



2022 Valentine's Day Regatta

February 11-13, 2022

Race Days: February 12-13

**Hosted by St. Petersburg Yacht Club
St. Petersburg, FL USA**

NOTICE OF RACE

Posted: November 16, 2021

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

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

Competitors and *support persons* will be required to comply with all current local, state and federal guidelines related to COVID-19 while on the host club grounds or participating in racing. This includes, but is not limited to, any venue-specific requirements promulgated by the Notice of Race (NoR), Sailing Instructions (SI) or any amendments thereto. The organizing authority may terminate the event at any time if they observe significant disregard for any local, state or federal guidelines, or venue-specific requirements.

1 RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships (revised January 22, 2021) at http://d282wvk2qi4wzk.cloudfront.net/wb_editor_doc_1611358789446 applies.
- 1.3. The following US Sailing prescriptions do not apply: RRS 63.1 and RRS 63.2.
- 1.4. 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. See RRS Introduction, Notation.
 - b) [SP] denotes a rule which a standard penalty 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.
 - c) [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.5. [SP][DP] 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 competitors only, an appropriately sized PFD/buoyancy aid as approved for use in the competitor's 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.



2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available at <https://usoda.org/regatta/xuD7einYx3>.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The online notice board is located at <https://usoda.org/regatta/xuD7einYx3>.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event 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 Eligible boats may enter by completing an entry online <https://usoda.org/regatta/xuD7einYx3> by selecting 'Register Now' and providing all required competitor information, paying all required fees (as described in NoR 5), and electronically signing the USODA Waiver of Liability.
- 4.3 Each competitor shall confirm their entry by checking the Event Registration page. If a competitor is not listed on the USODA website, then the competitor is not entered. **Entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**
- 4.4 Each competitor shall submit a signed USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist and USODA Sailor Code of Conduct online prior to check-in at the venue.
- 4.5 Online registration will close Monday, February 8 at 12:00 PM ET. Requests to enter after the online entry deadline are subject to approval by the organizing authority.

5 FEES

- 5.1 Entry fees are as follows:
- The entry fee is \$120 for applications received by January 21, 2022.
 - A late fee of \$25 (\$145 total entry fee) shall be paid for applications received January 22, 2022 through January 28, 2022.
 - An additional late entry fee of \$25 (\$170 total entry fee) shall be paid for applications received January 29, 2022 through 12:00 PM ET February 8, 2022.

6 ADVERTISING

- 6.1 [DP] Competitor advertising is permitted on the hull as per World Sailing Regulation 20.3.2 but as restricted by Class Rule 2.8.
- 6.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority. See World Sailing Advertising Code.

7 FORMAT

- 7.1 There will be two fleets. The Gold Fleet is for more experienced sailors and Silver Fleet for less experienced sailors. The Silver Fleet will have a 15-knot sustained wind-speed limit.
- 7.2 The Gold Fleet will race as one or more divisions depending on the number of entries. The process for allocating boats to division and the format will be specified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 7.3 **There will not be a Green Fleet.**

8 SCHEDULE

- 8.1 Program and Schedule
-

**Wednesday, February 9**

All Day Industry Partners Welcome to Arrive

Thursday, February 10

All Day Competitors Welcome to Arrive

Friday, February 11

1600-1900 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in

Saturday, February 12

0730-0830 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in
Continental Breakfast (if feasible)
0830 Coaches' Meeting
0845 Competitors', Coaches' and Parents' Meeting
0900 Harbor Launch – Gold Fleet
0930 Harbor Launch – Silver Fleet
1000 First Warning Signal – Gold Fleet
1030 First Warning Signal – Silver Fleet
After Racing Regatta Dinner (if feasible)

Sunday, February 13

0730-0830 Continental Breakfast (if feasible)
0800 Coaches' Meeting
0815 Harbor Launch – Gold Fleet
0845 Harbor Launch – Silver Fleet
0930 First Warning Signal – Gold Fleet
1045 First Warning Signal – Silver Fleet
1400 No Warning Signal for a race or "Set" of races after this time
After Racing Awards Ceremony at St. Petersburg Sailing Center

- 8.2 Six (6) "Sets" of races are scheduled for the Gold Fleet if they sail a multi-division regatta. Eight (8) races are scheduled for the Gold Fleet if they sail a single division regatta. The Silver Fleet will sail as many races as practicable. A "Set" is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed.

9 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT

- 9.1 Competitors are allowed to use only one hull, dagger board, rudder (with tiller and extension), mast, boom, sprit and sail during the event. Any change of equipment due to damage shall be authorized by the race committee.
- 9.2 Boats may be inspected at any time during the event.

10 VENUE

- 10.1 The racing area for the Gold Fleet and Silver Fleet will be on Tampa Bay.

11 THE COURSES

- 11.1 The courses to be sailed will be trapezoidal with details included in the sailing instructions.



12 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 12.1 The USODA Graded Penalty System (GPS) will apply. The GPS will be defined in the sailing instructions.
- 12.2 RRS Appendix P applies.
- 12.3 RRS P2.3 does not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it applies to any penalty after the first one.

13 SCORING

- 13.1 One race or “Set” of races is required to constitute a series.

14 SAFETY

- 14.1 Each competitor shall complete a USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist prior to 0830 on Saturday, February 12. This checklist shall inform the race committee that all equipment is present and in working order.
- 14.2 Boats may be subject to a safety inspection at any time during the event.
- 14.3 Rule 40.1 will apply at all times while afloat.
- 14.4 [DP] A whistle shall be carried attached to their personal flotation device. (CR 4.2)
- 14.5 [DP] Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of the 8m (26ft 3in) painter. This is added to CR 4.3(b).

15 ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

- 15.1 All coaches, parents, guardians and ‘designated adults’ are support persons (See RRS definition *Support Person*).
- 15.2 In addition to the requirements of RRS 3 Decision to Race, 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.
- 15.3 Parents not personally attending any part of the event shall ensure that another adult is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their sailor.
- 15.4 Each competitor shall indicate in writing at Registration the parent or adult representative that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.
- 15.5 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 event.
- 15.6 The organizing authority strongly recommends that each sailor have a support (coach or spectator) vessel on the racecourse throughout the event.
- 15.7 The organizing authority recommends there be at least one support vessel for every 10 sailors.
- 15.8 All support vessels shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/xuD7einYx3> by selecting ‘Register Now’ and paying a \$1 entry fee during registration (see NoR 8.1) and promptly display a numbered flag supplied by the organizing authority while on the water. A \$24 hold will be placed on the credit card provided as a security deposit for the flag.
- 15.9 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.



15.10 [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.

15.11 [DP] 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.

16 BERTHING

[DP] Boats shall be kept in the assigned places while they are in the boat park.

17 RISK STATEMENT

17.1 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.

17.2 The organizing authority including the sponsors, the race committee, the officers, directors, employees and members of the **St. Petersburg Yacht Club**, 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 event.

18 PRIZES

18.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

Gold Fleet

Overall: 1st through 10th

Red Fleet: 1st through 10th

Blue Fleet: 1st through 10th

White Fleet: 1st through 10th

Top girl: 1st through 3rd

Silver Fleet

Overall: 1st through 10th

Red Fleet: 1st through 3rd

Blue Fleet: 1st through 5th

White Fleet: 1st through 5th

Top girl: 1st through 3rd

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 event.

19 QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

19.1 This regatta is a 2022 USODA Team Trials Qualifying event.

19.2 The top 25% of the Gold Fleet will receive invitations to compete in the 2022 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.

20 FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Regatta Chair: Todd Fedyszyn, VdayRegatta@gmail.com

Early Arrival & Additional Information: Contact (727) 822-3113 or email VdayRegatta@gmail.com.

OPTI CHARTERS, VENDORS, POWERBOAT RENTALS & MORE

McLaughlin Boat Works, 423-875-0740, <http://optistuff.com>



Simmons Boatworks, 203-506-9333, rob@simmonsbw.com, <https://simmonsbw.com/>
Zim Sailing, charters@zimsailing.com, (401) 237-6117, www.zimsailing.com/charters

VENUE

St. Petersburg Yacht Club

11 Central Avenue
St Petersburg, FL 33701

St. Petersburg Sailing Center

250 2nd Ave SE
St Petersburg, FL 33701

Event Website: <https://usoda.org/regatta/xuD7einYx3>

Host Website – www.spyc.org

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

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