



# 2024 Optimist Girls National Championship

Sandusky Sailing Club  
in conjunction with  
U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA)  
(collectively known as the Organizing Authority)  
July 25-26, 2024  
City State USA

## NOTICE OF RACE

### 1 RULES

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- 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

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- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available after **July 1, 2024** at <https://usoda.org/regatta/elvEk5k7z>.

### 3 COMMUNICATION

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- 3.1. The online notice board is located at <https://usoda.org/regatta/elvEk5k7z>.

### 4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

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- 4.1. The event is open to **female skippered 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/elvEk5k7z> 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

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- 5.1 Entry fees are as follows:
- a) The entry fee is \$70 for applications received by June 29, 2024.
  - b) A late fee of \$15 (\$85 total entry fee) shall be paid for applications received June 30, 2024 through July 6, 2024.
  - c) An additional late entry fee of \$15 (\$100 total entry fee) shall be paid for applications received July 7, 2024 through 12:00 PM ET July 15, 2024.

## 6 ADVERTISING

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

## 7 FORMAT

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- 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 not be a Green Fleet.

## 8 SCHEDULE

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- 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**

0800 Coaches' Meeting

0815 Competitors Meeting

0830 Harbor Launch

1000 First Warning Signal

After Racing Awards Ceremony and Welcome Dinner for All Competitors

- 8.2 Five (5) races are scheduled.



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## 9 [SP] EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

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

## 10 VENUE

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

## 11 THE COURSES

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

## 12 PENALTY SYSTEM

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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 C. 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

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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

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14.1 Each competitor shall complete a USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist prior to **0800 on Friday, July 26**.

## 15 ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

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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 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

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- 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

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- 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](mailto:regattas@sanduskysailingclub.com).

## 18 RISK STATEMENT

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- 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 **OA**, 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

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- 19.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

Championship Fleet

Overall: 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> (or 10<sup>th</sup> if over 100 sailors registered by first deadline)

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Red Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> (or 5<sup>th</sup> if over 100 sailors registered by first deadline)  
Blue Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> (or 5<sup>th</sup> if over 100 sailors registered by first deadline)  
White Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> (or 5<sup>th</sup> if over 100 sailors registered by first deadline)

### *Maggie Wake 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**

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- 20.1 This regatta is a **2025** USODA Team Trials Qualifying event. The top 50% of the Girls Fleet 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**

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**Registration:** USODA Executive Director, Beth Danilek, [usoda@usoda.org](mailto:usoda@usoda.org)

**Regatta Chair:** Jay Austin, [regattas@sanduskysailingclub.com](mailto: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](mailto:clubboatcharterco@gmail.com), (434) 989-8137

Professional Boats, [www.professionalboats.com](http://www.professionalboats.com), 321-946-2572

Simmons Boatworks, 203-506-9333, [rob@simmonsbw.com](mailto:rob@simmonsbw.com), <https://simmonsbw.com/>

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

Zim Sailing, [charters@zimsailing.com](mailto:charters@zimsailing.com), (401) 237-6117, [www.zimsailing.com/charters](http://www.zimsailing.com/charters)

Event Website: <https://usoda.org/regatta/elvEk5kJ7z>

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

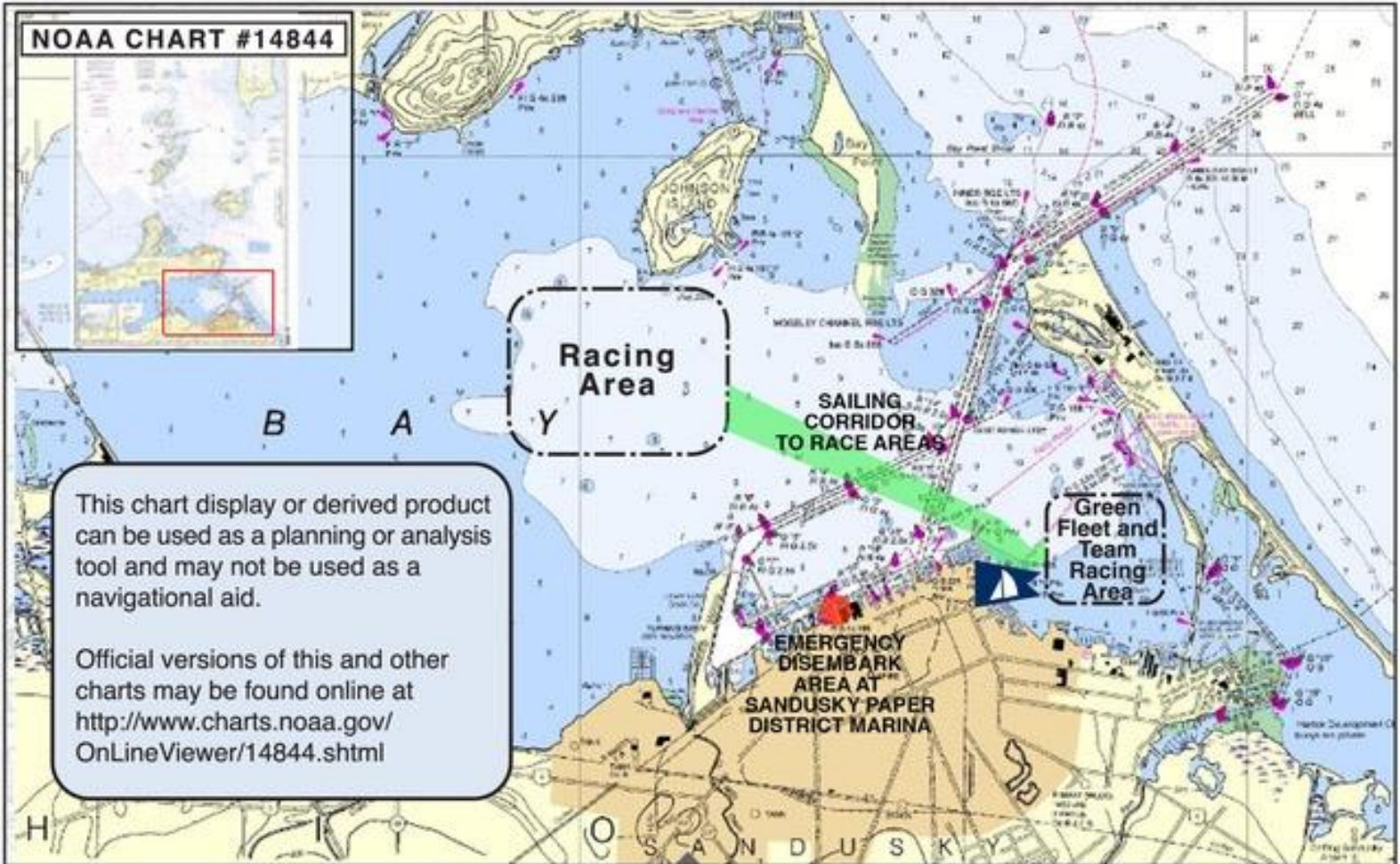
Facebook - [https://www.facebook.com/US-Opti-Sailing-138942536154313/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/US-Opti-Sailing-138942536154313/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)

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