



FLEETS EXPLANATION

19th Sint Maarten Budget Marine Optimist Championship

Sint Maarten Yacht Club
November 28th - December 1st 2024



For the 2024 Sint Maarten Budget Marine Optimist Championship the SMYC decided to make changes to the fleets.

Previously there were 2 fleets, an Orange and a Blue fleet. The orange fleet designed for sailors less experienced, and the Blue fleet designed for sailors with more regatta experience.

This year there will be 3 fleets:

- Green Fleet
- Benjamin Fleet
- Optimist Fleet

Green Fleet

The Green fleet is designed to encourage sailors to attend their first “big” regatta. All children start at different ages and progress at different levels. And the green fleet is all about encouraging sailors to sail regattas. In the green fleet winning is not as important, coaching of the bottom half of the fleet during racing may be allowed (if so coaches should not just coach “their own” but all participants). The green fleet will get a simplified course, simplified rules, and reduced time on the water.

The goal is to have a good time, make new friends, and try to do well racing sailboats. And it should be in that order.

Sailors in the Green fleet:

- Can sail a decent but not perfect upwind, reaching, and downwind.
- Understands the basic rule (no crashing) and can do his/her part to avoid crashing.
- Can identify the race course.
- Can hear and figure out (even if it means following directions and other sailors) the starting signals.
- Wants to have fun and knows how to smile and have a good time!

Benjamin and Optimist Fleet

These fleets will start on the same startline, and sail the same course. The only difference is that the Benjamin fleet is for sailors born in 2013 or later, and will have their own ranking. This so our younger sailors still have a chance to win something, and keep them motivated.