



2018 Optimist National Championship

July 15-18

July 13-14: MANDATORY Measurement for Championship Fleet Competitors (see NOR 6.3 Schedule)

Hosted by Pensacola Yacht Club

NOTICE OF RACE

Posted 2/21/2018

(This Notice of Race may be amended from time to time pursuant to rule 89.2b)

The regatta will be organized by Pensacola Yacht Club (PYC) in conjunction with the U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (the “USODA”), collectively known as the organizing authority (OA).

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2. “USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships” will apply, and can be found at www.usoda.org.
- 1.3. The following applies to RRS 61:
 - (a) RRS 61.1(a) is changed to add that the red protest flag required in RRS 61.1(a) shall be attached to the sailor’s lifejacket in a manner that allows it to be concealed before it is needed and after the protested boat(s) has been informed. The third sentence of RRS 61.1(a) is changed to read, “She shall display the flag until the protested boat(s) has been informed.”
 - (b) RRS 61.1(a)(2) is deleted.
 - (c) The following new rule is added:

“61.5 Informing the Race Committee (RC)

In addition to meeting the requirements of RRS 61.1, a boat intending to protest another boat concerning an incident in the racing area that she is involved in or sees shall, at the first reasonable opportunity after she finishes, notify the RC measurement vessel of her intent to protest and the sail number of the boat(s) she is protesting.”

- 1.4. Appendix P will apply. The title of RRS P2.2, “Second Penalty”, is changed to “Second and Subsequent Penalties.” There will also be an addition to the end of the first sentence, “unless her penalty is signaled after she finishes, in which case she shall promptly notify the RC finish vessel that she is retiring.” P2.3 will be deleted.
- 1.5. A condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a U.S. Coast Guard approved lifejacket, or for international competitors only, a lifejacket approved by their country’s corresponding national authority, properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing. All lifejackets must be suitable for the competitor’s weight. Wet suits, dry suits, and inflatable lifejackets are not approved nor permitted as lifejackets. Failure to wear a proper lifejacket will result in a penalty up to an including disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. These changes are added to RRS 40, and the Preamble to Part 4 will not apply to RRS 40.



2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1. Advertising is restricted per World Sailing Regulation 20.5.1, 20.4 and Table 1.
- 2.2. Boats may be required to display sponsor advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. International Optimist Dinghies may enter by completing online registration and paying all entry fees, and completing the USODA Measurement Form, USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist and Sailor Code of Conduct.
- 3.2. The Red, Blue and White Fleet assignments will be based on the competitor's age on the first day of the regatta July 15, 2018.
- 3.3. Competitors shall be members of their respective National Class Association (NCA), such as the USODA and have been born on or after January 1, 2003. The OA may require satisfactory proof of such membership and age. Competitors who are not USODA members are invited to join the USODA by selecting membership found in the left margin of www.usoda.org. Members of other IODA organizations and NCAs need to email usoda@usoda.org for login ID and password.

4. REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FEES

- 4.1. All entry fees shall be paid during online registration at www.usoda.org.
 - a) The entry fee is U.S. \$210 if paid by June 21, 2018.
 - b) A late fee of U.S. \$25 (\$235 total) shall be paid for registrations completed June 22, 2018 through June 28, 2018.
 - c) An additional late fee of U.S. \$25 (\$260 total) shall be paid for registrations completed June 29, 2018 through 12:00 PM CDT July 5, 2018.
- 4.2. Registration must be done on-line at www.usoda.org in the Members Only area accessed via login ID and password. Competitors shall have completed **all** parts of the online registration including completion of the online Waiver and Medical forms in order to be registered for the event. Each competitor shall confirm their registration by checking the entry list on the Event Registration page. If a competitor is not listed on the USODA website, then the competitor is not registered and the late fees described above will apply. **Entry Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**
- 4.3. Registration will be closed Thursday, July 5, 2018 at 12:00 PM CDT.
- 4.4. Requests to register after the online registration is closed are subject to approval by the OA.

5. FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

- 5.1. There will be a Championship Fleet and there will be a Green Fleet. The Green Fleet is intended for less experienced sailors and will include opportunities for learning and competition.
- 5.2. The Championship Fleet will race as one or more divisions depending on the number of entries. The intention for the Championship Fleet is that the National Championship Series will have a two-day Qualifying Round followed by a two-day Final Round. The duration and specific parameters of each Round, and the process for allocating boats to divisions will be described in the sailing instructions (SI).



6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. Each Sailor shall be present at Check-In. The USODA Measurement Form, USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist, and Sailor Code of Conduct are required to complete Check-In. Green Fleet competitors are not required to complete the USODA Measurement Form.
- 6.2. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided to competitors on each scheduled race day.
- 6.3. Program and Schedule

Friday & Saturday, July 13-14

1000-1800 Measurement & Check-In
Support (Coach/Spectator) Vessel Flag Registration

Sunday, July 15

0800-0930 Continental Breakfast
Support (Coach/Spectator) Vessel Flag Registration
0830 Coaches' Meeting
0845 Opening Ceremonies
0900 Competitors', Coaches' and Parents' Meeting
0930 Harbor Start
1030 First Warning Signal - Championship Fleet

Monday, July 16

0730-0900 Continental Breakfast
0830 Coaches' Meeting
0900 Harbor Start
1000 First Warning Signal - Championship Fleet
After Racing Regatta Dinner

Tuesday, July 17

0730-0900 Continental Breakfast
0830 Coaches' Meeting
0900 Harbor Start
1000 First Warning Signal - Championship Fleet

Wednesday, July 18

0730-0900 Continental Breakfast
0830 Coaches' Meeting
0900 Harbor Start
1000 First Warning Signal - Championship Fleet
1500 No First Warning Signal for a new "Set" of races after this time
After Racing Awards Ceremony & Heavy Hors d'oeuvres

NOTE: The overall schedule for the Green Fleet will be similar to that of the Championship Fleet. Details will be available during the Green Fleet Skippers Meeting immediately following the Championship Fleet Competitors Meeting.



6.4. Twelve (12) “Sets” of races are scheduled for the Championship Fleet. The Green Fleet will sail as many races as practicable.

7. MEASUREMENT (Championship Fleet only)

7.1. Competitors are allowed to use only one hull, dagger board, rudder (with tiller and extension), mast, boom, sprit and sail during the regatta. Substitution of such equipment shall occur only with the written or verbal approval of the Principal Race Officer (PRO).

7.2. Each competitor shall submit a Measurement Form during the regatta site Check-In. This form shall inform the RC that all equipment is present and in compliance with Class Rules.

7.3. **Equipment** previously measured and stickered with an IODA decal, USODA measurement decal, or stamped pursuant to the USODA measurement process which remains unaltered since the measurement may be self-certified as part of the measurement process. Each competitor shall sign a statement attesting that any previously measured or stamped equipment has not been modified since the date it was measured.

7.4. Equipment not previously measured and approved by the USODA shall meet Class measurement requirements prior to being available for use in the regatta and shall be measured and approved during Measurement.

7.5. **All sails shall be removed from the boom for inspection**, and stamped by a Technical Committee (Measurement) Official (TCO) with the 2018 Nationals signature regardless of previous regatta stamps or signatures.

7.6. The race and/or protest committee reserves the right to inspect or measure equipment and/or sails at any time regardless of whether it has been previously measured.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Preliminary sailing instructions (SI) may be available online. Final official SI will be available onsite at Check-In upon request and on the USODA website.

9. VENUE AND BERTHING

9.1. The racing area will be on Pensacola Bay past the Bayou Chico channel to the Southeast.

9.2. All Optimist boats shall be kept in the assigned area located at the PYC.

10. THE COURSE

The course will be included in the SI.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM (Championship Fleet only)

11.1. *Pending U.S. Sailing Approval* - In accordance with rule 70.5(a), decisions of the protest committee are final. If the requirements shown on <http://www.ussailing.org/race-officials/rules-and-appeals/new-no-appeals-page/> are not met, the decisions of the protest committee may be appealed.

11.2. The USODA Graded Penalty System (GPS) will apply. The GPS will be defined in the SI.

12. SCORING

12.1. The Low Point Scoring System of RRS Appendix A will apply as revised by the SI which will specify the scoring for Qualifying and Final Rounds; the National Championship Series; and the Age Group (Red, Blue, and White) Series.



- 12.2. Race scores are based on the number of registered boats in the largest division. This changes RRS 44.3(c) and A4.2.
- 12.3. The number of boats **entered** in the series will be defined as the number of registered boats which subsequently completed competitor Check-In at the regatta venue as referenced in NOR 6.1. This change is added as the first sentence to RRS A2 and A4.2, and applies to fleet divisions.
- 12.4. A “Set” is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed. One completed “Set” of races in the Qualifying Round will constitute the Championship Fleet Series and Age Group Series.
- 12.5. Scoring based on number of “Sets” of races completed:
 - a) When fewer than five (5) “Sets” of races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of all of her race scores.
 - b) When five (5) or more “Sets” of races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 12.6. While finishes for each race and progress may be tracked, Green Fleet will not be scored.

13. SAFETY

- 13.1. Each competitor shall submit a completed USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist during regatta Check-In. This checklist shall inform the RC that all equipment is present and in working order.
- 13.2. Boats may be subject to a safety inspection at any time during the regatta.
- 13.3. Each competitor shall have a whistle attached to their lifejacket at all times while on the water.
- 13.4. Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end its bow line.

14. ADULT RESPONSIBILITY

- 14.1. In addition to the requirements of RRS 4, an adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of their sailor. It is the responsibility of this adult to decide if the sailor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the event. The adults supervising the competitors are ultimately responsible for the risks.
- 14.2. Parents not personally attending any part of the event shall ensure that another adult is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their sailor.
- 14.3. Each competitor shall indicate in writing at Check-In the parent or adult representative that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.
- 14.4. The designated adult shall accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes on-shore activities before, during, and after the regatta.

15. SUPPORT (COACH / SPECTATOR) VESSELS

- 15.1. The OA strongly recommends that each sailor have a support (coach or spectator) vessel on the race course throughout the regatta.
- 15.2. One coach vessel for every seven (7) sailors and fraction thereof from a sailing program may be registered. (For example, a program with eight (8) sailors would be allowed to register two coach vessels.) Requests for an additional coach vessel shall be emailed to usoda@usoda.org by July 10, 2018 and are subject to USODA Regatta Committee approval.



- 15.3. All support vessels shall register during specified Support Vessel Flag Registration Check-In hours (see NOR 6.3) and promptly display a numbered flag supplied by the OA while on the water. A \$20 security deposit will be required which will be returned at the end of the event with the return of the flag.
- 15.4. Each support vessel shall have a working VHF radio and monitor the radio, an anchor suitable for anchoring in the waiting area, and a basic first aid kit.
- 15.5. The conduct of coaches, parents serving on race committee (including safety patrol), registered support vessels, and all other vessels will be governed by the SI and RRS.

16. PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

Gold Fleet

- Overall: 1st through 10th
- Girls: 1st through 3rd
- Red Fleet: 1st through 5th
- Blue Fleet: 1st through 5th
- White Fleet: 1st through 5th

Silver Fleet

- Overall: 1st through 10th

In the rare event the Qualifying Round is not completed or there are no races in the Final Round, prizes for the National Championship Series will be based on a competitor's Qualifying Round score and will not be given for Silver Fleet.

Green Fleet

All Green Fleet participants shall receive Participation Awards.

Perpetual Awards

- Perpetual National Championship Trophy
- New York Yacht Club Sportsmanship Award
- Ewell C. Potts, Jr. Memorial Friendship Trophy

Additional awards and prizes may be presented at the sole discretion of the host and OA, and may be based on criteria other than the regatta.

17. QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- 17.1. This regatta is a 2019 USODA Team Trials Qualifying event. The top 50% of Championship Fleet team trial eligible competitors, as defined by the USODA, including ties, based on the final results using the total number of boats registered in both the Championship and Green Fleets, may receive invitations to compete in the 2019 Optimist Team Trials.
- 17.2. The top U.S. Champion who is age eligible may receive an invitation to the RenaissanceRe Junior Gold Cup Bermuda scheduled for May 2019.
- 17.3. The top U.S. Champion may submit an application to U.S. Sailing for an opportunity to be selected to compete in the 2018 Championship of Champions held October 18-21 in Atlanta, Georgia.



18. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 18.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race.
- 18.2. The OA including the sponsors, the race committee, officers, and board of directors of the PYC and USODA, and all those involved in these organizations will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta. An online waiver shall be signed by all competitors and their parent/guardian, in accordance with NOR 4.2.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

Registration: USODA Executive Director, Genoa Fedyszyn, usoda@usoda.org

USODA Chief Measurer (TC) – Beth Danilek, measurement@usoda.org

Regatta Chair: Tom Pace, tomracechair@gmail.com, 850-572-6727

Pensacola Yacht Club

1897 Cypress St.
Pensacola, FL 32502
850-433-8804

Event Website: <http://pensacolayachtclub.org>

Facebook Page – <https://www.facebook.com/USODA-Nationals-981734175294845/>

Twitter – <https://twitter.com/USOptiSailing>

Accommodations, charters, and more information are available on the event website.

OA- Organizing Authority

RC- Race Committee

SI- Sailing Instructions

NOR- Notice of Race