

Random Opti Regatta and Green fleet thoughts!

I have been doing this a long time...

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What is the goal?

- My goal is to build each junior into a lifelong sailor
- Not win every trophy available - success will come with interest and good instruction!
- Or find a way they can be part of the vast sport of Sailing. Or at least enjoy!
- Grow into sailing, not get frustrated by sailing Optimis – Provide Options

How do we do it?

Green Fleet= the best coach you can afford!

I found a GF coach so good, I married her.

They build the foundation with excellent appropriate lessons.
challenge the sailor, set up for failure that leads to success.

Green fleet regattas

- #1 goal- Make it fun! We've been working on this for years, but lets center it around real racing.
- Not all goofy marks
- Super simple Sailing Instructions
- Best RC, or coaches that you can find - This goes back to your best sailing coach, you want your A game RC who will help and answer questions.

But keep it fun! When Johnny asks you a question on the signal boat give them the answer.

Putting it all together

How to get your Club to embrace big Regatta's

Why do I want my White Fleet to sail with RWB?

- Sense of achievement:
 - Sailors just out of Green sail with their heroes
 - White fleeter feels accomplished beating a RB sailor
 - Start to see better starting habits, bigger RC
 - Let prgms/coaches hold kids back on an individual basis

Buy in

Likely harder than running a 100 boat start by yourself!

Why do we want to run a big regatta?

Sense of purpose! What is in our Club Charter?

It is fun! Maybe not while you are fielding phone calls, dealing with angry parents, coaches who are ___ and then there is the step parent! (note I never mentioned the sailor)

Some tips from a reformed YC GM

- Start early and include the non sailors on your committee
- Host on a Monday or Tuesday...
- Spell out parking and no parking issues, sadly the hardest part.
- Now the fun stuff.
 - Ice Cream or Hot Dog truck! (your doing this on a Monday normally the Chefs day off)
 - Don't send kids afloat if there is no wind! But have a GREAT plan B.
 - Lunches, ugh!!! Find a subway or Jersey Mikes to help...
 - RC- it better be you're A team... here is a tough one, no booze for them till after the last trophy is handed out!

Tips

- Make sure a Flag officer knows about the event and they are expected to show up to hand out trophies
- Speaking of trophies, NO Bowling trophies... but if you must make them the best one's you can find!
- Find a purpose, it is not just a regatta but a regatta benefitting XYZ charity and get your Red fleters to help...
- Every volunteer gets a thank you!!!

The Racing Side

My guideline to running a good event

Have a well versed and practiced safety plan

Pin boat in any fleet over 40 boats.

Use an I phone or I pad for starts and finishes

Have an excellent team on the finish boat.

Manage the course as if you are sailing

Good RC documents Safety plan, SI's, NOR's. Don't be afraid to "borrow" another Clubs documents.

Not enough assets?

Join forces!

Set a limit! With an early Deadline.

Have two qualifiers on the same day.

Remember this is not the Worlds, your victory is when Sarah Sunshine comes up to you with a big smile saying thank you!