



2024 Optimist Team Race National Championship

Sandusky Sailing Club
in conjunction with U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA)
(collectively known as the Organizing Authority (OA))
July 23-25
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 Regattas and Championships \(revised January 12, 2022\)](#) will apply
- 1.3 The US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.1 and 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.
- 1.8 Appendix D, Team Racing Rules, will apply with the following changes. Other changes may be made in the Sailing Instructions (SI):
 - a) RRS D1.1(d) is deleted (“arm signals”).
 - b) RRS D1.2(c) is replaced with: “A boat intending to request redress for an incident in the racing area, or protest for an alleged breach of a rule other than a rule of Part 2, RRS 31, RRS 42, RRS D2.5, or marked **[NP]** per NoR 1.5 shall, at the first reasonable opportunity after she finishes, inform the race committee at the finishing line of her intent to protest or request redress and, when applicable, identify the protested boat.”
 - c) RRS D3.1(e)(3) also applies when the protest committee determines that a boat’s support person has broken a rule and, as a result, the support person’s team has gained a competitive advantage.
 - d) RRS D2.2(c) is replaced with: “An umpire shall decide whether to penalize any boat that broke a rule, is not exonerated, and did not take an appropriate penalty.”
 - e) RRS D2.2(d) is deleted
- 1.9 Appendix U Audible-Signal Racing System, a US Sailing prescription, will apply as modified by the SI.
- 1.10 RRS 66.2 is changed: A party to a hearing may not ask for a reopening.



2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI)

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available after **July 1, 2024**, at <https://usoda.org/regatta/Ak5VfBg9hc>.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The online notice board is located at <https://usoda.org/regatta/Ak5VfBg9hc>.

4 ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

- 4.1 The regatta 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 Each team shall consist of at least four (4) competitors, with a maximum of five (5), but only four (4) competitors will sail in each race.
- 4.3 Competitors and teams shall be in compliance with the Team Racing Eligibility requirements outlined in section 7 of the [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships. \(revised January 12, 2022\)](#).
- 4.4 The number of teams will be capped at 26. The organizing authority may increase the number of teams in its sole discretion.
- 4.5 Registration will take place in two steps:
- a) Team Application
- 4.5.a.1. Coaches shall submit a [Team Application](#) for their team(s) from February 1, 2024 through May 1, 2024. Individual competitor names are not required at this time.
- 4.5.a.2. As of midnight ET on May 1, 2024, if 26 or fewer teams have submitted Team Applications, all teams will be accepted. If more than 26 teams have submitted Team Applications, teams meeting the eligibility requirements in Section 7.3.1 of the USODA Conditions will be considered first, and teams requesting multiple entries may be limited to allow other teams the opportunity to participate. A waitlist of teams not initially accepted will be maintained and posted on the USODA Event Website.
- 4.5.a.3. The entry fee for accepted teams must be paid within 48 hours. Teams not paying their entry fee within 48 hours will forfeit their spot to the next team on the waiting list (if any). **Entry Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**
- 4.5.a.4. Team Applications received after June 20, 2024, are subject to approval by the organizing authority and subject to a late fee of \$150.
- b) Competitor Registration
- 4.5.b.1. Teams who have paid their entry fee per NoR 4.5.a.3. will be added as a dropdown option for sailors to choose when they register. Each competitor shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/Ak5VfBg9hc> under the 'Sailor Registration' class, providing all required competitor information and electronically signing the USODA Waiver of Liability no later than July 15, 2022.



4.5.b.2. 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.

4.6 Substitutions: Approval of the organizing authority is required to substitute a competitor on a team. Any requested substitutions must meet the eligibility requirements of NoR 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3, and comply with NoR 5.6(b)(ii) and 5.6(b)(iii) before the first scheduled race.

5 FEES

5.1 Team entry fees must be paid within 48 hours of acceptance:

- a) The entry fee is \$1160 for a 4-person team and \$1450 for a 5-person team for teams who applied before June 20, 2024.
- b) An additional late fee of \$150 shall be paid for teams who applied after June 20, 2024.

6 ADVERTISING

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

6.2 [DP][SP] Each team member will be issued an individual team identification number (TIN) which shall be applied as instructed by the Organizing Authority. Additionally, each team member will wear a distinguishable team pinnie over their PFDs. **Teams may wear their own pinnies, which shall include clear team identification on the front and back. Teams who do not have their own pinnies will be issued pinnies by USODA at check-in.**

7 FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

- 7.1 The event will be a four-boat against four-boat team race. For those teams having five competitors, any four may compete in a race, and the fifth competitor shall remain in the area designated for coaches from the warning signal until that race has been completed.
- 7.2 Based on the number of teams registered, the Principal Race Officer in conjunction with the USODA Representative and the Chief Umpire will determine the regatta format.
- 7.3 The planned format will be specified in the SI and posted on the official notice board by 1800 on July 22, 2024.
- 7.4 The Principal Race Officer, with concurrence from the Chief Umpire and Class Representative, may modify the format during the event in a fair and practical way considering the number entries, existing and predicted weather conditions, time constraints and any other relevant factors, to bring the event to a conclusion. This replaces RRS D4.2(b).

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



Tuesday, July 23

0800-0900	Mandatory Competitor Check-In and Support Vessel Registration
0830	Coaches' Meeting
0845	Umpire Briefing for Competitors
0900	Harbor Launch
1000	First Warning Signal

Wednesday, July 24

0800	Coaches' Meeting
0815	Umpire Briefing for Competitors
0900	Harbor Launch
1000	First Warning Signal

Thursday, July 25

0800	Coaches' Meeting
0815	Umpire Briefing for Competitors
0900	Harbor Launch
1000	First Warning Signal
1600	No start after this time
After Racing	Awards

9 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 in Sandusky Bay off the Sandusky Sailing Club breakwater

11 COURSE

11.1 The course will be a starboard hand digital N as described in the SI.

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 (GPS) will apply and is attached as Addendum B. Percentage penalties will be rounded up to the nearest whole number..

13 SCORING

13.1 Scoring will be in accordance with Appendix D, as modified by the SI.

14 UMPIRING AND PROTESTS



- 14.1 The Regatta will be umpired in accordance with Appendix D rule D2. Some races may have more umpires than others as determined by the Chief Umpire in consideration of the stage of the event.
- 14.2 The required 'red' protest flag for competitors shall be attached to the competitor's PFD and be capable of being conspicuously displayed (waved) at full arm's length where it is easily visible to the protested boat and umpires, and then concealed when the incident is closed. The umpires recommend using a bungee cord, that when stretched exceeds the length of the competitor's arm, to attach the flag to the competitor's PFD.

15 SAFETY

- 15.1 Each competitor shall complete a USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist prior to July 23, 2024.

16 ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

- 16.1 All coaches, parents, guardians and 'designated adults' are *support persons* (See RRS definition *Support Person*).
- 16.2 In addition to the requirements of RRS 3, 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.
- 16.3 Parents not personally attending any part of the event must ensure that another adult is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their competitor.
- 16.4 Each competitor shall indicate in writing at Check-In the parent or adult representative that shall be responsible for them throughout the course of the event.
- 16.5 The designated adult will 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.
- 16.6 **A designated adult for each team using USODA pinnies shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/Ak5VfBg9hc> (Class "Pinnie Deposit") and provide a credit card (by paying \$1) for the pinnie security deposit. If all pinnies are not returned at the end of the event, \$150 will be charged to the credit card provided.**
- 16.7 Each team is allowed one designated coach vessel per 4 or 5-person team.
- 16.8 All support vessels shall register online at <https://usoda.org/register/regatta/no2UnFcSO8/class> (Class "Coach/Spectator) by selecting 'Register Now' and paying a \$1 entry fee during registration. A numbered flag, supplied by the organizing authority, shall be displayed at all times while on the water. A \$25 fee will be charged to the credit card if the flag is not returned at the end of the event. **Note: Support Vessels only need to register one time. This registration will cover all 3 national championship events.**
- 16.9 [DP] 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.
- 16.10 [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.
- 16.11 [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.



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 officials, 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 regatta.

19 PRIZES

- 19.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

Gold Fleet: 1st through 3rd place Teams
Gold Consolation or Silver Fleet: 1st through 3rd place Teams

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

20 QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- 20.1 The top two USA teams meeting the Team Race Eligibility requirements from the Gold Fleet will qualify to represent the USODA at Opti Cup Berlin in October, 2024.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Regatta Chair: Jay Austin, regattas@sanduskysailingclub.com

Principal Race Officer: Bill Stump

Chief Umpire: Rob Overton

Event Website: <https://usoda.org/regatta/Ak5VfBg9hc>

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

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/USOptiSailing/?ref=bookmarks>

Twitter: @USOptiSailing

OPTI & RIB CHARTERS & VENDORS



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

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

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

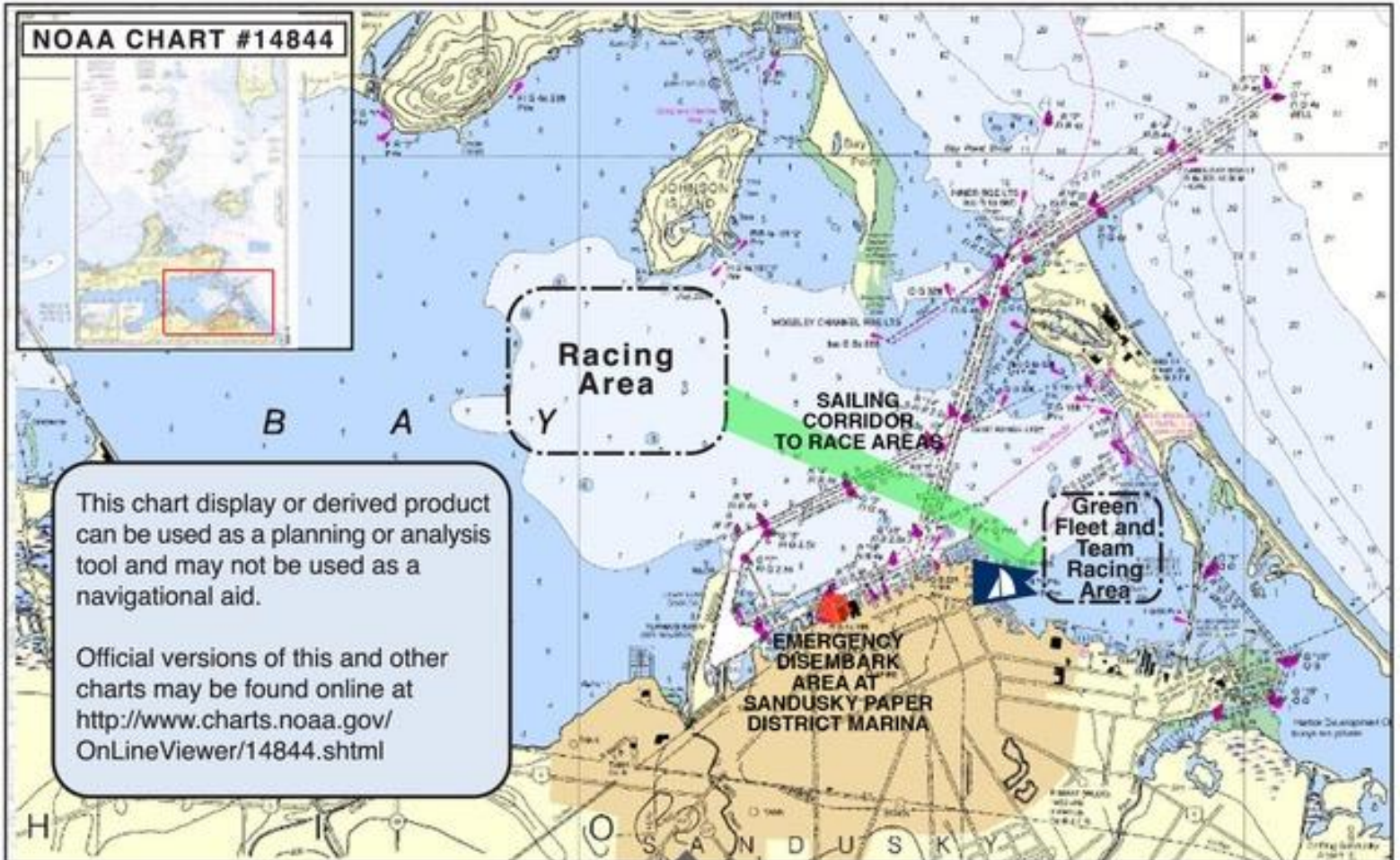
US One-Design/Sail McLaughlin, www.sailmclaughlin.com, (508) 827-7902

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



Addendum A: Racing Area

RACING AREA





Addendum B – USODA Graded Penalty System – Team Racing

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

1. Minor SI penalties - Penalty 1 point

- a) Not displaying the assigned team identification number (TIN) (SI 4.4)
- b) Launching before 'Harbor Launch' signal (SI 6.3)
- c) Failure to return promptly to waiting area after finishing (SI 14.2)

2. Minor class rule (CR) and intermediate SI penalties - Penalty 1 point

- 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 (SI 12.5)
- k) Failure to comply with Safety Check-Out/Check-In procedures (SI 18.1 and 18.2)
- l) Breaches of SI 21, Support Person Regulations

3. Intermediate CR and SI penalties - Penalty 3 points

- 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 wear an approved PFD
- j) Repeated infringement of Section 1 or Section 2 penalties, above

4. Major CR and SI penalties (as per RRS) - Penalty 6 points

- 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