 2011, (this class is NOT recommended for 9 year olds) and must pass the Water Safety Test (See G1a). Camp meets for three hours, two times per week for four weeks. (Please specify first preference of July or August session when registering. A rental boat is included in registration fee.) These classes are for 8 yr olds ONLY.

#### *8 Week Opti Camp*

An eight-week program is available for the sailor who already has prior sailing experience, is comfortable in a boat on the water, and who intends to race Green Fleet. All sailors MUST pass the Water Safety Test (see G1a). Participants in the eight-week program must provide their own boat. Age requirement the same as Opti Camp. This class is for 8 year olds ONLY.

### ***Intro to Optimist Sailing***

This class is the program's introductory or "learn-to-sail" class. Sailors must be 9 years old on or before 7/1/11 or entering the fourth grade in September, 2011, and must pass the Water Safety Test (see G1a). Classes meet for three hours, two times per week for eight weeks. At the end of the season, students are evaluated by the sailing instructor staff and may be recommended for advancement to either Intermediate Optimist Sailing or Intro to Optimist Racing. Participation in Optimist Green Fleet racing is suggested.

### ***Intermediate Optimist Sailing***

This class is for sailors who have completed Introduction to Optimist Sailing and who need more confidence in their boat on the water. These sailors would benefit from another season of learning and practicing boat handling skills. At the end of the season, students are evaluated by the instructor staff and may be recommended for advancement to either Intro to Optimist Racing or Cruisers' Club, or, for the safety of the sailor and others in the program, students may be required to repeat this course for more than one season to insure mastery of the skills required to advance in the program. Classes meet for three hours, two times per week for eight weeks.

### ***Intro to Optimist Racing***

In this class, beginning racers gain basic racing experience learning to apply their sailing skills in a racing situation. Sailors must have completed Intro to Optimist Sailing or Intermediate Optimist Sailing and be recommended for advancement by the instructor staff, --OR-- must demonstrate boat handling skills including but not limited to the following: (1) ability to sail around a course (tack/gybe/run/reach); (2) ability to name the parts of the boat and explain their function; (3) ability to get out of irons; and (4) ability to capsize and right the boat without assistance. Classes meet for three hours, two times per week for eight weeks. Participation in all OCYC regattas is strongly suggested. Rental Boats may NOT be used for club racing.

### ***Advanced Optimist Racing***

This class is for racers who want to improve and gain confidence on the race course. Sailors MUST have completed Intro to Optimist Racing and have been recommended for this class by their previous instructor, the Sailing Director or Program Director. Classes meet for three hours a day, two times per week for eight weeks. Participation in ALL OCYC regattas, SJ Summer Series regattas and any approved away regattas is STRONGLY suggested.

### ***Laser 4.7 Racing***

To participate in this class, Sailors must be at least **13 years of age** on 7/1/11 or entering the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in September 2011 and must demonstrate the ability to control the boat single-handedly under various weather conditions. Sailors should have successfully completed Advanced Optimist Racing and/or must demonstrate equivalent skills and knowledge as determined by the instructor, Program Director or Sailing Director. Classes meet for three hours, twice a week for eight weeks. Rental Boats may be used for Club Racing. The Club has four boats available for rental; they will be offered on a first come-first served basis.

### ***Laser Radial Racing***

To participate in this class, Sailors must be at least **14 years of age** on 7/1/11 or entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in September 2011 and must demonstrate the ability to control the boat single-handedly under various weather conditions. Sailors should have successfully completed Advanced Optimist Racing as determined by the instructor, Program Director or Sailing Director. Classes meet for three hours, twice a week for eight weeks. Rental Boats may be used for Club Racing. The Club has four boats available for rental; they will be offered on a first come-first serve basis.

### ***Club 420 Racing***

C420 classes are scheduled to allow sailors to sail C420's as well as a Laser Radial or Laser 4.7. Sailors should (1) demonstrate the ability to work as a part of a team; (2) have successfully completed Advanced Opti Racing as determined by the instructor staff or be able to demonstrate the equivalent skills and knowledge; and (3) demonstrate the ability to capsize and recover the boat with a partner without outside assistance. Classes meet two times a week for eight weeks, followed by races on Monday afternoons. (See racing schedule.)

### ***Cruisers' Club***

This class is designed to offer continuing sailing experience to Junior sailors who do not wish to participate in our racing program. This class will provide additional sailing instruction through the use of a recreational sailing/cruising format. **This is not a learn-to-sail class. Students must demonstrate boat handling skills equivalent to those required for Intro to Opti Racing.** This class meets for three hours, one time per week for eight weeks. Boats in this class are provided by the student. Opti's/Lasers/C420s are not permitted in this class. Boats must be of the "Sunfish" type ( having kick-up rudders) and will be limited to 8 boats. Boats will not be permitted to sail that are not in both a seaworthy and safe condition. Although two Sailors are permitted per boat each Sailor will be

required to single-hand their boat occasionally throughout the season at the discretion of the instructor.

### ***Intro to Sailing***

This class is designed for the Sailor with NO previous sailing experience and who wants to learn how to sail. Sailors taking this class MUST be a minimum of 13 years of age on or before July 1, 2011. Class meets twice a week for three hours each day for eight weeks.. This class has a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6.

### ***Lightning Clinic***

This class is offered to registered junior sailors that have completed Intro to Opti Sailing and who are a minimum of 13 years old no later than July 1, 2011. There will be 2 sections, one for sailors who have already had experience in the Lightning and one for new Lightning sailors. Each section will meet one day a week for three hours over eight weeks.

## **C. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE**

**Registration forms and payment must be submitted by May 14<sup>th</sup> 2011. Payment after May 14<sup>th</sup> will be subject to a late fee of \$25.00. Any sailor who registers after May 27<sup>th</sup> will be admitted to the program only if class space allows. Class sizes will be based on predetermined student/instructor ratios and classes will be closed upon filling the allotted openings. Spaces will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis; the date on which all required forms and payment are received will be considered the date of the application. (See Forms Required for Registration, below.)**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Students returning to the program should register for the class recommended by the instructional staff. A personalized recommendation (for those that participated last year) will be sent in a separate email. If a sailor wishes to register for a class other than the class recommended by the staff, a written waiver must be obtained. Please provide a written request for a specific class, explaining the basis for the request, no later than May 14, 2011. No sailor requesting a waiver from a recommended class will be guaranteed a space in a requested class until the Sailing Director and/or the Program Director offer an affirmative response to the waiver.

Sailors registering for advanced classes in the program who did not participate in the program last year may be required to attend an interview with the Program Director and Sailing Director, and may be required to take a boat handling skills and sailing knowledge test prior to assignment in a requested class.

### **FORMS REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION:**

For a registration to be complete, the following forms must be submitted:

1. **Registration Form, mail to: OCYC Junior Sailing, 100 Bay Road, Ocean City, NJ 08226**
2. **General Release Form**
3. **Authorization for Medical Treatment**
4. **Payment for Program and Rental as appropriate.**
5. **Payment of Club Dues as appropriate for membership category.**
6. **Birth Certificate (a copy is acceptable)**
7. **If the sailor does not meet the July 1<sup>st</sup> age requirement,** a copy of a report card must be submitted documenting that the child meets the school grade requirement for September, 2011.
8. **Registration is not complete** until the sailor's birth certificate has been presented. *Sailors who have birth certificates on file from last year do not need to resubmit.*

## D. US Sailing:

Membership in US Sailing is offered at a discount through the Golden Anchor Program (sponsored by OCYC) to those registering for lessons. Membership in US Sailing serves to support the sport of sailing at the national level, funding the governing body that organizes and administers the competitive aspects of the sport. Some regattas (none of ours, at present) require membership in US Sailing as a condition of registration. *Membership in MAYRA is required for the SJ Summer Series.*

## E. Rental Boats:

Rental boats are available; they will be assigned on request, on a first come/first served basis. Rigs may NOT be rented separately from a boat. Rental boats may not be used for away regattas. Rental boats for lessons are available for two years in each fleet.

**Club 420/Laser Rentals:** Sailors wishing to rent Club 420/Laser boats for CLASSES will be assigned on a first come/ first served basis with preference given to those Sailors who are also racing the July and August Series and as determined by cancellation time stamp on postage.

Club 420/Lasers may be rented for racing only if available. All Club 420/Laser racers MUST be registered in the Junior Sailing Program, have all the required forms in place and have paid all fees prior to the registration deadline to be considered for a Club 420/Laser Racing rental. Sailors will then designate their team member for racing in accordance with race registration requirements. Club 420/Laser rental boats may be used for OCYC regattas and series however they may NOT be used for away regattas.

## F. Season Kick-off Day

The Season Kick-Off will be held on **Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**, at the club, from **10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** All parents and junior sailors are expected to attend. The plans for the day include:

**Parent Meeting:** Instructional staff will be introduced, program changes will be explained, policy and handbook changes will be reviewed and any questions will be answered

**Private Boat Inspections:** All privately-owned boats to be used for program lessons and racing MUST undergo a safety inspection. This is intended to verify that the boat, blades, all required equipment, rigging, lines, sails and gear are in place and in good working order. The boat and rig should be at the club that day. For your convenience, Moorhouse Sailmakers, a parts and equipment vendor will be at the club.

**Parent of the Day Registration:** Sign-ups for the Parent of the Day are required on or before the first day of classes. (For more information about this program requirement, see Safety Rules and Procedures below)

## G. Program Policies and Safety

### 1. Safety

a. All junior sailors are required to pass the Water Safety Test, which consists of a swim test and a strength test. For the swim test, the sailor will be required to swim approximately 50 yards with and without a life jacket, using any stroke, and then tread water for two minutes. For the strength test, the sailor will be required to pull himself or herself out of the water, unassisted, onto the hull of his or her boat. Water safety tests are administered on the first day of class,

weather permitting. Any sailor who misses the class test day must make special arrangements with the Program Director to take the test. No Sailor will be admitted to class until they have successfully completed the water safety test.

**b. All junior sailors** are required to wear life jackets at all times when on the water. Parents and sailors are responsible to make sure that the life jacket is worn as required and that the life jacket is in good condition, properly fitted and equipped with a whistle. Life jackets must remain zipped when sailors are near the docks.

**c. All privately owned boats** MUST be inspected prior to the first day of classes. Parents and sailors are responsible for insuring that the sailor's boat is properly equipped, rigged and in good condition prior to leaving the dock. Additionally, all boats must be equipped with a bow line to assist the instructors in towing boats when needed.

**d. All junior sailors** are required to wear shoes at all times when on club property.

**e. No running or horseplay** is allowed around the fixed or floating docks. No scooters, bicycles or skates may be used around the dock or rear yard areas. No swimming or diving is allowed from the club docks. This and other important rules are found in the "House Rules" that are posted in the Club, and are also provided in the OCYC Yearbook.

**f. Tampering** with boats or equipment belonging to other sailors may cause dangerous conditions on the water. Any junior sailor found tampering with boats or equipment belonging to other junior sailors may be suspended or expelled from the program.

**g. Please** call the office to let us know if you son/daughter will not be attending class. Attendance is taken each day and we do not want to hold up the beginning of a class waiting for a sailor to arrive. Also we want to make sure your child arrives at the club safely.

**h. Any sailor** found to be in violation of any safety rule may be barred from class or disqualified from a race, at the sole discretion of the Program Director and/or Sailing Director.

## **2. Policies**

**a. Age requirement for advanced boats:** Any sailor who does not meet the age criteria and wishes to sail an advanced boat in the program may request a waiver of the age requirement. Requests for waivers must be made in writing, in accordance with the deadline dates set forth for Special Waivers for class assignment (see Section C. Registration Procedures). Sailors will not be assigned a space in the class until the written waiver request has been reviewed and approved by the Sailing Director and the Program Director. Review and approval will consider the sailor's experience and boat handling skills.

**b. Parent of the Day:** The role of the Parent of the Day is to provide continuous adult supervision of the club facilities during the program day. The purpose of the program is to reduce safety concerns associated with unsupervised facilities when instructors are teaching classes and during lunch breaks. Additionally, in the event of an emergency on the water, a responsible adult is needed on shore to communicate with local medical and/or emergency personnel. This year, the Parents of the Day will also help supervise the Juniors' Game Room. Parent participation in the Parent of the Day program is a requirement for a junior sailor's participation in the sailing program. Parents may request particular dates on the registration form. Each Family must sign-up for this duty on or before the first day of classes in order for their child/children to attend classes. Each Family may request one full day. Any parent (mother or father) who is unable to serve as Parent of the Day is responsible for arranging for another Junior Sailing Parent to serve as a substitute.

**c. Substitutions/Make-Ups/Guests:** *No substitutions or make-up classes are allowed.* No guests may participate in or attend classes. All sailors registered for classes must be current members of the Ocean City Yacht Club, either individually as a junior member or a family membership.

**d. Class Assignments, Class Schedule and Section Assignments:** New class assignment policies are described in Section C. Registration Procedures above. The class schedule and section assignments will be posted by Opening Day. Parents may apply for refunds of program fees due to scheduling conflicts on or before the date of the Season Kick-Off Day (6//11/11); no refunds will be available after that day. Anyone requesting a section change must apply in writing by mail to the Program Director by June 4<sup>th</sup>. Parents will be notified regarding the change request on or before 6//11/11.

**e. Private Lessons:** All private lessons given at OCYC must be arranged through the Junior Sailing Program Director.

## **H. SCHEDULE**

All sailors participating in racing classes **MUST** be rigged and ready to sail before the start time of their class. Therefore sailors should arrive 20 minutes before the class begins. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU DO THIS!**

## **I. REGATTAS/INTERCLUB RACING**

In addition to the Instructional Program, Junior sailors will have the opportunity to participate our OCYC Championship series, away regattas and interclub racing. If they feel ready, sailors are encouraged to compete in local, regional and national regattas. Complete calendars for Optimis, Lasers and C420 will be posted along with our regular sailing calendar.

Participating in regattas and interclub races are a chance to make new friends, travel to new places, and improve skills. By racing with new sailors in larger fleets, our sailors will learn skills and lessons that cannot be developed by racing **ONLY** at OCYC.

Parental support is critical for away regattas and interclubs. Parents are responsible for loading and unloading their child's boat for each regatta. Parents also should be at regattas to assist in rigging and de-rigging their child's boat as well as supervising their child in the event he/she leaves the water due to heavy wind, boat breakdown, etc.

## **J. CLUB TRAILERS**

Parent volunteers are asked to sign up to haul the OCYC Club trailer to and from regattas. Sailors will be given room on the trailer by signing up ahead of time for each venue. Each parent is responsible for all loading and off-loading, including the tying down of his/her child's boat. Boats **MUST** be removed from the trailer ASAP immediately following its return to OCYC.

In the event of an accident involving a club trailer, **LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES TO THE TOW VEHICLE OR THE TRAILER, AND FOR PERSONAL INJURY, RESTS WITH THE DRIVER TOWING THE TRAILER, NOT OCYC. BOAT OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE TO THEIR OWN SAILOR'S BOATS.** This means that insurance coverage for any personal injury or damage to the trailer or tow vehicle resulting from an accident is under the automobile policy of the drivers.

## **K. INCLEMENT WEATHER**

The Junior Sailing Program will begin at the scheduled time for each class or racing fleet *regardless* of the weather conditions. If the weather prevents sailing, alternative sailing related activities will be planned.

### **TIPS FOR SAILORS**

- Put your name on **ALL** personal belongings with permanent ink. Please put your child's name in large letters on the back of their life jacket so as to assist in identification while they are on the water.
- Be sure to wear sun block, sun glasses and a hat/visor.
- Bring water
- Some type of sailing shoes or boots are **MANDATORY** (preferably ones that don't fall off when capsizing.)
- Bug spray and foul weather gear might also be needed.
- A tackle box with extra sail ties, permanent marker, duct tape, sail repair tape, and any other items they may need for boat repairs.
- Bring a bag with a towel and dry clothes everyday.
- Have a water proof jacket or sweatshirt for wet days.
- Remember, we have class everyday no matter what the weather so be prepared.