

July 28, 2014  
Junior Sailing Newsletter

Dear Families and Friends,

On Tuesday, July 22, 88 enthusiastic optimist sailors and their coaches, friends and parents visited the Fishers Island Yacht Club for a day of competition and fun. Participants came from various clubs from the Eastern Connecticut Sailing Association, including Ram Island, Masons Island, Watch Hill, Stonington Harbor, Wadawanuck, Groton Long Point, and more. Eleven sailors from the Fishers Island Junior Sailing Program came out to race, providing leadership and setting the example for visiting clubs.

Conditions were perfect, allowing the race committee to run six quality races on the Red, White and Blue (advanced racers) course. On the green fleet course, sailors got in four races before returning to shore for a bubble gum boat building competition and a heated capture the flag game. In the end, Fishers Island took home several awards. Ziggy Bereday was second in white fleet, Frank Kinlin took second in Blue Fleet, and Thomas Walker was first overall in the 46 boat fleet. Congratulations to all of the Fishers Island sailors who sailed!

An expert crew of volunteers led by Fishers Island instructors, Jessica Thiel and Meg and Thad Bereday helped assure that the day ran smoothly, from registration, to lunch distribution, to awards set up, scoring and more. Special thanks to Daphne Ball, Lily Rutherford Kinlin, and Melissa Thors for their patience and kindness during the registration process, and to Isabelle and Jonathan Farrar for their scoring and mark moving prowess.

On Thursday, Fishers Island racers headed out to Niantic Bay to compete in the Larry White Junior Olympic Festival Regatta. Four 420s, two Optimists and one laser radial competed, taking home plenty of silver. Hallie Bereday was first in the laser radial fleet, Matt Burnham and Jarvis Bereday took second in the 420 fleet, and Thomas Walker was first overall in the optimist fleet. Ziggy Bereday took second in white fleet.

On Friday afternoon, nine “parent”/child teams competed in a series of three heated races. Despite some challenges fitting in the boats, every team had its fair share of victories and frustrations. Parents and children shared the opportunity to skipper their boats around the buoys. In the end, there was a tie, with Greta and Eric Thiel and Margaret and Eloise Warden sharing a point total. However, team Thiel came up victorious for the July 2014 Parent/Child award.

Friday evening was a beautiful night to be sailing on Hay Harbor at the annual Glowstick Regatta! 30 sailors from Novice, Intermediate, and Racing classes attended. Sailors decorated their boats using glowsticks and lights before heading out for three races. In the end, Frank Kinlin took the coveted Glowstick Regatta “trophy,” but only after taking time for a dance break on his capsized optimist hull!

While our July session has come to a close, we are excited to begin anew in August!

All the best,  
Meris



Charlotte Kinlin and Eliza Pollard waiting for the start of the Glowstick Regatta



Fishers Island Racing Team at the Niantic Bay JO Regatta



Aunt and Nephew Team of Teddy Schafer and Jessica Thiel