

Junior Sailing Newsletter  
July 13, 2014

Fishers Island Junior Sailors have gotten off to a fast start for the 2014 season. Big breeze, great class sizes, and hard work have made for an excellent opening session. Our morning novice classes are bustling with energy and enthusiasm, while afternoon racing classes have been met with determination and newfound confidence. We are so proud of all of our sailors for their dedication and perseverance as the season kicks off!

In the 420 classes, there has been plenty of time spent mastering the trapeze, perfecting spinnaker work, and righting capsized boats (all very practical skills!). On Thursday, July 10, Fishers Island co-hosted Area B Qualifiers at Masons Island. The top two teams from this regatta are given the opportunity to move on to the national double-handed Bemis and single-handed Smythe US Sailing Championship. Six Fishers Island teams competed in the fleet of over 50 boats on the 420 course, and Mo Bereday competed in the single-handed Byte class. Hosting clubs were organized and ready to roll, but unfortunately, the breeze did not cooperate. After a very long day on the water, only one race was completed by the 420s, and two by the Byte class. Mike Posey, Fishers Island Yacht Club member, stepped in as Chief Judge for the event, and ruled that because racing was limited by weather, a true regatta was sailed despite the thin number of races. Matthew Burnham and Taro Sochi were the top Fishers Island boat, coming in seventh in the one race sailed. These racers are looking forward to beginning competition on the team racing circuit this week against NESS and Weekapaug, and will be competing in their next fleet racing regatta on Thursday, July 17 at Ram Island.

Optimist sailors have been busy as well, and have already participated in two travel regattas this season. On Thursday, July 3, optimist sailors traveled to Masons Island only to find little breeze and a lot of fog. After battling current and continuous fog banks, sailors were sent back to land without a race. In the end, the regatta was settled by a heated sprit race, in which Fishers Island's team of Frank Kinlin and Thomas Walker took the win. This past week, we travelled to Watch Hill, where the morning brought light, shift breeze and the afternoon quickly shifted to a heavy sea breeze. Despite the challenging conditions, Fishers Island sailors were excellent competitors. Frank Kinlin placed 10th overall in the 54 boat fleet, and Tommy Thiel placed 5th overall, snagging 3rd place in Red Fleet. We have this week off from regattas, but will use our practice time wisely as we prepare for the Fishers Island Regatta on July 22.

On Friday, many of our junior sailors competed in the ever-popular Cardboard Boat Regatta, co-hosted by Fishers Island Junior Sailing and IPP. Dock Beach came alive as over 40 sea-faring engineers tested their cardboard vessels in a race to the swim buoys. Photos will soon be posted on [fishersisland.net](http://fishersisland.net).

We hope to see you on the water soon!

All the best,

Meris Enright  
Sailing Director

Proud optimist race coach Graham Richartz and sailors Frank Kinlin and Thomas Walker showing off their sprit race winnings at Masons Island



The drift-off at Masons Island Fishers Island 420 Regatta, Area B Championship.

420 Sailors Matt Burnham and Taro Sochi taking advantage of big breeze at the mouth of West Harbor. Patrick Rose and Sammy Burnham are close behind.

