



MAINE STATE OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIP

July 31 – August 1, 2024

SOUTHPORT JUNIOR YACHT CLUB SAILING FOUNDATION

SOUTHPORT, ME

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2021-2024, Including US Sailing Prescriptions* (“RRS”), except as altered by the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 The Class Rules for purposes of the definition of “rules” are the International Optimist Association Class Rules.
- 1.3 Immediate penalties for breaking RRS 42 (Propulsion) and Appendix P will apply.
- 1.4 In the event of a conflict between the Notice of Race (NOR) and the Sailing Instructions (SI’s) the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes rule 63.7.

2 ENTRIES

- 2.1 Boats that have completed registration are eligible to race.

3 SAFETY

- 3.1 A Coast Guard-approved PFD (or foreign government approved PFD) must be worn and fully secured at all times while afloat, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing. Whistles must be attached with lanyard to the PFD. RRS 40.1 applies as modified here.
- 3.2 A boat retiring from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as practical. A boat leaving the course before the end of racing shall notify the Race Committee. A competitor’s coach may provide this notification via VHF radio. A retiring boat that returns to shore must notify the Regatta Personnel immediately after arrival.

4 COMPETITOR ARRIVAL AT SAILING AREA

- 4.1 Each coach is responsible for ensuring that the competitors from his/her club have arrived at the Race Area. If a competitor is absent from the Race Area at any time, his or her coach is responsible for informing the Race Committee Signal Boat of the status of the competitor.
- 4.2 Each competitor is required to check in on the water with the race committee boat, sailing on a **starboard** tack at the stern of the committee boat and wait for the race committee to hail the competitor with the sail number to be completely checked in. The race committee will attempt to contact support boats or persons who have not checked in to do so by radio.

5 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 5.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board(s) located on the regatta website on Regattaman. On the day of the regatta, notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board at Southport Yacht Club (SYC).

6 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 6.1 Any change to the SIs will be posted before 9:00AM on the day of the Regatta.

7 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 7.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff at the head of the SYC main float gangway.
- 7.2 Flag AP with two horn signals means "The race or Harbor Start is postponed. The initial Warning Signal will be made not less than thirty (30) minutes after Flag AP is lowered." When Flag AP is lowered one horn signal will be made. This use of Flag AP only applies to signals made ashore.

8 SPECIAL SIGNALS

- Code Flag A (White and Blue vertical stripes) displayed with no sound while boats are finishing means "no more racing today" .
- 8.1 For the Championship Fleet the Signal Boat shall display a white flag with the Optimist Symbol on it. For the Green Fleet the Signal Boat shall display a green flag and/or an Optimist Flag with a green flag.

9 RACING AREA

- 9.1 The racing area for the Championship Fleet will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting but is expected to be in the Sheepscot River between government navigation marks "N 6" and "Gong 4 CL".
- 9.2 The racing area for the Green Fleet will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting but is expected to be just outside Cozy Harbor, between Cedarbush and David's Islands and to the south of the Hendricks Head beach.

10 THE COURSE

- 10.1 The diagram(s), the order of rounding, and the side on which each mark is to be rounded or passed will be distributed by Regattaman and sent to each competitor and posted on the notice board.
- 10.2 For the Championship Fleet the identifying letter of the course will be displayed from the Race Committee Signal Boat.
- 10.3 For the Green Fleet the course for each race will be verbally given to each competitor from the Green Fleet Race Committee Signal Boat.

11 MARKS

- 11.1 Marks of the course for the Championship Fleet will be orange inflatable tetrahedrons or orange balls.
- 11.2 Marks of the course for the Green Fleet will be smiling pink hippity-hop balls.

12 THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26 for the Optimist Championship Fleet.
- 12.2 The Optimist Green Fleet will utilize a dinghy 3-minute starting sequence in accordance with Appendix U or otherwise as described at the skipper's meeting.
- 12.3 The starting line for Championship fleet will be between the staff from which an orange flag is displayed on the Race Committee Signal Boat at the starboard end of the line (looking upwind) and the course side of an orange ball at the port-end.
- 12.4 The starting line for Green fleet will be between the staff from which an orange flag is displayed on the Race Committee Signal Boat at the starboard end of the line (looking upwind) and the course side of a white cylinder or ball at the port-end.
- 12.5 A boat shall not start later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal. A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A5.1 and A5.2.
- 12.6 The "I" Flag rule (30.1) will be in effect on the Opti Championship line at all time unless a "U" flag or a "Z" flag have been displayed.

13 RECALLS

- 13.1 The Race Committee will attempt to hail OCS boats after the starting signal. The failure to make or receive such communication shall not be grounds for redress.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat and the finishing mark as identified in the course diagrams.

15 TIME LIMIT

- 15.1 The time limit will be 90 minutes for all classes. Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat finishes or within the time limit, whichever is later, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

16 PROTESTS

- 16.1 A competitor shall inform the Race Committee finish boat of its intention to protest, including sail number of the protested boat, immediately after finishing. This modifies RRS 61.
- 16.2 Protests shall be in writing on forms available at the Judges Table and delivered to the Protest Committee within 30 minutes of the Race Committee Signal Boat's docking.
- 16.3 Any request for redress on the final day of the regatta shall be delivered to the Protest Committee within 15 minutes of the posting of that day's scores..
- 16.4 Protest notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses. This posting shall constitute the notification required by RRS 63.2.
- 16.5 Infringements of SIs 3 and 21 are not protestable by another boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 16.6 The penalty, if any, for an infringement of a rule other than a rule of Part 2 or RRS 31 will be at the discretion of the Protest Committee and may be less than disqualification. This changes RRS 64.2.
- 16.7 Competitors in the Green Fleet are encouraged to do penalty turns if they commit fouls. However, formal protest hearings will not occur for the Green Fleet. If time and resources allow "mock" protest hearings may occur for Green Fleet competitors.
- 16.8 All competitors and support persons are expected to comply with RRS 69 – Misconduct
- 16.9 The US Sailing prescription to RRS 63.2 is deleted.

17 PENALTIES

- 17.1 Rules 44.1 and 44.2 (One and Two Turn Penalties) do apply.
- 17.2 Rule 44.3 "In-Race Scoring Penalties" does not apply.
- 17.3 After a race, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or RRS 31 may take a post-race scoring penalty for that incident in accordance with Appendix Rule V2.
- 17.4 Appendix V1 does not apply.

18 SCORING

- 18.1 The Low-Point Scoring System of Appendix A shall apply for the Championship Fleet. A maximum of 10 races are scheduled, of which 1 race shall be completed to constitute a series. If 5 or more races are sailed, a boat's worst score shall be discarded. If 10 races are sailed – a boat's 2 worst scores shall be discarded.
- 18.2 Consistent with the USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships, section 18, the Green Fleet will not be scored.
- 18.3 Overall Championship Fleet scores shall be used to determine red, blue, and white fleet awards.

19 SUPPORT PERSONS

- 19.1 Except as noted in 19.4, team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall not be in the racing area from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the Race Committee protesting all boats associated with the support personnel who do so. The penalty may be disqualification or other alternative penalty.
- 19.2 Optimist Green Fleet: Coaching is encouraged during the starting sequence, around marks, and for staying generally "on course." Green Fleet support boats must identify themselves to the Race Committee and be careful not to interfere with any racing boats. Safety is paramount.
- 19.3 Coaches must wear fully secured PFDs while on the water. Other support people – Race Committee, mark and safety boat operators, parents, etc. – are strongly encouraged to wear fully secured PFDs while on the water.
- 19.4 All coach boats and other support boats/support personnel must agree to aid any competitor in distress or requesting assistance of any sort. Any competitor receiving assistance while in distress will be allowed to continue the race after the issue has been rectified. A boat receiving assistance may NOT be provided any forward motion towards the next mark and must finish within the prescribed time allowed.
- 19.5 Coaches are responsible for the conduct of the support persons of their competitors.

20 Equipment

- 20.1 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 due to damage or loss shall occur only with the Race Committee's approval. No coatings, polishes or other substances may be applied after the start of the regatta.

20.2 Boats may not be removed from the regatta storage areas during the race without approval of the race chair and race committee.

21 RRS 55 – Trash

21.2 Competitors are reminded of RRS 55, which states that competitors “shall not intentionally put trash in the water.”

ADDENDUM A – COURSE DIAGRAMS

| | | |
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| | Course W – Windward/Leeward, Windward Finish | |
| | <i>Signal</i> | <i>Mark Rounding Order</i> |
| | W | Start – 1* – 2 – Finish |
| | W2 | Start – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 – Finish |
| | W3 | Start – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 – Finish |
| | | * - if an offset mark (1a) is present, sailors will leave the offset mark to port after rounding the windward mark (1) |

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| | Course T – Triangle, Windward Finish | |
| | <i>Signal</i> | <i>Mark Rounding Order</i> |
| | T | Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish |
| | T2 | Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish |
| | T3 | Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish |
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|--|---|------------------------------------|
| | Course O (Olympic) – Triangle, Windward/Leeward, Windward Finish | |
| | <i>Signal</i> | <i>Mark Rounding Order</i> |
| | O | Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – Finish |
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|---|---------------------|---|----------------------------|
| | | Course L (Leeward Finish) – Windward, Leeward Finish | |
| | | <i>Signal</i> | <i>Mark Rounding Order</i> |
| L | Start – 1* – Finish | <p>* - if an offset mark (1a) is present, sailors will leave the offset mark to port after rounding the windward mark (1)</p> | |

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| | | Course L2 (Leeward Gate/Finish) – Windward, Leeward Gate – Windward - Finish | |
| | | <i>Signal</i> | <i>Mark Rounding Order</i> |
| L2 | Start – 1* – 2s/2p – 1 – Finish | <p>* - if an offset mark (1a) is present, sailors will leave the offset mark to port after rounding the windward mark (1)</p> | |

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|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | Course B – Box, Reach Finish | |
| | | <i>Signal</i> | <i>Mark Rounding Order</i> |
| B | Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish | | |

Optimist Trapezoid

