



Worser Bay Boating Club Inc.



2020 TOYOTA OPTIMIST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

 TOYOTA | Believe

Clean Regatta Report

Worser Bay Boating Club
Wellington
New Zealand

The Toyota Optimist Nationals are one of the biggest junior regattas in New Zealand. This year we had 130 competitors from all over the country. Due to Covid 19, we did not have the usual amount of international sailors.

Worser Bay Boating Club has hosted this regatta a few times before, but we have never attempted a Clean Regatta. We registered with Sailors For The Seas, and set ourselves the goal of achieving Silver Status.



Marine Parade
Seatoun
Wellington



www.wbbc.org.nz



ELIMINATION OF SINGLE-USE ITEMS

1. Eliminate Single-Use Water Bottles and Provide Water Refill Stations

Our goal was to avoid selling any single use plastic water bottles

Thanks to a Waste Minimisation Grant from Wellington City Council, we purchased a water fountain from S A Plumbing which allowed sailors and supporters to fill their reusable bottles. We also had some aluminium drink bottles donated from a sailor's parent, so we did not stock or sell any plastic bottles over the entire regatta.

2. Eliminate Plastic Straws

The former Rear Commodore of Worser Bay Boating Club, Belinda Stanley, eliminated plastic straws from our kitchen about 2 years ago. No plastic straws were given out at all during the regatta.

3. Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware

Because the Optimist Nationals are a junior sailing regatta, we serve food for all sailors as they come off the water. We served sausages in bread, apple crumble in our club plates, and soup in cups that we borrowed from the local Tip Shop.





Another one of our goals was to avoid using any single use coffee cups (which are not compostable in the Wellington City Council compost facility),

We designed and purchased 500 reusable coffee cups which had our club burgee imprinted. We put one in each of the children's registration packs, and we offered the rest for sale for \$15 which included a free coffee.

We also had the use of Dan's (the club's caterer) set of crockery coffee cups for those who were staying inside to enjoy their coffee. We have about 200 reusable cups remaining, which we will be able to pass onto the Laser Nationals which is the next major regatta to be held at Worser Bay Boating Club.

We achieved this goal.





4. Use or Provide Reusable Bags

Our major sponsor, Toyota, supplied us with nylon bags to use as registration bags. The children will be able to use these bags to carry sports gear including wet togs and towels to other events.



Lunch Bags

We had 25 official ribs on the water, and lunch was supplied to each of the people on board. 25 chiller bags were donated, and we reused My Food Bag freezer pads to keep the lunches cool.

Both the chiller bags and the freezer pads will be passed onto the Laser Nationals catering team.





5. Award Gear or Use a Perpetual or Upcycled Trophy

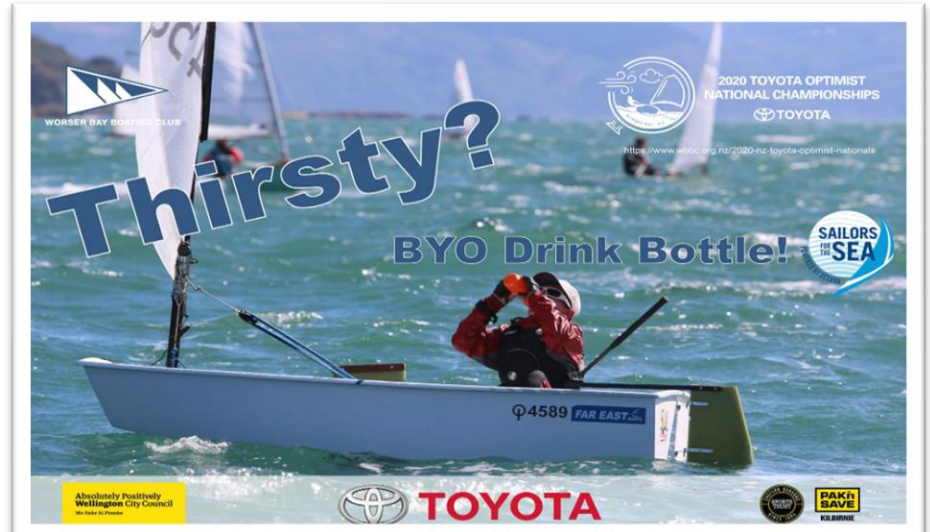
Although we designed a new trophy for some of the award winners, 13 of the awards are perpetual trophies. We also awarded wetsuits, and AQ Bags donated bags made from old sails which they put the children's own sail numbers onto.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

6. Publicise Your Sustainability Efforts

We publicised our intentions of running a Clean Regatta through our Facebook page, website, and regatta app. Our posts have asked competitors to bring their own drink bottle, coffee cup, and to be mindful of rubbish disposal by using the correct rubbish and recycling bins.



ONE OF OUR FACEBOOK POSTS

Here is a link to one of our promotional videos explaining our Clean Regatta goals -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dAbBStIC2M&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2PHBQmm53p5hqJlRQMKnlSqbbQPuxE0IxiMtAa7gZ2OloAXuiKQXPKk_Y

7. Involve Local Organizations

Jackie has been part of a local group called Plastic Free Peninsula for quite a few years. They have been active on the Miramar Peninsula conducting Beach Clean Ups, and campaigns with our children, including Say No To Straws with local cafes, and Eliminate Single Use Plastic Bags with Worser Bay School, where every child got to make a reusable bag out of a pillowcase and a tie.

A couple of members of this group helped to manage our waste stations during the regatta, and we borrowed PFP's procedures and health and safety information for our Beach Clean Up.

8. Post Responsible, Educational and Reusable Signage

We used a combination of signage. Some signs were part of a set that the club owns, and some were new signs that were either unique to our regatta, or new signs needed, i.e. signs for our new Water Fountain. These new signs were laminated because they were hung outside, but we will pass them onto the next regatta held at Worser Bay Boating Club - the Laser Nationals in January 2021.



RESPONSIBLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

10. Assemble and Identify Your Green Team

Our Green Team was led by Jackie, but advised by a local group, Plastic Free Peninsula, who has been active in minimising waste in the Miramar Peninsula area for a few years. Jackie has also been joined by Michael who is leading the Clean Regatta planning for the Laser Nationals.

As part of a Waste Minimisation Grant from



Wellington City Council, we purchased our Green Team caps so we could be easily identified by participants.

11. Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement and Signage

To minimise the amount of waste that we sent to the landfill, we borrowed two sets of 4 x bins from Wellington City Council Recycling Centre. We had people rostered on to mind the bins throughout the regatta hours. We placed one set of these bins near the entry point of where the boats were stored, and the other halfway down this area. We covered the nearby public bins with cotton covers so that the participants couldn't use them instead.





We placed signs on the compostable bins stating which foods and products could be accepted to the Wellington City Council Compost facility and our staff were present educating people on how to correctly utilise these facilities.

12. Divert Food Waste from the Landfill

As mentioned above, we had bins for compostable food, and products. These bins were collected each morning by Organic Waste Management.

The last 2 days of our regatta were cancelled due to high winds, so we had a lot of filled rolls left over that were purchased to feed our

on water officials. Maria, our kitchen lead, dropped these off to the night shelter on the Sunday night, and on the Monday, she gave the filled rolls away to families, who were very grateful for an easy lunch as they left to travel to their homes all over New Zealand after prizegiving.



13. Use Paperless Event Management

We did not run a paperless event; however, this is something that we are working towards.

Our main methods of communication were our website, our app and we had one notice board where we posted one copy of results each day. We also used our white board to notify people in the clubroom of times for spot prizes and prize givings.



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

14. Host a Beach or Marina Clean-up

We held a Beach Clean Up the weekend prior to our regatta - Sunday 1st November. We were pleasantly surprised at how clean the beach was, but noted some surrounding areas where rubbish had collected, notably areas with long grass around car park areas.



17. Offer Vegetarian or Vegan Alternatives

As well as having some vegetarian sailors that we needed to cater for, we also offered vegetarian, and gluten free options from our kitchen for spectators.



GREEN BOATING

18. Encourage Water Only Washdown

We had planned to only provide a water only washdown on the last day of our regatta, which was unfortunately cancelled due to high winds, so we didn't end up offering a wash down at all hence saving water.

20. Do Not Offer Bow Stickers to Competitors

Instead of bow stickers, we provided a bib made from recycled ocean plastic to each competitor. If the competitor registered in time, they received their name on the back of their bib, which the children will treasure for years.



Extras

Included in our registration bags were neck gaiters from LUCKE. These were made from recycled ocean plastic and act as a sun protector as well.



REVIEW

I think that our real success for this regatta (our first with the Clean Regatta program) was reducing the amount of waste that we produced, especially by not supplying single use coffee cups or drink bottles.

Another bonus is that because we are working alongside the team organising the Laser Nationals, we will be able to reuse a lot of our products, and newly gained knowledge.



CLEAN REGATTA BEST PRACTICES

ELIMINATION OF SINGLE-USE ITEMS	
1. Eliminate Single-Use Water Bottles and Provide Water Refill Stations	<i>An overwhelming 97% of Clean Regattas have said goodbye to single-use plastic water bottles. Will you join them?</i>
2. Eliminate Plastic Straws	<i>Skip 'em altogether or find an eco-smart alternative. We've seen paper, metal, or even hay and pasta do the trick!</i>
3. Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware	<i>Use it once and have it last forever? Not at a Clean Regatta! Choose to reuse (and beware of those sneaky bioplastics)!</i>
4. Use or Provide Reusable Bags	<i>Plastic bags are out of style. Do your part to make sure that one less plastic bag finds its way into the water.</i>
5. Award Gear or Use a Perpetual or Upcycled Trophy	<i>Celebrate participants' achievements with gear they'll actually use. Or create a legacy with a perpetual trophy.</i>
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	
6. Publicize Your Sustainability Efforts	<i>Tell the world you're protecting what you love by making strides for a greener planet and bluer seas!</i>
7. Involve Local Organizations	<i>Use strengths already present in your community to make sure your Clean Regatta is a success.</i>
8. Post Responsible, Educational and Reusable Signage	<i>At the event, showcase your efforts with signs that you can reuse and add to year after year.</i>
9. Serve Local Food or Source Seafood Sustainably	<i>Back up your words with actions: support local businesses and make sure your seafood is sustainably caught.</i>
RESPONSIBLE WASTE MANAGEMENT	
10. Assemble and Identify Your Green Team	<i>This invaluable group will be your go-to support system and help you achieve all your sustainability goals.</i>
11. Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement and Signage	<i>Making sure waste gets into the correct bin can be tricky. Signs help make it as simple as possible!</i>
12. Divert Food Waste from the Landfill	<i>Composting might be easier than you think! Or, take this opportunity to feed those in need with any leftovers.</i>
13. Use Paperless Event Management	<i>From whiteboards, to projectors, to TVs and phones, there's a lot of sustainable ways to distribute information.</i>
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP	



14. Host a Beach or Marina Clean-up	<i>Increase awareness of the plastic pollution problem and do your part to make an immediate impact on your local environment.</i>
15. Promote Alternative Transportation	<i>Biking, carpooling, using public transit, or offsetting your carbon footprint can all go a long way to reducing carbon emissions.</i>
16. Increase Awareness of Wildlife and Habitat Protection	<i>Part of protecting what you love involves safeguarding those who call our waters home!</i>
17. Offer Vegetarian or Vegan Alternatives	<i>Eating vegetarian can reduce your carbon footprint and impact on the environment by more than you may think.</i>
GREEN BOATING	
18. Encourage Water Only Washdowns	<i>Skip the suds all together! It's easier for you and easier on nature.</i>
19. Use Non-Toxic Sunscreens or Cleaning Products	<i>Help keep harmful chemicals out of the water by choosing your products carefully.</i>
20. Do Not Offer Bow Stickers to Competitors	<i>We know they're tough to keep on, so let's make sure they stay out of the water in the first place.</i>