



2017 USODA National Championship

July 31 – August 3

Measurement and Check-In July 30th

Hosted by Big Blue Sailing Academy at Old Dominion University

NOTICE OF RACE

Posted April 28, 2017

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

The regatta will be organized by Big Blue Sailing Academy (“BBSA”) in conjunction with the U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (the “USODA”), *collectively* known as the organizing authority (OA).

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2. “USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships,” including the USODA ‘Code of Conduct,’ will apply, and can be found at www.usoda.org. Competitors and all *Support Persons*, as defined by RRS, shall abide by the USODA ‘Code of Conduct.’ This includes behavior both on and off the water including respect for all other persons, personal property of others, Old Dominion University (ODU), Norfolk Yacht and Country Club (NYCC), and the City of Norfolk, VA.
- 1.3. Rule 61 is changed as follows:
 - (a) The red protest flag required in Rule 61.1(a) shall be attached to the sailor’s lifejacket in a manner that allows it to be concealed before it is needed and after the protested boat has acknowledged her foul.
 - (b) Rule 61.1(a)(2) is deleted.
 - (c) The following new rule is added to rule 61:

61.5 Informing the Race Committee

In addition to meeting the requirements of rule 61.1, a boat intending to protest another boat concerning an incident in the racing area that she is involved in or sees shall, at the first reasonable opportunity after she finishes, notify the race committee measurement boat of her intent to protest and the sail number of the boat(s) she is protesting.

- 1.4. Appendix P will apply. P2.2, “Second Penalty” will be changed to, “Second and Subsequent Penalties.” There will also be an addition to the end of the first sentence, “unless her penalty is signaled after she finishes, in which case she shall promptly notify the race committee measurement boat that she is retiring.” P2.3 will be deleted.
- 1.5. In addition to the requirements of RRS 40 and its US Sailing prescription, a condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a U.S. Coast Guard approved lifejacket, or for international competitors only, a lifejacket approved by their country’s corresponding national authority, properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing. All lifejackets must be suitable for the competitor’s weight. Wet suits, dry suits, and



inflatable lifejackets do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. Failure to wear a proper lifejacket will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. This changes RRS 40 and RRS Part 4 Preamble.

2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1. Advertising is restricted per World Sailing Regulation 20.5.1, 20.4 and Table 1.
- 2.2. Boats will be required to display sponsor advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. International Optimist Dinghies may enter by completing online registration and paying all entry fees, and completing the Measurement Form and the USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist.
- 3.2. The Red, Blue and White Fleet assignments will be based on the competitor's age on the first day of the regatta July 31, 2017.
- 3.3. All competitors shall be members of their respective National Class Association (NCA), such as the USODA and have been born on or after January 1, 2002. The OA may require satisfactory proof of such membership and age. Competitors who are not USODA members are invited to join USODA by selecting Membership found in the left margin of www.usoda.org. Members of other IODA organizations and NCAs need to email usoda@usoda.org for a login ID and password.

4. REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FEES

- 4.1. All entry fees shall be paid during online registration at www.usoda.org.
 - a) The entry fee is U.S. \$210 if paid by Friday, June 30, 2017.
 - b) A late fee of U.S. \$25 (\$235 total) shall be paid for registrations completed July 1 through July 7.
 - c) An additional late fee of \$25 (\$260 total) shall be paid for registrations completed July 8 through 1700 EDT July 14.
- 4.2. Registration shall be done on-line at www.usoda.org in the Members Only area accessed via login ID and password. Competitors shall have completed **all** parts of the online registration including completion on the online Waiver and Medical forms in order to be registered for the event. Each competitor shall confirm they are registered by checking the entry list on the Event Registration page. If a competitor is not listed on the USODA website, then the competitor is not registered and the late fees described above will apply. **Entry Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**
- 4.3. Registration will be closed **July 14, 2017 at 1700 hours EDT.**
- 4.4. Requests to register after registration is closed are subject to approval by the OA.

5. FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

- 5.1. There will be a Championship Fleet and there will be a Green Fleet. The Green Fleet is intended for less experienced sailors and will include opportunities for learning and competition.
- 5.2. National Championship:

The intention is that the National Championship Series will have a two-day Qualifying Round followed by a two-day Final Round for the Championship Fleet. The duration and specific parameters of each Round will be fully described in the sailing instructions.



6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. Each Sailor shall be present at Check-In. The USODA Measurement Form and USODA Self-Certification Safety Checklist are required to complete Check-In.
- 6.2. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided to competitors on each scheduled race day. Lunch will be available for pickup prior to the harbor start.
- 6.3. Program and Schedule

Sunday, July 30

1300-1800 Measurement, Check-In, and Coach/Support Boat Flag Registration

Monday, July 31

0730-0800 **Measurement and Late Check-In by appointment ONLY** upon written request Submitted to the OA by Thursday, July 27. Email usoda@usoda.org.
Late Competitor Check-In and Coach/Support Boat Flag Registration

0730-0900 Continental Breakfast

0830 Opening Ceremonies @ ODU Sailing Center

0900 Coaches' Meeting

0915 Competitors', Coaches' and Parents' Meeting (Mandatory)

0930 Harbor Start

1030 First Warning Championship Fleet

Tuesday, August 1

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0830 Coaches' Meeting

0900 Harbor Start

1000 First Warning Championship Fleet

After Racing Competitors' Dinner and Entertainment @ ODU Sailing Center

Wednesday, August 2

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0830 Coaches' Meeting

0900 Harbor Start

1000 First Warning Championship Fleet

1 hour after USODA Annual General Meeting @ ODU Sailing Center
Signal Boat Docks

Thursday, August 3

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0830 Coaches' Meeting

0900 Harbor Start

1000 First Warning Championship Fleet

1500 No First Warning Signal for a new "Set" of races after this time

After Racing Awards Ceremony @ ODU Sailing Center



NOTE: The overall schedule for the Green Fleet will be similar to that of the Championship Fleet. Details will be available during the Green Fleet Skippers Meeting immediately following the Championship Fleet Competitors Meeting.

6.4. Twelve (12) races are scheduled.

7. MEASUREMENT

7.1. Competitors are allowed to use only one hull, dagger board, rudder (with tiller and extension), mast, boom, sprit and sail during the regatta. Substitution of such equipment shall occur only with the written or verbal approval of the Principal Race Officer (PRO).

7.2. Each competitor shall submit a USODA Measurement Form during the regatta site Check-In. This form shall inform the race committee that all equipment is present and in compliance with Class Rules.

7.3. **Equipment** previously measured and stickered with an IODA decal, USODA measurement decal, or stamped pursuant to the USODA measurement process which remains unaltered since the measurement may be self-certified as part of the measurement process. Each competitor shall sign a statement attesting that any previously measured or stamped equipment has not been modified since the date it was measured.

7.4. Equipment not previously measured and approved by the USODA shall meet class measurement requirements prior to being available for use in the regatta, and shall be measured and approved during Measurement.

7.5. **All sails shall be removed from the boom for inspection**, and stamped by a Technical Committee (Measurement) Official (TCO) with the 2017 USODA Nationals signature regardless of previous regatta stamps or signatures

7.6. Boats may be subject to a safety inspection at any time during the regatta.

7.7. The race and/or protest committee reserves the right to measure equipment and/or sails at any time regardless of whether it has been previously measured.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Preliminary sailing instructions may be available online. Final official sailing instructions will be available onsite at Check-In and on the USODA website.

9. VENUE AND BERTHING

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

9.2. All Optimist boats shall be kept at the ODU Sailing Center in the assigned area.

9.3. Registered coach and support boats, (no boat trailers) may be berthed at NYCC as directed by the harbor master.

9.4. Coach and support boats shall NOT be launched from the ODU Sailing Center ramp.

10. THE COURSE

The course will be included in the sailing instructions.



11. PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1. For the Qualifying Round only:

Pending U.S. Sailing Approval - In accordance with rule 70.5(a), decisions of the protest committee are final. US Sailing's permission has been granted. If the requirements shown on <http://www.ussailing.org/race-officials/rules-and-appeals/new-no-appeals-page/> are not met, the decisions of the protest committee may be appealed. Competitors may appeal decisions of the protest committee in the Final Round.

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

12. SCORING

12.1. The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply as revised by the sailing instructions which will specify the scoring for Qualifying and Final Rounds; the National Championship; and the Age Group (Red, Blue, and White) Series.

12.2. Race scores are based on the number of registered boats in the largest division. This changes rules 44.3(c) and A4.2.

12.3. The number of boats entered in the series will be defined as the number of registered boats which subsequently completed competitor Check-In at the regatta venue as referenced in NOR 6.1. This modifies rule A4.2 and applies to fleet divisions.

12.4. A "Set" is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed. One completed "Set" of races in the Qualifying Round will constitute the National Championship Series and Age Group Series.

12.5. When fewer than 5 "Sets" of races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

12.6. When 5 or more "Sets" of races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

13. SAFETY

13.1. Each competitor shall have a whistle attached to their lifejacket at all times while on the water.

13.2. Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end its bow line.

14. ADULT RESPONSIBILITY

14.1. An adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of their sailor. It is the responsibility of this adult to decide if the sailor 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.

14.2. 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.

14.3. Each competitor shall indicate in writing at Check-In the parent or adult representative that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.

14.4. 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 regatta.



15. COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS (PARENT OR SPECTATOR)

- 15.1. The OA strongly recommends that each sailor have a coach or support (parent or spectator) boat on the race course throughout the regatta.
- 15.2. One coach boat for every seven (7) sailors and fraction thereof from a sailing program may be registered. (For example, a program with eight (8) sailors would be allowed to register two coach boats.) Requests for an additional coach boat shall be emailed to usoda@usoda.org by July 24, 2017 and are subject to USODA Regatta Committee approval.
- 15.3. All coach and support (parent or spectator) boats shall register (see NOR 6.3) and promptly display a numbered flag supplied by the OA while on the water. A \$20 security deposit will be required which will be returned at the end of the event with the return of the flag.
- 15.4. Each coach boat 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.
- 15.5. The conduct of coaches, parents serving on race committee (including safety patrol), registered support boats, and all other boats will be governed by the sailing instructions and RRS.

16. PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

Gold Fleet

Overall: 1st through 10th and Girls 1st through 3rd

Red Fleet: 1st through 5th

Blue Fleet: 1st through 5th

White Fleet: 1st through 5th

Silver Fleet

Overall: 1st through 10th

In the rare event the Qualifying Round is not completed, prizes for the National Championship Fleet will be based on a competitor's Qualifying Round score and will not be given for Silver Fleet.

Green Fleet

All Green Fleet participants shall receive Participation Awards.

Perpetual awards

New York Yacht Club Sportsmanship Award

Ewell C. Potts, Jr. Memorial Friendship Trophy

National Champion Trophy

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

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 17.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race.



17.2. The OA 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. An online waiver shall be signed by all competitors and their parent/guardian, in accordance with NOR 4.2.

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

Registration: USODA Executive Director, Genoa Fedyszyn, usoda@usoda.org

USODA Chief Measurer (TCO): Beth Danilek, measurement@usoda.org

Regatta Chairs: Charles Higgins, chiggins@odu.edu, 757-683-3387

Mitch Brindley, mbrindle@odu.edu

Old Dominion University Sailing Center (Venue)

4551 Powhatan Avenue

Norfolk, VA 23529

757-683-3387

BBSA Website: www.bigbluesailingacademy.com

Event Website: <http://www.bigbluesailingacademy.com/2017usodanationals.html>

Accommodations and Opti Charter Boats: Information available on the Event Website.

Norfolk Yacht & Country Club (coach/support boat dockage)

7001 Hampton Blvd

Norfolk, VA 23505

757-423-4500

19. QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

This regatta is a 2018 USODA Team Trials Qualifying event. The top 50% of team trial eligible Championship Fleet competitors, as defined by the USODA, based on the final results using the total number of boats registered in both the Championship and Green Fleets, may receive invitations to compete in the 2018 USODA Team Trials.

20. CAMERAS AND EQUIPMENT

20.1. Boats may be required to carry cameras, sound equipment or positioning equipment as specified by the OA. Information from this equipment shall not be used by a boat as evidence in a hearing. This changes rule 63.6.

20.2. The equipment provided, once placed on the boat as instructed by the OA, shall not be manipulated by the competitor or the coach in any way, except when so required by the OA.