



2024 Optimist US National Championship

Sandusky Sailing Club
in conjunction with
U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA)
(collectively known as the Organizing Authority)
July 22-30, 2024
Sandusky, OH USA

NOTICE OF RACE

1 RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#) will apply.
- 1.3. The US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.1 and RRS 63.2 do not apply.
- 1.4. [SP] denotes a rule which a standard penalty from the “USODA Graded Penalty System” 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 A5.1.
- 1.5. [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.6. [SP][DP] RRS 40.1 will apply at all times while afloat.
- 1.7. [DP][NP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable requests from an event official including reasonable actions to implement Covid-19 guidance, protocols or legislation. Such actions, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions. Failure to comply with requests may be considered misconduct.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available after **July 1, 2024** at <https://usoda.org/regatta/no2UnFcSO8>.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online notice board is located at <https://usoda.org/regatta/no2UnFcSO8>.

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/no2UnFcSO8> and providing all required competitor information, paying all required, 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 **online prior to** check-in at the venue. Entry is not complete until the competitor has submitted a signed USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist and USODA Sailor Code of Conduct.
- 4.5 Online applications will close Monday, July 15 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 \$340 for applications received by June 29, 2024.
- b) A late fee of \$25 (\$365 total entry fee) shall be paid for applications received June 30, 2024 through July 6, 2024.
- c) An additional late entry fee of \$25 (\$390 total entry fee) shall be paid for applications received July 7, 2024 through 12:00 PM ET July 15, 2024.

6 ADVERTISING

6.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

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 and the format will be specified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 7.2 There will be a Green Fleet if at least five (5) boats are registered by the initial deadline. See Green Fleet Addendum D for more information and schedule.

8 SCHEDULE

8.1 Program and Schedule

Saturday, July 20 – Sunday, July 21

All Day Competitors Welcome to Arrive

Monday, July 22

1500-1800 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in

Thursday, July 25

1500-1800 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in

Friday, July 26

1500-1800 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in

TBD Welcome Dinner for All Competitors & Girls Nationals Awards

Saturday, July 27

0800 Coaches' Meeting

0815 Competitors', Coaches' and Parents' Meeting

0830 Harbor Launch



1000	First Warning Signal
After Racing	Snacks
Sunday, July 28 – Monday, July 29	
0800	Coaches' Meeting
0830	Harbor Launch
1000	First Warning Signal
After Racing	Snacks
Tuesday, July 30	
0800	Coaches' Meeting
0830	Harbor Launch
1000	First Warning Signal
1400	No Warning Signal for a race or "Set" of races after this time
After Racing	Awards Ceremony

8.2 Twelve (12) "Sets" of races are scheduled. Three (3) "Sets" of races are scheduled for each day of racing, however up to four (4) "Sets" of races may be sailed in one day providing the championship never gets more than one "Set" of races or races ahead of schedule. A "Set" is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed.

9 [SP] EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

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

10 VENUE

10.1 NoR Addendum A shows the location of the racing area on Sandusky Bay.

11 THE COURSES

11.1 The courses to be sailed will be described in the sailing instructions.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 In accordance with rule 70.5(a), the intention is that decisions of the protest committee are final. US Sailing's permission has been requested.

12.2 The "USODA Graded Penalty System" will apply and is attached as Addendum B. Percentage penalties will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.

12.3 RRS Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, will apply and is changed as follows: 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.

13.2 Rule 90.3(e) will be in effect. There shall be no changes to race or series scores, including the correction of errors, initiated more than 24 hours after the reasons outlined in rule 90.3(e)(1), (2) or (3.).



14 SAFETY

- 14.1 Each competitor shall complete a USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist prior to **1700 on July 26**.

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, a *Support Person* 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 or guardians not personally attending any part of the event shall ensure that another *Support Person* is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their sailor.
- 15.4 Each competitor shall designate, in writing at Registration, the *Support Person* that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.
- 15.5 The designated *Support Person* shall accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes onshore 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 racecourse 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/register/regatta/no2UnFcSO8/class> and pay a \$1 entry fee. A numbered flag, supplied by the organizing authority, shall be displayed at all times while on the water. A \$24 hold will be placed on the credit card provided as a security deposit for the flag.
Note: Support Vessels only need to register one time. This registration will cover all 3 national championship events.
- 15.9 [DP] Each support vessel shall have a working VHF radio monitoring the designated race committee channel, 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 unauthorized unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) drone flight permitted above the racing area, waiting area, corridor, coach/spectator boat zones, start line or finish line.

16 CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

- 16.1 A chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of her class rules, provided that the race committee has approved her sail identification before the first race.



17 BERTHING

- 17.1 [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places on the south lawn of the Sandusky Sailing Club.
- 17.2 [DP] Support person vessels shall be kept **at Meigs Street Pier**.
- 17.3 To arrange for storage outside of the event period, contact the Race Office at regattas@sanduskysailingclub.com.

18 RISK STATEMENT

- 18.1 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.**
- 18.2 The organizing authority including the sponsors, the race committee, the officers, directors, employees and members of the **Sandusky Sailing Club**, 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.

19 PRIZES

- 19.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

Gold Fleet:

- Overall: 1st through 5th (or 10th if over 100 sailors registered by the first entry deadline)
- Red Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 100 sailors registered by the first entry deadline)
- Blue Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 100 sailors registered by the first entry deadline)
- White Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 100 sailors registered by the first entry deadline)
- Girls: 1st through 3rd

Silver Fleet:

- Overall: 1st through 5th.

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 organizing authority and may be based on criteria other than the event.

20 QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- 20.1 This regatta is a **2025** USODA Team Trials Qualifying event. The top 50% of the Championship Fleet (based upon the total number of boats registered in both the Championship and Green fleets) will receive invitations to compete in the **2025** 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.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

Registration: USODA Executive Director, Beth Danilek, usoda@usoda.org

Regatta Chair: Jay Austin, regattas@sanduskysailingclub.com

Principal Race Officer: Bill Stump

Protest Committee Chair: Jerry Thompson

Technical Committee Chair: John Buziak

OPTI CHARTERS, VENDORS, POWERBOAT RENTALS & MORE

Club Boat Charter Co., clubboatcharterco@gmail.com, (434) 989-8137

Professional Boats, www.professionalboats.com, 321-946-2572

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

US One-Design/Sail McLaughlin, www.sailmclaughlin.com, (508) 827-7902

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

Event Website: <https://usoda.org/regatta/no2UnFcSO8>

Host Website – <https://www.2024optinationals.com/>

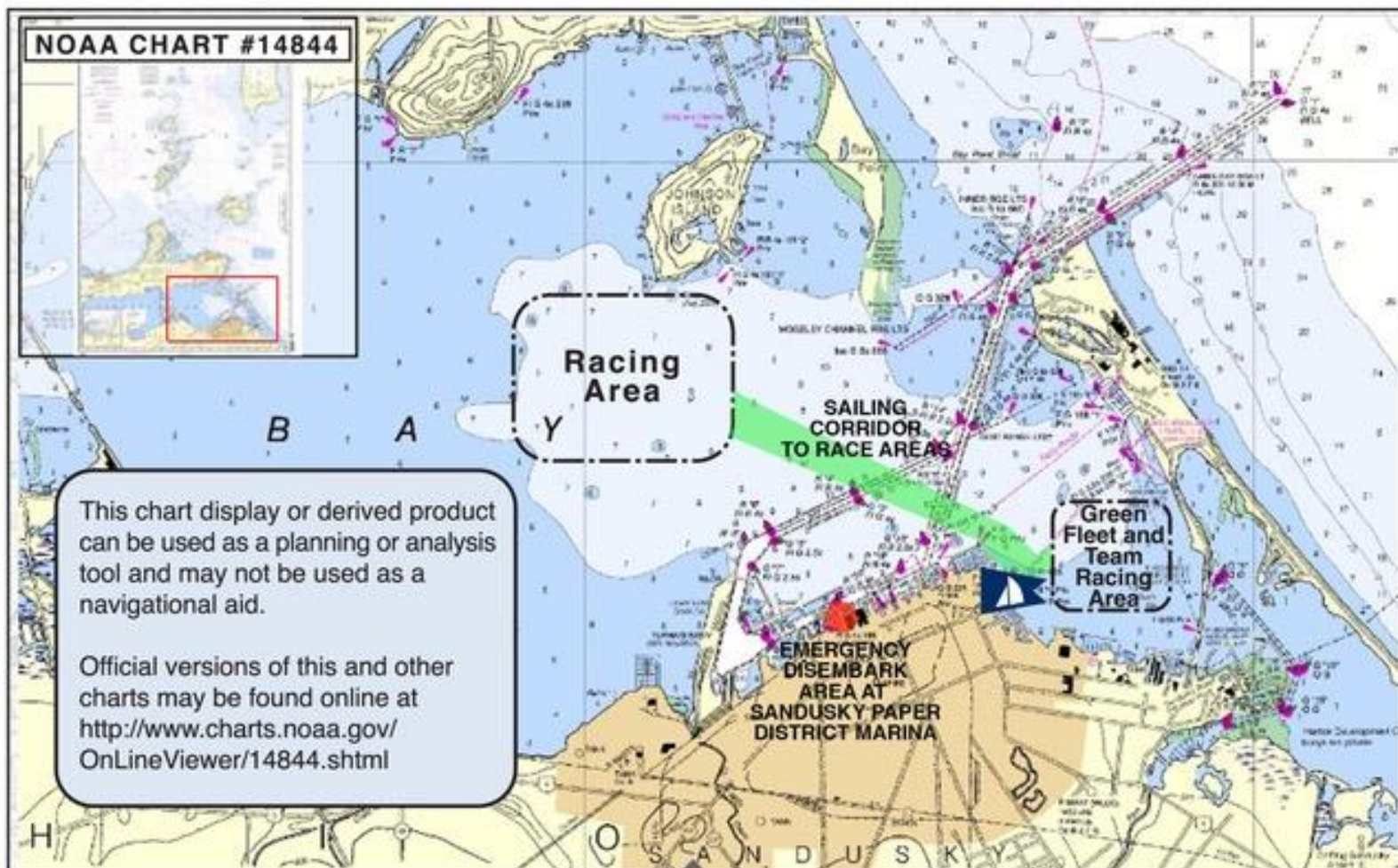
Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/US-Opti-Sailing-138942536154313/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

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



Addendum A: Racing Area

RACING AREA





Addendum B – USODA Graded Penalty System

Graded Penalty System – Percentage Penalties rounded up to the next whole number

Penalties apply to the race of infringement; otherwise, to the first race of the day.

1. Minor SI penalties

Penalty approximately equal to 5% of fleet

- a) Not displaying the assigned colored division streamer
- b) Launching before 'Harbor Launch' signal
- c) Failure to return promptly to waiting area after finishing
- d) Failure to report penalty taken
- e) Failure to comply with Safety Check-Out/Check-In procedures

2. Minor class rule penalties and intermediate SI penalties

Penalty approximately equal to 10% of fleet

- a) Bailer/paddle/daggerboard/painter not correctly attached to hull (CR 4.3)
- b) Painter not attached to mast step (CR 4.3 (b))
- c) Whistle not attached to personal flotation device (CR 4.2 (a))
- d) Distance between edge of sail and mast and/or boom at one eyelet 15mm or more (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- e) Distance between edge of sail and mast and/or boom at two eyelets 13mm or more (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- f) Loss of sail tie (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- g) Clearance between span and boom between 101 mm and 115 mm (CR 3.5.3.8)
- h) Ring(s) on span of boom slipping (CR 3.5.3.8)
- i) Sailing across a race in progress before starting or after finishing (RRS 24.1)
- j) Out of the waiting area
- k) Breaches of SI 23, Support Teams

3. Intermediate class rule penalties

Penalty approximately equal to 30% of fleet

- a) No bailer, paddle or painter in boat (CR 4.3)
- b) No whistle (CR 4.2)
- c) Lanyard, locking device or other arrangement used to attach mast to the hull not in position (CR 3.5.2.11)
- d) Sail outside limits of bands (CR 3.5.2.7 and CR 6.6.3.1)
- e) Distance between edge of sail and mast and/or boom at two eyelets 15mm or more (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- f) Distance between edge of sail and mast and/or boom at three or more eyelets 13mm or more (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- g) Clearance between span and boom more than 120 mm (CR 3.5.3.8)
- h) Edge of sail at throat, tack or clew eyelet positioned 3 mm or more from mast and/or boom (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- i) Failure to report for measurement after finishing
- j) Failing on-water measurement inspection
- k) Failure to wear an approved PFD
- l) Repeated infringement of Section 1 or Section 2 penalties, above

4. Major class rule penalties (as per RRS)

Penalty up to DSQ – requires Protest Hearing

- a) All RRS, except as amended
- b) All SI, including amendments, except as specified above
- c) Use of uninspected equipment
- d) Use of unapproved fittings
- e) Repeated infringement of Section 3 penalties, above



Addendum C: Green Fleet

1. Green Fleet Policy and Rules

- 1.1. Green Fleet will be run in accordance with the rules and policies outlined by the USODA. This includes the following:
- 1.2. Sailors are expected to use IODA class compliant equipment. However, Green Fleet sailors are exempted from the measurement process.
- 1.3. Active coaching during racing is allowed and encouraged for the back 50% of the fleet. Coaches on the Green Fleet course agree to help any sailor in need of assistance or coaching, not just their own.
- 1.4. Sailors will be expected to attend the morning and post racing briefings as outlined in the schedule.
- 1.5. Protests are not allowed, although a mock protest may be carried out for educational purposes.
- 1.6. Informal results may be kept and displayed on shore, but no prizes shall be awarded based on results. All competitors shall receive a Green Fleet participation medallion.

2. Green Fleet Entry Fees

- 2.1. Green Fleet sailors receive a discounted entry fee. This fee includes the same social events and meals as the standard entry fee. The entry for Green Fleet is \$320.

3. Green Fleet Schedule

- 3.1. Green Fleet will be using the following daily schedule. The schedule is approximate and is dependent on the wind conditions and the Championship Fleet schedule.

Schedule

Saturday, July 27 – Tuesday, July 30

0900	Arrival/Rigging
0930	Green Fleet Briefing
1000	Green Fleet Launch
1030-1430	Racing
1500	De-Rig/Post Racing Briefing
1530	Dismissal

4. Racing Format

An effort will be made to complete as many short 15 minute races as practicable. The Green Fleet course will be **on Sandusky Bay off the Sandusky Sailing Club breakwater**. This will provide excellent spectating and a short transit to/from the race course.