

2008 LLSC Junior Racing Year in Review

The Opti advanced racing team opened the season with practices in January and February while Chris Jackson, Jenny Collier, Robbie Estes and JD Reddaway participated in the Laser Frostbite series. Chris finished the Frostbite series 2nd overall great accomplishment for a junior in some very challenging conditions.

Jenny & Leigh Ann Collier, Daniel Postell, JD, Darby & Michael Reddaway plus Steffi Zwarg traveled down to St. Petersburg for the Valentines Day regatta where Daniel got a 10th place trophy in the blue fleet in the Silver division.

We had 3 practices in March to prepare for the season which opened with the Junior Governor's cup on March 30th. As usual, it was a cold blustery day with seven Optimists, 2 Lasers and one 420 on the line. Results were:

Optimist	Laser- Full
1. Michael Reddaway	1. Chris Jackson
2. Daniel Postell	
3. Darby Reddaway	Laser Radial
4. Robbie Estes 1.	1. Jenny Collier
5. Jamie Reid 2.	
6. Leigh Ann Collier	420
7. Thomas Glenn	1. David French & Alexis Tataris



The spring series was kicked off in April with too much wind to get anyone on the water for Spring #1 and then quickly switched to normal Lake Lanier light and shifty conditions. Darby Reddaway took 1st in Gold and Thomas Glenn took 1st in Silver. Spring #3 (5/18) returned to gale conditions with gusts at 30+ knots which only allowed 2 races for the day and no silver fleet. Michael Reddaway took the honors with two bullets. Light air in Spring #4 on 6/14 yielded Daniel Postell taking 1st in Gold and Ben Postell taking honors in Silver.

The Opti crew traveled down to Fort Walton for the annual clinic and regatta on April 19-20 and then to AYC Opti regatta on May 3-4. That was followed by the LLSC/AYC 420 Challenge Regatta on May 17th which LLSC won very handily. Later that day, Dave Perry spoke to the Juniors about racing rules and tactics.

We had no wind for the fun sail, but had great fun on May 24th with a cookout on the beach plus some tubing behind Warren's power boat. A great time was had by all.

Junior Week had the Juniors on the big boats for Wednesday night racing with little to no wind on 6/4 and then we had the Jr. Week races on Thursday (6/5) afternoon with no races on Friday due to no wind. Optimists: Gold was won by Steffi Zwarg, Intermediate A was won by Robert Beauchamp, Intermediate B was won by Destin Howard. JD Reddaway won Lasers and Macy Seitz & Gigi Arias won 420s.

LLSC had 2 semi-final teams for the US Sailing events: the Junior Sears (triple handed team) – Nick Cumbie, Kyle Stadele and Chris Jackson and a Bemis Team (double-handed) -JD and Michael Reddaway. Both teams finished 3rd in the Semi-finals down in Miami representing South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association (SAYRA) in the Area D Championship.

The Reggae Regatta on June 21-22 was great fun as usual with JD Reddaway winning Lasers, Macy Seitz & Gigi Arias winning 420s. Opti Gold was Steffi Zwarg and Opti Silver was Robert Beauchamp.

On 4th of July we had 420 Races and a Cookout. Then, July 20th we had a fun sail to X Island with a picnic and tons of fun. Pirate ships were firing water cannons at each other.

We had a contingent represent LLSC at the SAYRA Youth Challenge for the first time I'm aware of in Wilmington, NC on August 1st plus the CYC-NC Open Regatta on August 2-3. The team consisted of Michelle Lanier and Gigi Arias in 420; Leigh Ann

Collier, Grayson Arias, Darby Reddaway and Gabrielle Kitchens in Optis. The team learned a lot about sailing in close quarters.

Robbie Estes, Callin Cooke and Grace Pritchard all traveled to Charleston in August.

The LLSC Opti traveling team took off for Birmingham Sailing Club Labor Day weekend for the Rock Paper Scissors Regatta where Gabrielle Kitchens won Red fleet followed by Robbie Estes in 2nd. Steffi Zwarg took blue fleet, followed by Daniel Postell in 2nd. Ellen Postell was 4th in the White fleet and Robert Beauchamp took 2nd in Green Fleet.

The team returned for the Junior Commodores Cup on September 1st. Michael Reddaway & John Shingler won in 420s, Jenny Collier won Laser Radial and Chris Jackson won in Laser Full. Opti Gold 1st was Daniel Postell, Opti Silver 1st was Brett Jezak.

The Fall series kicked off September 7th with light air allowing only one race. Opti Gold 1st was Connor Cassidy and Opti Silver 1st was Robert Beauchamp. The Junior Fleet ran quite a few of the Adult Races as well as Junior Races this fall. Fall #2 was no exception with David Reddaway running the races. Opti Gold was won by Leigh Ann Collier and Silver by Thomas Glenn. JD Reddaway took honors in Laser. Fall #3 was run by John Jezak while many of us were in Lake Norman for Board Bash. Brendan Shanahan took Opti Gold and Brett Jezak won in a tie breaker over Ian in Opti Silver. JD Reddaway won Lasers. Fall #4 was cancelled due to everyone being in Chattanooga for the Southeasterns. Fall #5 was won by Leigh Ann Collier in Opti Gold and Brett Jezak in Silver. JD Reddaway took Laser Full and Robbie Estes took Laser Radial. Once again, Junior parents ran Adult RC for the MCs.

The Junior Optis traveled to Lake Norman for Board Bash on 9/20-21. Ellen Postell 2nd, Ben Postell 3rd in Green Fleet. Darby Reddaway 4th, Daniel Postell 5th and Jamie Reid 6th in Blue fleet. Robbie Estes 1st and Michael Reddaway 3rd in Red Fleet.

LLSC sponsored the Quad State Optimist Trophy Regatta/Clinic September 27-28 which was won overall by Avery Fanning of Charleston YC. David Reddaway was PRO and ran a great regatta with the help of all of the LLSC Jr. Parents. Results were: Red Fleet 2nd Gabrielle Kitchens; Blue Steffi Zwarg 1st; Green: Robert Beauchamp 2nd.

The traveling season was ended by the majority of the Opti sailors with the Southeastern Championship in Chattanooga at Privateer Yacht Club (PYC). The winds were very fluky and light plus there was some controversy on the weather mark with the one race they got off on Saturday. Sunday was light and variable with only 2 races attempted. The following LLSC Junior Opti sailors have qualified to sail in the 2009 Team Trails Regatta at Noroton Yacht Club in Darien Connecticut, April 30 through May 3: Brendan Shanahan, Daniel Postell and Patrick Shanahan.



LLSC hosted a national level laser regatta NO Coast Champs on Oct. 11 and 12, Robbie Estes and JD Reddaway battled it out in high winds and tough radial competition all weekend.

Halloween Regatta – October 25th – the season ended as it started with strong winds keeping most of the silver fleet off of the race course and blowing the gold fleet off the course with the exception of Michael Reddaway in the 3rd race. Results were: Gold: Michael Reddaway Silver: Thomas Glenn. No Junior Lasers sailed.