



2019 Optimist Gulf Coast Championship

March 8-10

(Race Days: March 9-10)

Bay Waveland Yacht Club
Bay St. Louis, Mississippi USA

NOTICE OF RACE

Posted 1/14/2019

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

The regatta will be organized by Bay Waveland Yacht Club (BWYC) in conjunction with the U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (the "USODA"), *collectively* known as the organizing authority.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. "USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships" will apply and can be found at www.usoda.org.
- 1.3. The following applies to RRS 61:
 - a) The third sentence of RRS 61.1(a) is changed to read, "The flag need not be displayed until she is no longer racing."
 - b) RRS 61.1(a)(2) shall not apply. She shall conspicuously display a red flag. The flag shall be attached to the competitor, clothing or personal flotation device and capable of being concealed and being conspicuously displayed at arm's length.
 - c) The following new rule is added:

61.5 Informing the Race Committee

In addition to meeting the requirements of RRS 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, inform the race committee at the finishing line of her intent to protest and, when applicable, the identity of the protestee.
- 1.4. Appendix P will apply as changed by the sailing instructions.
- 1.5. A condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD), or for international or for international competitors only, an appropriately sized PFD/buoyancy aid as approved for use in the competitors country of origin. International competitors may be required to self-certify their PFD/buoyancy aid meets the requirements of this section. All PFDs/buoyancy aids shall be properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing. All PFDs must be suitable for the competitor's weight. Wet suits, dry suits, and inflatable PFDs are not approved nor permitted as PFDs. Failure to wear a proper PFD will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. These changes are added to RRS 40, and the Preamble to Part 4 will not apply to RRS 40.



1.6. In all rules governing this championship.

- a) [DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee and may be less than disqualification.
- b) [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- c) [SP] denotes a rule which a standard penalty may be applied by the Race Committee without a hearing, or a discretionary penalty applied by the International Jury with a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.

1.7. The U.S. Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.2 and 63.4 will not apply.

2. ADVERTISING

2.1. Advertising is restricted in accordance with IODA Class rule 2.8.1.

2.2. Boats may be required to display sponsor advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority. If this rule is broken World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies. [DP]

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1. The regatta is open to all boats of the International Optimist class.

3.2. Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration and paying all entry fees and completing the [USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist](#) and the [USODA Sailor Code of Conduct](#).

3.3. The Red, Blue and White Fleet assignments will be based on the competitor's age on the first scheduled day of racing, March 9, 2019.

3.4. 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, 2004. The organizing authority may require satisfactory proof of such membership and age. Competitors who are not USODA members are invited to join the 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 login ID and password.

3.5. Registration must 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 of the online Waiver and Medical forms in order to be registered for the event. Each competitor shall confirm their registration 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 in NoR 4 will apply. **Entry Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**

3.6. Registration will be closed Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 12:00 PM CST.

3.7. Requests to register after the online registration is closed are subject to approval by the organizing authority.

4. FEES

4.1. All entry fees shall be paid during online registration at www.usoda.org.

a) The entry fee is U.S. \$120 if paid by February 20, 2019.

b) A late fee of U.S. \$25 (\$145 total) shall be paid for registrations completed February 21, 2019 through 12:00 PM CST March 6, 2019.



5. FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

- 5.1. The Championship fleet will race as one or more divisions depending on the number of entries. If there are multiple divisions, the Championship Fleet will race in “Sets” of races. A “Set” is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed. The process for allocating boats to divisions and the format will be specified in the SI.
- 5.2. There will be a Green Fleet if at least five (5) boats are registered. The Green Fleet is intended for less experienced sailors and will include opportunities for learning and competition.

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. Each Sailor shall be present at Check-In. An executed [USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist](#) and [USODA Sailor Code of Conduct](#) are required to complete Check-In.
- 6.2. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided to competitors on each scheduled race day.
- 6.3. Program and Schedule

Friday, March 8

1600-1900 Competitor Check-In and Coach/Spectator Flag Registration

Saturday, March 9

0800-0900 Competitor Check-In and Coach/Spectator Flag Registration;
 0800-1000 Continental Breakfast and Make your own Lunch
 0915 Coaches’ Meeting
 0930 Competitors’, Coaches’ and Parents’ Meeting
 1000 Harbor Launch
 1100 First Warning Signal – Championship Fleet
 After Racing Regatta Dinner

Sunday, March 10

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast and Make your own Lunch
 0830 Coaches’ Meeting
 0900 Harbor Launch
 1000 First Warning Signal – Championship Fleet
 1430 No first Warning Signal for a race or “Set” of races after this time
 After Racing Awards ceremony

The Green Fleet Sailors schedule will be the same through the competitors meeting at which point a second, separate meeting for Green Fleet Sailors will be conducted and the remainder of the schedule for that fleet will be announced.

- 6.4. Six (6) “Sets” of races are scheduled for the Championship Fleet if they sail a multi-division regatta. Eight (8) races are scheduled for the Championship Fleet if they sail a single division regatta. The Green Fleet will sail as many races as practicable.

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available electronically on the USODA website. A printed copy will be posted on the official notice board.



8. VENUE

The racing area for the Championship Fleet will be St. Louis Bay. The racing area for the Green Fleet will be just off the beach between BWYC and the Hwy 90 Bridge.

9. THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be included in the sailing instructions.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

The USODA Graded Penalty System (GPS) will apply. The GPS will be defined in the SI.

11. SCORING

- 11.1. 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 change is added as the first sentence to RRS A2 and A4.2.
- 11.2. One completed race or “Set” of races shall constitute the regatta.
- 11.3. Championship Fleet scoring:
 - a) When fewer than five (5) races or “Sets” of races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - b) When five (5) or more races or “Sets” of races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 11.4. Green Fleet will not be scored, although race finishes and progress may be recorded.

12. SAFETY

- 12.1. Each competitor shall submit a completed USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist during the regatta site Check-In. This checklist shall inform the race committee that all equipment is present and in working order.
- 12.2. Boats may be subject to a safety inspection at any time during the regatta.
- 12.3. IODA Class Rule 4.2 requires that each competitor shall have “A whistle attached to their personal flotation device at all times while on the water.” [SP]
- 12.4. Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of the 8m (26ft 3in) painter. [SP] [DP]

13. ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

- 13.1. All coaches, parents, guardians and ‘designated adults’ are *support persons* (See RRS definition *support person*).
- 13.2. In addition to the requirements of RRS 4, 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.
- 13.3. 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.
- 13.4. Each competitor shall indicate in writing at Check-In the parent or adult representative that will be responsible for them throughout the event.
- 13.5. 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.



- 13.6. The organizing authority strongly recommends that each sailor have a support (coach or spectator) vessel on the race course throughout the regatta.
- 13.7. One coach vessel 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 vessels.) [DP]
- 13.8. All support vessels shall register during Check-In hours (see NoR 6.3) and promptly display a numbered flag supplied by the organizing authority 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.
- 13.9. 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.
- 13.10. The conduct of coaches, parents serving on race committee (including safety patrol), registered support vessels, and all other vessels will be governed by the SI and RRS.
- 13.11. 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.

14. BERTHING

- 14.1. Boats shall be kept in the assigned area located at BWYC. [SP][NP]

15. PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

Championship Fleet Awards (as determined by the 1st registration deadline date):

Overall: 1st through 5th (or 10th if over 80 sailors)

Red Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)

Blue Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)

White Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)

Top girl: 1st through 3rd

Green Fleet: Participation awards for all green fleet competitors.

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 regatta.

16. QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

This regatta is a 2019 USODA Team Trials Qualifying event.

The top 25% of Championship Fleet (based upon the total number of boats registered in both the Championship Fleet and Green Fleet) will receive invitations to compete in the 2019 Optimist Team Trials. In the case where competitors in the top 25% 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.

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 organizing authority including the sponsors, the race committee, officers, and board of directors of the BWYC and 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. An online waiver shall be signed by all competitors and their parent/guardian, in accordance with NoR 3.5.



18. FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Regatta Chair: Zak Fanberg, fanbergz@eaganins.com, 504-214-3675

Early Arrival & Additional Information: Zak Fanberg, fanbergz@eaganins.com, 504-214-3675

Bay Waveland Yacht Club

1 Yacht Club Drive
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520

BWYC Website – <https://www.bwyc.org/>

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

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

LODGING

Information available on BWYC Website, <https://www.bwyc.org/>.

OPTI CHARTERS & VENDORS

Information available on BWYC Website, <https://www.bwyc.org/>.

POWERBOAT RENTALS

Information available on BWYC Website, <https://www.bwyc.org/>.

Hotel Accommodations



Bay Town Inn
208 N Beach Blvd, Bay St Louis, MS 39520
(504) 421-0960



Motel 6
1003 US-90, Bay St Louis, MS 39520
(228) 467-2511



Super 8 by Wyndham
1000 US-90, Bay St Louis, MS 39520
(228) 220-1273