



2015 USODA National Championship

July 23-26

Measurement and Check-In July 22nd

Hosted by Pensacola Yacht Club

NOTICE OF RACE

Posted March 31, 2015

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

The regatta will be organized by Pensacola Yacht Club (PYC) in conjunction with the U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (the “USODA”).

1. RULES

- 1.1. The 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, personal property of others, PYC, and the City of Pensacola.
- 1.3. Racing rules listed below will be changed as indicated. The changes will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions. The sailing instructions may also change other rules.
 - a. Rule 61 will be changed as follows: In rule 61.1(a), delete, “She shall display the flag until she is no longer racing,” and replace with, “Her protest flag shall be attached to the helmsmen’s lifejacket in a manner that allows it to be concealed before and then after it is displayed.” Rule 61.1(a)(2) is deleted. Add rule 61.5:

61.5 Informing the Race Committee (RC)

In addition to meeting the requirements of rule 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 boat of her intent to protest and the sail number of the boat(s) she is protesting.

- 1.4. Appendix P will apply. P2.2, “Second Penalty” will be 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 boat that she is retiring”. P2.3 will be deleted.

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 sponsor advertising chosen and supplied by the Organizing Authority (OA).

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. International Optimist Dinghies may enter by completing online registration and paying all entry fees.
- 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 23, 2015.
- 3.3. All competitors shall be members of their respective national class organization, such as the USODA and have been born on or after January 1, 2000. 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.

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 Friday, June 26, 2015.
 - b) A late fee of U.S. \$25 (\$235 total) shall be paid for registrations completed June 27 thru July 3.
 - c) An additional late fee of \$25 (\$260 total) shall be paid for registrations completed July 4 thru 5:00 pm CDT July 10.
- 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 on the online Waiver and Medical forms in order to be registered for the Event. Each competitor shall confirm they are registered by checking the registration list on the Event registration page. If a competitor is not listed as registered on the USODA website, then the competitor is not registered and the late fees described above will apply at the time of her completed registration. **Entry Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**
- 4.3. Registration will be closed **July 10, 2015 at 1700 hours CDT**.
- 4.4. Requests to register after 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. National Championship:

The intention is that the National Championship Series will have a two-day Qualifying Round followed by a two-day Medal Round. The duration and specific parameters of each Round will be fully described in the sailing instructions.

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. Each Sailor shall be present at check-in. The USODA Self-Certification Safety Checklist form is required to complete check-in.
- 6.2. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided to competitors on each scheduled race day.
- 6.3. Program and Schedule

Wednesday, July 22

1000-1900

Measurement, Competitor Check-in, and Coach/Spectator Flag Registration

Thursday, July 23

0745-0845 **Measurement by appointment ONLY** upon written request submitted to the RC by Saturday, July 18. Email measurement@usoda.org.

0800-0900 Late Competitor Check-in and Coach/Spectator Flag Registration
Continental Breakfast

0900 Opening Ceremonies – PYC

0930 Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting (Mandatory)

1100 First Warning Championship Fleet
Lunch on the Water

After Racing Welcome Dinner – PYC

Friday, July 24

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0900 Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting (Mandatory)

1000 First Warning Championship Fleet
Lunch on the Water

1 hour after Signal Boat Docks USODA Annual General Meeting – PYC

Saturday, July 25

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0900 Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting (Mandatory)

1000 First Warning Championship Fleet
Lunch on the Water

After Racing Dinner and Entertainment

Sunday, July 26

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0900 Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting (Mandatory)

1000 First Warning Championship Fleet
Lunch on the Water

1430 No First Warning Signal for the start of a new “set” of races after this time

After Racing Awards Ceremony – PYC

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.

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. Each competitor shall submit an acceptable USODA Safety Self-Certification Form during the regatta site check-in. This form shall inform the RC that all equipment is present and in working order.

- 7.3. **Equipment** previously measured and stickered 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. **All sails** shall be inspected and stamped by a Measurement Official with the Nationals signature regardless of previous regatta stamps or signatures.
- 7.5. Boats may be subject to a safety inspection at any time during the regatta.
- 7.6. 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.
- 7.7. Equipment not previously measured and approved by the USODA shall meet class measurement requirements prior to being available for use in the regatta.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Preliminary sailing instructions may be available online, and final official sailing instructions will be available onsite at check-in.

9. VENUE AND BERTHING

- 9.1. The racing area will be on Pensacola Bay.
- 9.2. All Optimist boats shall be kept at the Pensacola Yacht Club in the assigned area.

10. THE COURSE

The course will be included in the sailing instructions.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1. For the Qualifying Round only:

Pending approval from U.S. Sailing - In accordance with rule 70.5(a), decisions of the protest committee are final. US SAILING's permission has been granted. 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. Competitors may appeal decisions of the protest committee in the Medal Round.

- 11.2. The penalties for upheld breaches of certain sailing instructions and measurement infractions shall be a ten (10) point scoring penalty for the first infraction of any of them, and for subsequent infractions may be greater up to and including a DSQ at the discretion of the protest committee.

12. SCORING

- 12.1. The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply as revised by the sailing instructions which will specify the scoring for Qualifying and Medal Rounds; the National Championship; and the Age Group (Red, Blue, and White) Series.
- 12.2. A "Set" is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed. A boat's scores from races in incomplete "Sets" shall not be counted. This changes Rule A2.
- 12.3. One completed "Set" of races in the Qualifying Round will constitute the National Championship Series and Age Group Series.

13. PERSONAL BUOYANCY, WHISTLE, AND BOW LINE

- 13.1. In addition to the requirements of rule 40 and its US Sailing prescriptions, a condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a US Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD), or for international sailors only, a PFD approved by their country's corresponding authority, 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 PFDs may not be worn.
- 13.2. Each competitor shall have a whistle attached to their PFD at all times while on the water.
- 13.3. Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end its bow line.

14. SAFETY AND ADULT RESPONSIBILITY

- 14.1. An adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of their sailor. It is the responsibility solely 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, and each competitor shall indicate in writing the parent or adult representative that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.
- 14.3. 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. COACHES AND SUPPORT BOATS

- 15.1. One coach boat for every ten (10) sailors and fraction thereof from a sailing program may be registered. (For example a program with eleven sailors would be allowed to register two support boats.) **Requests for an additional coach boat shall be emailed to usoda@usoda.org by July 10, 2015 and are subject to OA approval.**
- 15.2. All coach boats shall register and shall promptly fly a flag provided by the OA during check-in. It must be flown from a staff at all times while on the water. A \$20 deposit will be required and returned at the end of the event with the return of the flag.
- 15.3. Each coach boat 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.
- 15.4. The conduct of coaches, parents serving on RC (including safety patrol), registered support boats, and all other boats including spectator boats will be governed by the sailing instructions.

16. PRIZES

National Championship Fleet - Prizes will be awarded based on a competitor's Championship Series Score.

Overall: 1st through 10th and Girls 1st through 3rd

Red Fleet: 1st through 10th

Blue Fleet: 1st through 10th

White Fleet: 1st through 10th

All Green Fleet participants shall receive Participation Awards.

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

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The OA 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.

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

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

USODA Class Measurer: Dennis Lojek, measurement@usoda.org

Regatta Chair: James Baus, 787-396-7097, jbaus@iccorppr.com

Pensacola Yacht Club

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

PYC General Manager: Jim Warwick, jwarwick@pyc.gccoxmail.com

Event Website: www.usoda2015nationals.com

Accommodations and Charter Boats: Information available on the Event Website.