

Synopsis

Written by one of the best-known figures in all of sailing and a leading authority on Optimist sailing and racing, *The Winner's Guide to Optimist Sailing* is the ideal training manual for young skippers, their parents, and their coaches. The most comprehensive sailing guide to the International Optimist dinghy class features:

- Step-by-step instructions on every aspect of beginning sailing
- More than 100 stunning photographs and helpful illustrations
- Useful tips and winning tactics for competitive racing
- Special advice sections for parents and coaches

Book Information

Paperback: 176 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #189,113 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in [Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports](#) #187 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Reference](#) #198 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Sailing](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I am an Optimist sailor. If you want to know how to sail or race competitively read this book. It combines good racing techniques with Optimist basics. This THE book to get if you want to figure out what's what on any type of optimist. New or old. It has great illustrations and that depict how to sail well and get rigged the right way. This book helped me get sixth place in the Junior Olympics in Island Heights, NJ. If you want to sail an opti Read this book!

Contrary to another review, this book DOES tell a kid how to rig the boats, gives important information about doing so, as well as good guidelines for seamanship and racing tactics. An altogether readable, understandable guide for both kids and parents. If your kid is starting to sail, get them off on the right tack by giving them this book, and you as a parent should also read it. It's a

sensible, easily-understood book, written with humor and plenty of information.

-it's 17 yrs since first publication, secondhand copy, still relevant for young Opto tyros. Wish I'd had this in 1945 when I sailed/raced an old clunker at age 10yrs in England. Happy sailing, Graham

My son loves the book. My husband loves it. And so does my daughter. Thoughtfully put together with lots of basic info as well as advanced strategy/theory.

A book for Opti (ie, beginning) sailors shd have 3 sections: How to rig the boat, How to sail, and Racing techniques. Since there are a lot of good books covering the 2nd and 3rd topics, an Opti-specific book shd focus on rigging. Jobson and Kehoe do a very poor job of describing how to get your Opti rigged and ready to go. The topic is broken up into 3 non-contiguous sections, with minimal illustrations. Some of the photos have wrong captions. And there is no discussion or even acknowledgment of the IOD 95 standard. For example, at one point the authors stress the importance of the boom preventer -- but there is no drawing of this device, and no clear description of how a "twist" (or a "turn", in another place in the book) is to be managed. There is no index and only a partial glossary of terms. Of course, the sections on racing are very detailed. But I wish the authors had organized the material with beginning sailors in mind. What's missing is some kind of hierarchical ranking of what's important to winning. Kids need the important points emphasised. But this book makes no distinction between, say, starting on the favored end of the line versus keeping your air clear. And I don't think covering your opponent is mentioned at all. I haven't gotten Slater's book yet, but it has to be better than this one.

Skylor really needed this book to be competitive. Now if he would only read it. He will be in the White fleet and his winning streak could be over.

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