

2016 USODA Team Race Midwinter Championship

Hosted by Lakewood Yacht Club and Bay Access

January 16th – 18th

NOTICE OF RACE

Posted 11/9/2015

This Notice of Race may be amended from time to time pursuant to rule 89.2.

This regatta will be organized by Bay Access Foundation and the Lakewood Yacht Club (LYC) in conjunction with the United States Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA).

1 RULES

- 1.1 This regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (2013-2016).
- 1.2 “USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships”, including the USODA ‘Code of Conduct’, will apply, and can be found at www.usoda.org. Competitors, Coaches, Parents, and Guardians shall abide by the USODA ‘Code of Conduct’. This includes behavior both on and off the water including respect for all other persons, and personal property of others the LYC, and the City of Seabrook.
- 1.3 Appendix D Team Racing Rules will apply with the following changes to be made in the Sailing Instructions (SIs):
 - a. Rule D1.1(d) “arm signals” is deleted.
 - b. Rule D1.2(c) is deleted and replaced by “Protests and requests for redress will be conducted in accordance with rule Appendix T, Section C, Expedited Hearings.”
 - c. Rule D2.3, Penalties Initiated by an Umpire: Add “(h) fails to comply with a sailing instruction or a class rule.”
 - d. Rule D5.3 and 5.4: Replace “race committee” with “protest committee” in both rules.

2 ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Advertising is restricted per ISAF Regulation 20.5.1, 20.4 and Table 1.
- 2.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organizing Authority.
- 2.3 Each team member will be issued a team identification number. Each team member will stick this number above their sail numbers on both sides of the sail near the peak. Additionally, each team member will wear a distinguishable team pinnie over their lifejackets. Both the numbers and pinnies will be provided by the Organizing Authority at check-in.

3 ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

- 3.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the International Optimist Dinghy Class.
- 3.2 Each team shall consist of at least four sailors, with a maximum of five, but only four sailors shall sail in each race.

- 3.3 Competitors and teams must be in compliance with the Team Racing Eligibility requirements of the USODA. Paragraph 4 ‘Team Eligibility for Silver Fleet’ is deleted. Before log-in at www.usoda.org, click on USODA Regatta Calendar, then scroll down to the event and click on the Team Race Eligibility.
- 3.4 All competitors shall be members of their respective national class organization, such as the USODA and have been born on or after January 1, 2001. The OA may require satisfactory proof of such membership and age. Sailors who are not USODA members are invited to join USODA by selecting membership found in the left margin of www.usoda.org. Members of other IODA organizations and NCAs should contact USODA via email at usoda@usoda.org.
- 3.5 Each designated team captain shall enter using the USODA online registration system found in the Members Section of www.usoda.org. The designated team captain shall follow the instructions in the USODA “Team Management and Registration” system that is available on the “Regatta Central” sub-menu to first create a team before registering for the event. A minimum of four names must be submitted at time of registration for which the payment system will automatically charge \$600.00. There will be an option to add a 5th sailor for an additional charge of \$150. Each competitor and his or her parents shall ensure that the online waiver and the medical forms are current. A comprehensive step by step overview of how to create a team race team and then register the team for a USODA team race event is posted. *Teams must have completed and submitted all parts of the registration form and the names of the competitors on their team for their entry to be accepted.*
- 3.6 Substitutions: After the entry deadline the Organizing Authority may approve a request to substitute one competitor so long as it has no impact on seeding of teams, and all appropriate forms described in 3.6 are completed and submitted before check-in.

4 REGISTRATION & FEES

- 4.1 The entry fee will be US \$600 for a four person team, and \$750 for a five person team.
- 4.2 Entry forms must be completed on-line through USODA online registration system found in the Members Section www.usoda.org. Registration includes completing online registration including the Waiver and Medical form, and paying the entry fee.
- 4.3 **Registration will open on November 9, 2015 and close at 1900 hours CDT on December 20, 2015.** Teams must have completed all parts of the registration form and submitted the entry fee by 7 PM CDT Sunday, December 20, 2015. **Entries received after December 20, 2015 may be accepted solely at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.**

5 FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

- 5.1 The event will be a four-boat against four-boat team race. For those teams having five competitors, any four may compete in a race, and the fifth competitor shall remain in the area designated for coaches from the warning signal of that race until that race has been completed.
- 5.2 Teams shall register for either Gold Fleet or Silver Fleet by December 20, 2015. Based on the number of teams registered for each fleet, the PRO in conjunction with the USODA Representative and the Chief Umpire will determine the regatta format for Gold and Silver Fleets.
- 5.3 The regatta format will include one or more round robin series to arrive at a Gold Fleet of 8 teams that will race with the USODA team race sails in a Gold Round Robin series comprised of one or more round robins, followed by a knockout series among the top four ranked teams from the Gold Round Robin series.

- 5.4 The planned format will be specified in the sailing instructions and posted on the Official Notice Board by 1800 on January 15th.
- 5.5 The PRO, Chief Umpire and Class Representative may modify the format during the event in a fair and practical way taking into account the number entries, existing and predicted weather conditions, time constraints and any other relevant factors. This changes rule D4.2(a).

6 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January 15th

1700-1900 Check-in. Lifejacket and Protest flag inspection by Umpires

January 16th

0800-0930 Check-in. Lifejacket and Protest flag inspection by Umpires

Continental Breakfast

0930 Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting

1030 First Warning Signal

After racing Debrief with umpires

January 17th

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0830 Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting

0930 First Warning Signal

After racing Debrief with umpires

1800 Competitor Dinner - LYC

January 18th

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0830 Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting

0930 First Warning Signal

1430 No First Warning Signal after this time

Awards ASAP after racing

7 MEASUREMENT

- 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 approval of the Principal Race Officer.
- 7.2 Boats may be subject to a safety inspection at any time during the regatta.
- 7.3 The race and/or protest committee reserves the right to measure equipment and/or sails at any time regardless of whether it has been previously measured.
- 7.4 Each competitor shall submit an acceptable USODA Self-Certification Safety Form during the regatta site check-in. These forms shall inform the Race Committee that all equipment is present and in working order.

8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board and be available at check-in.

9 VENUE AND BERTHING

- 9.1 Racing will be held on Clear Lake.
- 9.2 All Optimist boats shall be kept at the LYC in the assigned area.

10 COURSES

The courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions and may include a starboard hand digital N, or a port 'box'.

11 SCORING

Scoring will be in accordance with Appendix D, except as modified by the Sailing Instructions.

12 UMPIRING AND PROTESTS

- 12.1 The Regatta will be umpired in accordance with Appendix D as modified by the Sailing Instructions. Some races may have more umpires than others as determined by the Chief Umpire in consideration of the stage of the event. If some races cannot be umpired, brief on-the-water expedited protest hearings will be held.
- 12.2 The required 'red' protest flag for competitors shall be attached to the sailor's lifejacket and it will be capable of being conspicuously displayed (waved) at full arm's length where it is easily visible to the protested boat and umpires, and then concealed when the incident is closed. The umpires recommend using a bungee cord to attach the flag.
- 12.3 Each competitor's protest flag, including method of attachment, and lifejacket shall be inspected and approved by the umpires during check-in time before the sailor can compete in the regatta.

13 SAFETY

- 13.1 In addition to the requirements of rule 40 and its US Prescription, a condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a US Coast Guard approved lifejacket properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing. Wet suits and dry suits do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. Inflatable lifejackets may not be worn.
- 13.2 Each competitor shall have a whistle attached to their lifejacket at all times while on the water.
- 13.3 Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of its bow line.

14 ADULT RESPONSIBILITY

- 14.1 An adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of each sailor. The adult is solely responsible 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 must 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 shall be responsible for them throughout the course of the event.
- 14.4 The designated adult will accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during an activity related to the Regatta. This includes on-shore activities before, during and after the Regatta.

15 SUPPORT BOATS

- 15.1 Each team is allowed one designated coach boat per 4 or 5 person team.
- 15.2 All coach boats shall register and shall prominently fly a flag provided by the regatta committee available at registration. It must be flown from a staff at all times while on the water. A \$20 security deposit will be required and returned at the end of the event with the return of your flag.
- 15.3 Each coach boat shall have a working VHF radio, a basic first aid kit, and an anchor capable of securely anchoring the boat in the racing waters.
- 15.4 The conduct of coaches, parents serving on race committee (including safety patrol), registered support boats, and all other boats including spectator boats will be governed by the Sailing Instructions.

16 PRIZES

Gold Fleet: 1st through 3rd place Teams based on final standings
Consolation: 1st through 3rd place Teams
Silver Fleet: 1st through 3rd place Teams

17 TROFEO MARCO RIZZOTTI QUALIFICATION

The top three U.S.A. teams meeting the Team Race Eligibility requirements from the Gold Fleet will qualify to represent the USODA at Trofeo Marco Rizzotti Team Race in Italy, June 2-5, 2016.

18 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 18.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race.
- 18.2 The Organizing Authority 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 competitors and their parents/guardian, in accordance with NOR 4.2.

19 LODGING

There are many hotels available a short distance from Lakewood Yacht Club. Special rates are available from: Springhill Suites by Marriott, Quality Inn & Suites Seabrook, and Hampton Inn Houston NASA-Johnson Space Center. Callers need to say they are with Lakewood Yacht Club Seahorse racers.

20 CONTACT INFO

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

Regatta Chair: Leigh Rhodes-Zittler, lrhodes-@cjmlaw.com, 713-446-8873

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www.lakewoodyachtclub.com

Event Website: <http://www.2016-usoda-tr-mids.com/>