



Dinghy Nationals  
3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2023  
Marsamxett, Malta

## Sailing instructions (SIs)

### ORGANISING AUTHORITY

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The Organising Authority for this event is the VIKINGS SAILING CLUB under the auspices of the Malta Sailing Federation (MSF). This regatta also classifies as a ranking event within the official Malta Sailing Federation ranking event calendar 2023.

### Abbreviations

<b>SP</b>	Rules for which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee without a hearing. This changes Racing Rule of Sailing 63.1 and A5.1.
<b>DP</b>	Rules for which the penalties are at the discretion of the Protest committee.
<b>NP</b>	Rules that are not ground for protest by a boat. This changes Racing Rule of Sailing 60.1 (a) and 63.1

## 1 RULES

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- 1.1** The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS).
- 1.2** The following Class rules and instructions shall also apply:
  - 1.2.1 The International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) class rules.
  - 1.2.2 The International Laser Class Association (ILCA) class rules.
  - 1.2.3 The International RS FEVA Class Association (IRSFCA) class rules.
  - 1.2.4 The International Topper Class Association (ITCA) rules
  - 1.2.5 The Sailing Instructions (SI), and any amendments there to. In the event of conflict, the SI shall take precedence over the Notice of Race. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3** No national authority prescriptions shall apply.
- 1.4** [DP] [NP] Adequate personal floatation devices shall be worn at all times whilst afloat. Rule 40.1 applies.



- 1.5** Rule 61.1 'Informing the Protestee' is changed as follows: Add to rule 61.1 (a) 'The protesting boat shall inform the Race Committee, of the boat/s being protested, at the finishing line immediately after finishing. If the boat retired before finishing, she shall inform the Race Committee via the Course boat closest to her at the same time as advising that she has Retired'.
- 1.6** [SP] [NP] Attention is being drawn to the 2023 Optimist Class Rule 4.2 (a), (b) & (c) - Bailers, Painters and Paddles. A standard penalty of one point in the first race of the day shall be imposed without a hearing on Optimist Class competitors found not to comply with this class rule. This changes RRS 63.1 and A 5.1.
- 1.7** RRS Appendix T Arbitration will apply and is changed as follows: A post-race penalty is a Scoring Penalty equal to 30% of the score for DNF, or 50 % of the difference between the boat's finishing position in the race and the score for DNF, whichever is less. The Scoring Penalty is calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c).
- 1.8** The language of the regatta will be English. If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

## 2 CODE OF CONDUCT

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- 2.1** Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable requests from a regatta official.
- 2.2** Competitors shall handle any boats or equipment provided by the organizing authority with proper care and seamanship, and in compliance with any written instructions.
- 2.3** [DP] Boats not racing shall avoid the area where boats are racing and any official boats.
- 2.4** The Organizing Authority may reduce or remove a prize in case of misconduct.

## 3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

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Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Online Notice Board 'ONB' located at <https://www.vikings.mt/races/2023nationals/>. Any notice will if possible be posted on the WhatsApp group (<https://chat.whatsapp.com/D86a1c3p30hF8BPRWCG4cK>), failure to do this will not be ground for redress.

## 4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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- 4.1** Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 9:30 on the day it will take effect.
- 4.2** Any change to the schedule of races will be posted before 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

## 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

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- 5.1** Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole at the Vikings Sailing Club Clubhouse.
- 5.2** When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP.
- 5.3** [NP][DP] Flag D displayed with one sound means: 'the warning signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after flag D is displayed.' Boats shall not leave their berthing places until this signal is made.

## 6 ADDITIONAL IDENTIFICATION - OPTIMIST BEGINNERS DIVISION

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[NP] [DP] Each competitor in the Optimist **Beginners Division** is required, for the duration of



the event, to display a **Green** ribbon permanently fixed and free to fly from the top of the sprit. This ribbon is supplied by the Race Office. No other optimist class may display a ribbon.

## 7 FORMAT OF RACING

The regatta will consist of a single series of races.

## 8 SCHEDULE OF RACES

8.1 The Schedule for the duration of the event is as follows:

Date	Time	Description
03/11/23	09:30	Coaches briefing
03/11/23	11:30	First Warning signal
04/11/23	TBA*	First Warning signal
05/11.23	TBA*	First Warning signal
<b>05/11/23</b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>Prize giving</b>

\*TBA=To be announced

8.2 A maximum of Four (4) races per day shall be sailed on any one day.

8.4 A maximum of nine races are planned for the whole event. One additional race per day may be sailed so as to make up for races not sailed or anticipate for adverse weather.

8.5 On the 3rd and 4th November 2023, no warning signal will be made after 16:00 hrs

8.6 On 5/11/23 no warning signal will be made after 15:00 hrs

## 9 CLASS FLAGS

### 9.1 OPTIMIST CLASSES:

Beginners Class –

International code flag '**Romeo**'

Senior and Cadet Class –

White with **Blue Opti Logo**.

### 9.2 ILCA CLASSES:

ILCA4

**Yellow Flag** bearing a **red** ILCA Class Logo

ILCA6 and ILCA 7

**Green Flag** bearing a **red** ILCA Class Logo

### 9.3 RS FEVA XL and Topper Classes:

Black Flag bearing Topper Logo

## 10 RACING AREAS

The racing area will be outside Sliema/Tigne seafront.

## 11 COURSES

11.1 The diagram in SI Appendix 1, shows the course(s), including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

## 12 MARKS

12.1 Marks 1, 2, 3p, 3s and 4 will be red automated marks

12.2 Mark 3A be a red automated mark and distinguished by having a wide green band in the



middle.

- 12.2** The starting line marks will be the race committee signal vessel on starboard end and race committee vessel at the port-end.
- 12.3** The finishing line marks will be:
- Optimist course: the race committee vessel at the starboard end and blue pencil mark at the port-end.
  - ILCA, RS FEVA and TOPPER course: the race committee signal vessel at the port-end and blue pencil mark at the starboard-end.

## 13 THE START

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- 13.1** The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the start committee vessel at the starboard end and a staff displaying an orange flag on the course side at the port-end of the starting vessel.
- 13.2** [NP] [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 13.3** [DP] [NP] Boats that have finished shall return directly to the starting area or ashore, keeping well clear of all boats still racing and of all boats whose warning signal has been made.
- 13.4** A boat that does not start within FOUR minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1.

## 14 THE FINISH

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- 14.1 ILCA/Topper/Feva.** The finishing line will be between a blue pencil mark on the starboard end and a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee vessel at the port end. See diagrams in Appendix 1
- 14.2 For Optimist only:** The finishing marks will between a blue pencil mark on the port end and a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee vessel at the starboard end.
- 14.3** [NP] [DP] Boats that have finished racing shall sail to the waiting area to the port of the pin end start boat well clear of the race course, without interfering with boats still racing or about to start in the racing area.

## 15 PENALTY SYSTEM

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- 15.1** RRS Appendix P will apply as changed by 15.2.
- 15.2** RRS P2.3 will not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one.
- 15.3** A list of boats that have been penalized for breaking RRS 42 under Appendix P will be posted.

## 16 TARGET TIMES

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- 16.1** Target Time for all Races is 45 Minutes.
- 16.2** Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 16.3** Race Time Limit for all races is 75 minutes.
- 16.4** Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.1.



## 17 PROTESTS AND REQUEST FOR REDRESS

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- 17.1** A boat, that intends to lodge a hearing request, shall report this to the race committee on the finishing line, immediately after finishing and shall hail her sail number. This is added to RRS 6.1. This shall take place IMMEDIATELY after finishing.
- 17.2** For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat, in that class, finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.3** Requests for hearings should preferably be submitted online through <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/documents/7445/event>. However that can also be submitted in writing at the race office. Forms shall be available at Race office. Requests for hearings must be delivered at the race office within the appropriate protest time limit.
- 17.4** Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at VSC, beginning at the time posted.
- 17.6** On the last day of the regatta a request for redress based on a PC decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the *party* was informed of the decision on that day.

## 18 SCORING

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- 18.1** Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a series
- 18.2** When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 18.3** When 4 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

## 19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

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- 19.1** [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 19.2** For each day of competition, the coaches or team leaders and individually registered sailors 18 years or over shall notify the Race Office of the boats not intending to race on the day.
- 19.3** [NP] [DP] No boats are to be launched before their respective class flag is displayed, see SI 5.3. "SIGNALS MADE ASHORE".
- 19.4** Competitors who require assistance shall blow a whistle or wave the paddle or one arm. The Race Committee reserves the right to assist competitors who in their opinion require assistance, regardless of the wishes of the competitor. This will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## 20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

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- 20.1** [DP] Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee.
- 20.2** [DP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorized in writing by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

## 21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

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- 21.1** A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice



of race and sailing instructions.

- 21.2** [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

## 22 [DP] SUPPORT TEAMS

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- 22.1** Support persons (Team leaders, coaches, parents, guardians and other support personnel), intending to use support boats, shall obtain accreditation from the Race Office, all support boats must be uniquely identified and **carry a functioning VHF radio, Ch 72 will be used.**
- 22.3** All support boats are obliged to render assistance in safety cover if called upon to do so by the race committee. See SI 22.5.
- 22.4** Support Boats shall not interfere, guide or communicate in any form or manner with boats racing. Support boats are to keep well clear, 100mts away from where boats are racing, from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment (See Appendix 1).
- 22.5** [DP] All boats associated with the infringing support boat may be penalized at the discretion of the Protest Committee, for the race on which the support personnel failed to comply with this instruction.
- 22.6** Competitors shall not approach any boat other than an official boat or registered support boat from their first warning signal of the day until they finish their last race for the day, or the Race Committee signal no more racing today, whichever is later.

## 23 TRASH DISPOSAL

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- 23.1** [DP] [NP] In addition to RRS 47, trash may be placed aboard support and official boats. Water bottles should be tied into boats to prevent loss during manoeuvres.

## 24 RADIO COMMUNICATION

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- 24.1** A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones, radios, hand or other visual or verbal signals from spectator boats or outsiders.
- 24.2** The only exception to SI 24.1 is in case of distress or safety situations that might arise whilst racing

## 25 TALLY SYSTEM

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The requirements of this SI are specified for the safety of competitors.

- 25.1** Each sailor shall be issued with a tally number at registration. A numbered Tally Board shall be sited near the launch site.
- 25.2** All coaches are to collect the numbered tally bands from the race office on all days of racing.
- 25.3** Each sailor is required before launching to wear the tally band conspicuously on their wrist before launching and while sailing. It must be returned immediately on returning to shore.
- 25.4** The scoring penalty for sailors who fail to tally out or in correctly shall be of **5 points for the nearest race of the day which is non discardable.** Sailors are individually responsible to see that their tally are returned by themselves, their team leader or coach.

## 26 TRACKERS

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- 26.1** Team leaders of coaches are to pick up trackers for their squad from the race office at 8.30am



on each day of racing

- 26.2** Trackers are to be returned to the race officer immediately after coming ashore for recharging.
- 26.3** Races may be followed on the trackers through <https://optitrack.co/>

## 27 PRIZES

- 27.1** Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the Notice of Race.

## 28 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 28.1** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk and responsibility. See RRS rule 3, 'Decision to Race'. 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.
- 28.2** The Organizing Authority and any other party involved in the organization of the regatta accept no liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, or claim whether personal or material, incurred by or inflicted to participants before, during or after the regatta.
- 28.3** The fact that the race committee will provide rescue boats will not remove from competitors the responsibility they have accepted by participating in this regatta.

## 29 INSURANCE

- 29.1** [NP] Insurance is mandatory. The owner or charterer of a boat intending to take part in the regatta shall hold a valid marine legal liability insurance policy with respect to the boat whilst racing.

## APPENDIX 1 - COURSES

Optimist Beginners	Optimist Senior & Cadet
Course 1. Start-1-2-3A- Opti Finish	Start-1-2-3S/3P - Opti Finish
ILCA	Topper/Feva
Start-1-2-3P -4-1-4- ILCA Topper FEVA Finish	Start-1-2-3P -4- ILCA Topper FEVA Finish



