



2021 Optimist Girls National Championship

July 22-25, 2021

Race Day: July 25

MANDATORY Equipment Inspection for all Competitors (See NoR 8 & 9)

**Hosted by Big Blue Sailing Academy at Old Dominion University
Norfolk, VA USA**

NOTICE OF RACE

Posted: May 13, 2021

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

The event will be organized by Big Blue Sailing Academy in conjunction with the U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (the "USODA"), collectively known as the organizing authority.

Competitors and *support persons* will be required to comply with all current local, state and federal guidelines related to COVID-19 while on the host club grounds or participating in racing. This includes, but is not limited to, any venue-specific requirements promulgated by the Notice of Race (NoR), Sailing Instructions (SI) or any amendments thereto. The organizing authority may terminate the event at any time if they observe significant disregard for any local, state or federal guidelines, or venue-specific requirements.

1 RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships (revised January 22, 2021) at http://d282wvk2qi4wzk.cloudfront.net/wb_editor_doc_1611358789446 applies.
- 1.3. The following US Sailing prescriptions do not apply: RRS 63.1 and RRS 63.2.
- 1.4. In all rules governing this championship:
 - a) [DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee and may be less than disqualification. See RRS Introduction, Notation.
 - b) [SP] denotes a rule which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee or technical committee without a hearing, or a discretionary penalty applied by the protest committee with a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
 - c) [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.5. [SP] [DP] A condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD), or for international competitors only, an appropriately sized PFD/buoyancy aid as approved for use in the competitor's country of origin. International competitors may be required to self-certify their PFD/buoyancy aid meets the requirements of this section. All PFDs/buoyancy aids shall be properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing. All PFDs must be suitable for the competitor's weight. Wet suits, dry



suits, and inflatable PFDs are not approved nor permitted as PFDs. Failure to wear a proper PFD will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. These changes are added to RRS 40.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available at <https://usoda.org/regatta/sZSiDK0QXw>.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The online notice board is located at <https://usoda.org/regatta/sZSiDK0QXw>.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to all boats of the International Optimist class that fulfill the eligibility requirements as defined in the USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships.
- 4.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing an entry online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/sZSiDK0QXw> by selecting 'Register Now' and providing all required competitor information, paying all required fees (as described in NoR 5, and electronically signing the USODA Waiver of Liability.
- 4.3 Each competitor shall confirm their entry by checking the Event Registration page. If a competitor is not listed on the USODA website, then the competitor is not entered. **Entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**
- 4.4 Each competitor shall complete their entry at the venue by submitting a signed USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist, USODA Sailor Code of Conduct and USODA Measurement Form during Measurement.
- 4.5 Online registration will close Wednesday, July 21 at 12:00 PM ET. Requests to enter after the online entry deadline are subject to approval by the organizing authority.

5 FEES

- 5.1 Entry fees are as follows:
- a) The entry fee is \$50 for applications received by July 4, 2021.
 - b) A late fee of \$25 (\$75 total entry fee) shall be paid for applications received July 5, 2021 through July 11, 2021.
 - c) An additional late entry fee of \$25 (\$100 total entry fee) shall be paid for applications received July 12, 2021 through 12:00 PM ET July 21, 2021.

6 ADVERTISING

- 6.1 [DP] Competitor advertising is permitted on the hull as per World Sailing Regulation 20.3.2 but as restricted by Class Rule 2.8.
- 6.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority. See World Sailing Advertising Code.

7 FORMAT

- 7.1 The Championship Fleet will race as one or more divisions depending on the number of entries. The process for allocating boats to divisions, if any, and the format will be specified in the SI.
- 7.2 There will not be a Green Fleet.



8 SCHEDULE

8.1 Program and Schedule

Thursday, July 22

1200-1800 Competitors welcome to arrive

Friday, July 23

1500-1800 Measurement, Competitor Check-in and Support Vessel Registration/Check-in

Saturday, July 24

1000-1800 Measurement, Competitor Check-in and Support Vessel Registration/Check-in

Sunday, July 25

0800-0900 Late Measurement and Check-in (by appointment only)

0900 Coaches' Meeting

0930 Competitors' Meeting

0945 Harbor Launch

1030 First Warning Signal

1630 No First Warning Signal for a race after this time

After Racing Awards ceremony at Big Blue Sailing Academy

8.2 Five (5) races are scheduled.

9 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

9.1 Competitors are allowed to use only one hull, daggerboard, rudder (with tiller and extension), mast, boom, sprit and sail during the event. Any change of equipment due to damage shall be authorized by the race committee.

9.2 Each boat shall submit a completed USODA Measurement Form online during Measurement. This form shall inform the technical committee that all equipment is present and in compliance with class rules.

9.3 Equipment previously measured and stickered with a USODA measurement decal, and which remains unaltered since that measurement, may be self-certified as part of the measurement process, as long as the measurement decal is clear and conspicuous.

9.4 All other equipment shall be measured and approved during measurement and have a USODA measurement decal applied.

9.5 All sails shall be dry and removed from the boom for inspection and stamped by the technical committee with the Girls Nationals signature regardless of previous event stamps or signatures.

9.6 Boats may be inspected at any time during the event.

10 VENUE

10.1 The racing area will be in the Elizabeth River near the mouth of the Lafayette River and east of Craney Island Reach.



11 THE COURSES

11.1 The courses to be sailed will be trapezoidal with details included in the sailing instructions.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 The USODA Graded Penalty System (GPS) will apply. The GPS will be defined in the sailing instructions.

12.2 RRS Appendix P applies.

12.3 RRS P2.3 does not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it applies to any penalty after the first one.

13 SCORING

13.1 One race or "Set" of races is required to constitute a series.

14 SAFETY

14.1 Each competitor shall complete a USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist prior to 1800 on Saturday, July 24. This checklist shall inform the race committee that all equipment is present and in working order.

14.2 Boats may be subject to a safety inspection at any time during the event.

14.3 Rule 40.1 will apply at all times while afloat.

14.4 [DP] A whistle shall be carried attached to their personal flotation device. (CR 4.2)

14.5 [DP] Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of the 8m (26ft 3in) painter. This is added to CR 4.3(b).

15 ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

15.1 All coaches, parents, guardians and 'designated adults' are support persons (See RRS definition *Support Person*).

15.2 In addition to the requirements of RRS 3 Decision to Race, an adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of their competitor. It is the responsibility of this adult to decide if their competitor 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.

15.3 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.

15.4 Each competitor shall indicate in writing at Registration the parent or adult representative that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.

15.5 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 event.

15.6 The organizing authority strongly recommends that each sailor have a support (coach or spectator) vessel on the race course throughout the event.

15.7 The organizing authority recommends there be at least one support vessel for every 10 sailors.

15.8 All support vessels shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/sZSiDK0QXw> by selecting 'Register Now' and paying a \$1 entry fee during registration (see NoR 8.1) and promptly display a numbered flag supplied by the organizing authority while on the water. A \$24 hold will be placed on the credit card provided as a security deposit for the flag.



- 15.9 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.
- 15.10 [DP] All support vessels shall be equipped with a functioning engine safety cut-out switch (kill switch) which shall remain attached to the operator at all times while the engine is running.
- 15.11 [DP] There shall be no unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) drone flight permitted above the racing area, waiting area, corridor, coach/spectator boat zones, start line or finish line.

16 BERTHING

[DP] Boats shall be kept in the assigned places while they are in the boat park.

17 RISK STATEMENT

- 17.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.
- 17.2 The organizing authority including the sponsors, the race committee, the officers, directors, employees and members of the Big Blue Sailing Academy, Old Dominion University, 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 event.

18 PRIZES

18.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

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

Maggie Wake Perpetual Trophy

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

19 QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- 19.1 This regatta is a 2022 USODA Team Trials Qualifying event.
- 19.2 The top 50% of the Fleet will receive invitations to compete in the 2022 Optimist Team Trials. In the case where competitors in the top 50% are not team trials eligible, additional competitors will be invited. In the case of series-ties for the last qualifying place, all tied competitors shall receive invitations.

20 FURTHER INFORMATION

Registration: USODA Executive Director, Beth Danilek, usoda@usoda.org, 609-510-0798

Regatta Chair: Mitch Brindley, mbrindle@odu.edu

Principal Race Officer: Bill Stump, billstump2002@aol.com

Chief Judge: Cliff Black, studiodelmar@sbcglobal.net



OPTI CHARTERS, VENDORS, POWERBOAT RENTALS & MORE

KO Sailing, 281-867-8200, kosailing@kosailing.com, <https://www.kosailing.com/charters/optimist-charters.html>

McLaughlin Boat Works, 423-875-0740, <http://optistuff.com>

Simmons Boatworks, 203-506-9333, rob@simmonsbw.com, <https://simmonsbw.com/>

Zim Sailing, charters@zimsailing.com, (401) 237-6117, www.zimsailing.com/charters

VENUE

Big Blue Sailing Academy at Old Dominion University

4551 Powhatan Avenue

Norfolk, VA 23529

757-683-3387

BBSA Website – www.bigbluesailingacademy.com

Event Websites: <https://usoda.org/regatta/sZSiDK0QXw>

Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/US-Opti-Sailing-138942536154313/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

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