



# 2017 USODA Team Race National Championship

July 25-27

*Measurement and Check-In July 24<sup>th</sup>*

Hosted by Big Blue Sailing Academy at Old Dominion University

## NOTICE OF RACE

Posted April 27, 2017

**(This Notice of Race may be amended 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](http://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. RRS Appendix D, Team Racing Rules, will apply. Any changes will be specified in the Sailing Instructions (SI).
- 1.4. The U.S. Sailing Prescription to RRS 63.4 will not apply.
- 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 20.4, 20.5.1 and Table 1, Event Advertising.
- 2.2. Each team member will be issued an individual team identification number (TIN). Each team member will stick this number above their sail numbers on both sides of the sail near the peak. Additionally, each team member will wear a distinguishable team pinnie over their lifejacket. Both the numbers and pinnies will be provided by the OA at Check-In.

### 3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. The regatta is open to all boats of the International Optimist Dinghy Class.
- 3.2. Each team shall consist of at least (4) four competitors, with a maximum of five (5), but only four (4) competitors shall sail in each race.



- 3.3. Competitors and teams must be in compliance with the Team Racing Eligibility requirements of the USODA. Paragraph 4 ‘Team Eligibility for Silver Fleet’ is deleted. See [www.bluesailingacademy.com](http://www.bluesailingacademy.com) USODA Race Documents. Also, available at [www.usoda.org](http://www.usoda.org).
- 3.4. All competitors shall be members of their respective national class organization, 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](http://www.usoda.org). Members of other IODA organizations and NCAs should contact USODA via email at [usoda@usoda.org](mailto:usoda@usoda.org).
- 3.5. Each designated team captain shall enter using the USODA online registration system found in the Members Section of [www.usoda.org](http://www.usoda.org). **If an adult is registering more than one team, the team captain name must be different for each team.** The designated team captain shall follow the instructions in the USODA “Team Management and Registration” system that is available on the “Regatta Central” sub-menu to first create a team before registering for the event. A minimum of four competitor names must be submitted at the time of registration for which the payment system will automatically charge \$600. There will be an option to add a fifth competitor for an additional charge of \$150. Each competitor and his or her parents shall ensure that the online waiver and the health care forms are current. A comprehensive step-by-step overview of how to create a team race team and then register the team for a USODA team race event is posted. *Teams must have completed and submitted all parts of the registration form and the names of the competitors on their team for their entry to be accepted.*
- 3.6. Substitutions: After the entry deadline, the OA may approve a request to substitute one (1) competitor so long as it has no impact on the seeding of teams, and all appropriate forms described in 3.5 are completed and submitted before Check-In.

#### 4. REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FEES

- 4.1. The entry fee will be \$600 for a four-person team, and \$750 for a five-person team.
- 4.2. **Registration will open on April 27, 2017 and close at 1700 hours EDT on June 26, 2017.** Teams must have completed all parts of the registration form and submitted the entry fee by 1700 hours EDT Monday, June 26, 2017. **Requests to register after June 26, 2017, may be accepted solely at the discretion of the OA.**

#### 5. FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

- 5.1. 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 of that race until that race has been completed.
- 5.2. Teams shall register for either Gold Fleet or Silver Fleet by June 26, 2017. Based on the number of teams registered for each fleet, the Principal Race Officer (PRO) in conjunction with the USODA Representative and the Chief Umpire will determine the regatta format for Gold and Silver Fleets.
- 5.3. The regatta format for teams will include a Qualifying Stage of one or more round robins to arrive at a Gold Fleet of eight (8) teams that will race in the Top 8 Gold Round-Robin stage, comprised of one or more round robins. Time permitting, this will be followed by a knockout stage among the top four (4) ranked teams from the Top 8 Gold Round-Robin stage. The format for Gold teams that do not qualify for the Top 8 Gold Fleet (Consolation Fleet) will be detailed in the sailing instructions.



- 5.4. The planned format will be specified in the sailing instructions and posted on the official notice board by 1800 on July 24<sup>th</sup>.
- 5.5. The PRO, with concurrence from the Chief Umpire and Class Representative may modify the format during the event in a fair and practical way taking into account the number entries, existing and predicted weather conditions, time constraints and any other relevant factors. This changes RRS D4.2(a).

**6. SCHEDULE**

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

**Monday, July 24**

1000-1800 Measurement, Check-In, and Coach/Spectator Flag Registration  
 1500-1800 **Mandatory Lifejacket and Protest Flag inspection by Umpires**

**Tuesday, July 25**

0730-0800 **Measurement, Late Check-In, and Lifejacket/Protest Flag Inspection by appointment only** upon written request submitted to the USODA by Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. Email [usoda@usoda.org](mailto:usoda@usoda.org).  
 0730-0900 Continental Breakfast  
 0730-0930 Coach/Spectator Flag Registration  
 0815 Coaches' Meeting  
 0830 Umpire Briefing  
 0900 Competitors', Coaches' and Parents' Meeting  
 0915 Harbor Start  
 1000 First Warning Signal

**Wednesday, July 26**

0730-0900 Continental Breakfast  
 0815 Coaches' Meeting  
 0830 Umpire Briefing  
 0915 Harbor Start  
 1000 First Warning Signal

**Thursday, July 27**

0730-0900 Continental Breakfast  
 0815 Coaches' Meeting  
 0830 Pre-Brief with Umpires  
 0910 Harbor Start  
 1000 First Warning Signal  
 1730 No Start after this time  
 1900 Awards and Competitor Dinner at Norfolk Yacht & Country Club



## 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. Any request to consider approving equipment substitutions shall be submitted in writing to the PRO before the end of protest time limit the day prior to the day for which substitution is to be made. If changes are required during a day's racing, approval may be made verbally and the written request submitted before the day's protest time limit.
- 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, a 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. 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.
- 7.7. Boats may be subject to a safety inspection at any time during the regatta.

## 8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board and available at Check-In.

## 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. There may be three race courses, Course A and B for Gold Fleet and Course C for Silver Fleet.
- 9.3. All Optimist boats shall be kept at the ODU Sailing Center in the assigned area.
- 9.4. Registered coach boats, (no boat trailers) may be berthed at NYCC as directed by the NYCC harbor master.
- 9.5. Coach and spectator boats shall NOT be launched from the ODU Sailing Center ramp.

## 10. THE COURSE

The course will be a Digital N.

## 11. SCORING

Scoring will be in accordance with Appendix D, except as modified by the sailing instructions.



## **12. UMPIRING AND PROTESTS**

- 12.1. The regatta will be umpired in accordance with Appendix D, as modified by the sailing instructions. Some races may have more umpires than others as determined by the Chief Umpire in consideration of the stage of the event. If some races cannot be umpired, brief on-the-water expedited protest hearings will be held.
- 12.2. The required 'red' protest flag shall be attached to the competitor's lifejacket 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 to attach the flag.
- 12.3. Each competitor's protest flag, including method of attachment, and lifejacket will be inspected and approved by the umpires before the sailor can compete in the regatta.

## **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 competitor. The adult is solely responsible 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.
- 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 competitor.
- 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. COACHES & SUPPORT BOATS (PARENT OR SPECTATOR)**

- 15.1. Each team is allowed one designated coach boat per four or five-person team.
- 15.2. All coach and support (parent or spectator) boats shall register and shall prominently display a flag provided by the OA available at registration. It must be flown from a staff at all times 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.
- 15.3. All individuals on such registered boats are required to wear lifejackets.
- 15.4. Each coach boat shall have a working VHF radio, a basic first aid kit, and an anchor rode capable of securely anchoring the boat in the racing waters.
- 15.5. The conduct of coaches, parents serving on race committee (including safety patrol), registered support boats, and all other boats including spectator boats will be governed by the sailing instructions and RRS.



## 16. PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

Gold Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place Teams

Gold Consolation: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place Teams

Silver Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place Teams

Dick Russell Team Race National Championship Perpetual Trophy

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

## 17. OPTI TEAM CUP BERLIN QUALIFICATION

17.1. The first place U.S.A. team meeting the Team Race Eligibility requirements from the Gold Fleet will qualify to represent the USODA at the 30<sup>th</sup> Opti Team Cup Berlin held in Germany, October 28-30, 2017.

## 18. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

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

18.2. 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. All competitors and their parent/guardian, shall sign an online waiver in accordance with NOR 3.5 and 4.2.

## 19. FURTHER INFORMATION

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

**USODA Chief Measurer (TCO):** Beth Danilek, [measurement@usoda.org](mailto:measurement@usoda.org)

**Regatta Chairs:** Charles Higgins, [chiggins@odu.edu](mailto:chiggins@odu.edu), 757-683-3387  
Mitch Brindley, [mbrindle@odu.edu](mailto:mbrindle@odu.edu)

**Old Dominion University Sailing Center (Venue)**

4551 Powhatan Avenue  
Norfolk, Virginia 23529  
757-683-3387

**BBSA Website:** [www.bigbluesailingacademy.com](http://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