



2024 Optimist Atlantic Coast Team Race Championship

Larchmont Yacht Club
in conjunction with U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA)
(collectively known as the Organizing Authority (OA))
Dates May 18-19
Larchmont, NY 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 [DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee and may be no more than a one race win penalty.
- 1.5 [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.
- 1.6 [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.7 [SP][DP] RRS 40.1 will apply at all times while afloat.
- 1.8 [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.
- 1.9 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, or marked [NP] per NoR 1.6 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.
 - 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
- 1.10 Appendix U Audible-Signal Racing System, a US Sailing prescription, will apply as modified by the SI.
- 1.11 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 May 15, 2024 at <https://usoda.org/regatta/zyV5bYDyCC>.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The online notice board is located at <https://usoda.org/regatta/zyV5bYDyCC>.

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 The number of teams may be capped at 26. Organizer reserves the right to (a) maintain an even number of entries and (b) increase the number of teams.
- 4.4 Registration will take place in two steps:
- a) Team Application
- 4.4.a.1. Coaches shall submit a [Team Application](#) for their team(s) from February 23, 2024 through March 19, 2024. Individual competitor names are not required at this time.
- 4.4.a.2. As of midnight ET on March 19, 2024, the Organizing Authority will determine the teams that have been accepted. If more than 26 teams have submitted Team Applications, teams/organizations requesting multiple entries may be limited to allow other teams the opportunity to participate and additional factors may be considered including but not limited to ACC and local team participation and international team participation. Up to three teams from clubs that do not have an established US optimist team racing fleet may be invited by the host. A waitlist of teams not initially accepted will be maintained and posted on the USODA Event Website.
- 4.4.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.**
- 4.4.a.4. Team Applications received after March 19, 2024, are subject to approval by the organizing authority and subject to a late fee of \$150 per team.
- b) Competitor Registration
- 4.4.b.1. Teams who have paid their entry fee per NoR 4.5.a.3. will be added to the event website as individual classes. Each competitor shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/zyV5bYDyCC>. under their team/class, providing all required competitor information and electronically signing the USODA Waiver of Liability no later than May 1, 2024.
- 4.4.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.
- 4.4.b.3. Individual team competitor names shall be provided by May 1, 2024, in order to enable seeding



of teams.

- 4.5 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 4.2 and 4.3, and comply with NoR 4.5(b)(1) and 4.5(b)(2) 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 \$800 for a 4-person team and \$1000 for a 5-person team for teams who applied before March 15, 2024.
 - b) An additional late fee of \$150 per team shall be paid for teams who applied after March 19, 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 shall wear a distinguishable team pinnie over their PFDs. Teams are requested to bring and wear their own pinnies, and teams that do not have pinnies will be supplied pinnies by USODA at Check-In. All TINs will be provided 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 The event is intended to be run as a Modified Swiss League designed to race similarly skilled teams against one another as the event progresses. The event does not intend to use a “knock-out” format or any other format that results in certain teams sailing significantly more races than other teams.
- 7.3 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.
- 7.4 The planned format will be specified in the SI and posted on the official notice board by 1800 on May 17, 2024.
- 7.5 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

Friday, May 17

All Day	Competitors Welcome to Arrive
1600-1800	Mandatory Competitor Check-In and Support Vessel Registration

Saturday, May 18

0730-0830	Mandatory Competitor Check-In and Support Vessel Registration
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0815	Coaches' Meeting
0830	Umpire Briefing for Competitors
0845	Competitors' Meeting
0900	Harbor Launch
0920	First Warning Signal
After Racing	Competitors' Dinner

Sunday, May 19

0815	Coaches' Meeting
0830	Umpire Briefing for Competitors
0900	Harbor Launch
0920	First Warning Signal
1530	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 Racing will take place in the waters of western Long Island Sound south of Larchmont Yacht Club, depending on conditions.

11 COURSE

11.1 The course will be a starboard hand digital N as described in the SI. The OA reserves the right to run one or multiple courses.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 The USODA Graded Penalty System (GPS) will apply.

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 0830 on May 18.

15.2 Water temperatures in Larchmont in May can be quite cold. As a result, competitors should ensure they have appropriate sailing equipment, and should strongly consider drysuits.



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 (including the water and air temperature) 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 that is not using their own matching pinnies will need to reserve pinnies provided by USODA, by registering online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/zyV5bYDyCC>. (Class "Pinnie Deposit") by May 17, 2024 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 Parents and spectators are encouraged to watch the event from shore; spectator boats are discouraged and are not expected to be provided by the Host.
- 16.8 Conditions permitting, the racing will be held inside the harbor close to the docks. If that occurs, no coach or support vessels (other than such as are authorized by the Organizing Authority and Host) will be permitted to be used during the event, and all coaching will be done from the docks. In the event conditions do not permit the foregoing, 16.9 – 16.12 will apply.
- 16.9 Each team is allowed one designated coach vessel per 4 or 5-person team. Unless specifically permitted by the Host, coach vessels may not be launched from Larchmont Yacht Club; a public boat ramp is available in Mamaroneck approximately 2 miles from the venue.
- 16.10 All support vessels shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/zyV5bYDyCC>. (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.
- 16.11 [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.
- 16.12 [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.
- 16.13 [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 [DP] BERTHING

- 17.1 Boats shall be kept in their assigned places.
- 17.2 Trailers must be tagged and stored in specified areas. Trailer tags may be obtained at the Race Office.



- 17.3 Support person vessels shall be kept on moorings (which may be shared moorings) at Larchmont Yacht Club.
- 17.4 To arrange for storage outside of the event period, contact the Race Office at jlabezetta@larchmontyc.org.

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 Larchmont Yacht Club, USODA, and all those involved in these organizations and all volunteers 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:

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 FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Regatta Chairs: Senet Bischoff, senet.bischoff@gmail.com

Douglas and Kate Millar, OptiACCTeamRacing@gmail.com

Principal Race Officer: Senet Bischoff

Protest Committee Chair:

Larchmont Yacht Club

One Woodbine

Larchmont, NY 10532

LYC Sailing Director: Joel Labuzetta, jlabezetta@larchmontyc.org

YC Website: <https://www.larchmontyc.org>

Event Website: <https://usoda.org/regatta/zyV5bYDyCC>

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