

Which Optimist Fleet Should I Enter?

This document is intended to provide guidance to competitors and their parents and **does not form part of the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions.**

Optimist divisions are as follows:

Fleet	Level	Course	Target Time for 1 st boat to finish	Approximate Wind limit	Rules
Green	Learning to race	Triangle	20 minutes	15 knots	World Sailing Introductory
Intermediate	Intermediate	Trapezoid	40 minutes	20 knots	RRS
Open	Advanced	Trapezoid	50 minutes	25 knots	RRS

- A series for the Open Fleet will consist of up to 12 races with a target of 4 races per day. The series for the Intermediate Fleet will consist of up to 9 races with a target of 3 races per day.
- **Green** Learning to race Triangle 20 minutes 15 knots World Sailing Introductory
- **Intermediate:** Intermediate Trapezoid 40 minutes 20 knots RRS
- **Open** Advanced Trapezoid 50 minutes 25 knots RRS

Open Fleet:

The Open Fleet will be scheduled to sail up to 4 races on any day depending on regatta conditions and scheduling. The target wind conditions are approx. 3 to 25kts. Boats which do not finish in the time limit will be scored DNF. By entering the Open Fleet a sailor is accepting a challenge to test their skills not only against the best sailors at the event but also in the conditions, which may be variable and physically demanding.

Intermediate Fleet:

The Intermediate Fleet is intended to provide a full race experience for developing sailors without the physical demands of Open Fleet or the frustration of being scored "Did Not Finish".

The Intermediate Fleet will race under the full Racing Rules of Sailing. The Intermediate Fleet will be scheduled to sail up to 3 races on any day depending on regatta conditions and scheduling. The target maximum wind threshold is approximately 20 knots

Who should think about entering the Intermediate Fleet?

- a. Developing sailors (any age) who have raced in Open Fleet before and regularly either "timed out" or have consistently finished in the back 25% of Open Fleet at other Optimist regattas.
- b. Perhaps consider the best Optimist sailors at your Club and think about whether you are able to finish within 10 minutes of them in all wind conditions in particular very light (<6kts) or heavy (>18kts).
- c. Emerging sailors who have sailed in Green Fleet at other regattas and are looking to transition to the Open Fleet.
- d. Younger sailors who may be more experienced but find the long days in Open Fleet too demanding.

Green Fleet:

The younger or more inexperienced sailors, who are not ready for Intermediate Fleet just yet, may consider this fleet. Green Fleet provides a great fun introduction to attending a major regatta. Green Fleet will be using the World Sailing Introductory Rules of Sailing and limited on-water coaching to assist sailors build their confidence and boat handling skills and will combine racing with other fun activities.