

**2024 MAINE STATE  
OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIP  
July 31 – August 1, 2024  
Southport Junior Yacht Club Sailing Foundation  
38 Cozy Harbor Road  
Southport, ME 04576**

**NOTICE OF RACE**

**1. Date and Venue**

- 1.1. The 2024 Maine State Optimist Championship will be held Wednesday, July 31 and Thursday, August 1, 2024 at the Southport Yacht Club, 38 Cozy Harbor Road, Southport, ME 04576.

**2. Organization and Rules**

- 2.1. The Organizing Authority is the Southport Junior Yacht Club Sailing Foundation (“SJYCSF”). The Regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (2021-2024)*, and the "USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships," which can be found at [https://www.optiworld.org/uploaded\\_files/Document\\_3023\\_20240202102732\\_en.pdf](https://www.optiworld.org/uploaded_files/Document_3023_20240202102732_en.pdf).
- 2.2. The Class Rules for purposes of the definition of "rules" are the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) Class Rules.
- 2.3. Immediate Penalties for Breaking Rule 42 and Appendix P will apply.

**3. Eligibility, Fleet, and Fleet Divisions**

- 3.1. The Regatta is open to all boats of the Optimist Class.
- 3.2. All competitors/boats:
- a) Are required to be affiliated with a member organization of the Northeast Sailing Association.
  - b) Shall not reach their sixteenth (16th) birthday in the current calendar year.
  - c) Shall display a proper sail number in accordance with IODA Class Rules.

- 3.3. Championship Fleet Divisions (age groupings) – Competitors in the Championship Fleet will be divided into three groups for scoring according to their ages as of August 15, 2024. Competitor age groups are:
  - a) White fleet - 10 years old or younger.
  - b) Blue fleet - 11 or 12 years old.
  - c) Red fleet - 13 years old or older and shall not reach their 16th birthday in the current calendar year.
- 3.4. Green Fleet – This is a special fleet for beginners. Green fleters can be any age up to 15. The purpose of the Green Fleet is to encourage novice sailors.
- 3.5. There will be a limit of 65 competitors for the regatta. This limitation may be expanded at the discretion of the Regatta Chair.
- 3.6. The organizing authorities may, at their discretion, require satisfactory proof of age and affiliation with a member organization of the Northeast Sailing Association.

#### **4. Registration**

- 4.1. Competitors must have completed all parts of the registration form on regatta website and submitted it with all fees to: [https://www.regattaman.com/jr\\_reg1.php?sku=r-1040-2024-0-0-0](https://www.regattaman.com/jr_reg1.php?sku=r-1040-2024-0-0-0)
- 4.2. The entry fee is \$100.00 per competitor. **REGISTRATIONS CLOSE ON FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024 at 6:00 pm. On-site registration will not be permitted. Entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.**
- 4.3. The entry fee includes an event t-shirt, breakfast, a bag lunch and after race refreshments. **Competitors should bring their own water bottles and waterproof bags for their lunches to take with them while sailing.** Water bottle filling stations will be available.
- 4.4. Each competitor shall confirm that he/she is registered on the Regatta website (section 4.1). If a competitor is not listed as registered on the Regatta website then the competitor is not registered and policy in paragraph 4.2 applies.

#### **5. Travel Logistics.**

- 5.1. **Optimist boat storage** –We are sorry, but we cannot provide Opti storage on the SYC docks. All clubs other than SYC will store/rig/derig their boats at the beginning and end of the day on the grass areas surrounding the SYC Clubhouse. **All clubs should therefore plan on bringing a sufficient number of dollies to launch their boats.** The launching of Optimists will not be allowed until the Harbor Start horn has sounded.
- 5.2. **On-site parking at SYC is limited.** Each club will be issued one parking pass. Additional cars can be parked at the Southport Central School which is a 5 to 10 minute walk from the SYC. Car-pooling is encouraged. There is no street parking on Cozy Harbor Road, the road on which the SYC is located.

5.3. **Trailer storage** – Trailers cannot be stored at the SYC. Trailers can be stored for free at Southport Central School.

**5.4. Support, Coach, Parent, Spectator boats**

5.4.1. Coach, parent or other support boats may be launched at the SYC on Tuesday, July 30. Please be aware of the tide in Cozy Harbor. On Wednesday morning there will be **No** coach, parent or other support boat launching at the SYC until all Opti's are launched and 30 minutes after the Harbor Start.

5.4.2. The SYC has limited dock space. The SYC will find Tuesday thru Thursday overnight dock tie up space for a maximum of two coach boats per club in Cozy Harbor. Such overnight dock tie up space is expected to be on private docks in Cozy Harbor. Due to a lack of moorings and limited dock space, other coach/support/parent/spectator boats **cannot** be stored in Cozy Harbor overnight. Moorings and dock space outside of Cozy Harbor can be found at:

5.4.2.1. Ebenecook Harbor, Southport – Hodgdon Yacht Services, (207) 633-2970

5.4.2.2. Boothbay Harbor – Various marinas

5.4.2.3. Five Islands (other side of Sheepscot River) – Sheepscot Bay Boat Co., (207) 371-2442

5.4.2.4. Georgetown Island (other side of Sheepscot River) – Robinhood Marine Center (207) 371-2343

5.4.3. Limited space on SYC/SJYCSF spectator boats for viewing the Championship Fleet is available. It is expected that Green fleet races will be viewable from the Hendricks Head public beach on Southport.

**5.4.4.** All coaches must complete check-in by 9:00 AM Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

**5.4.5.** All coach, parent, spectator or other support boats will be expected to participate in the provisions of safety for the event. All such boats must stay outside the course area at all times. The exception is that coach boats are allowed in the back half of the Green Fleet.

**6. Schedule**

Tuesday, July 30	2:00 – 6:00 PM	Check-in, Opti Unloading, Coach and Parent Spectator Boat Launching at the SYC.
	Low Tide – 1:16 pm	
	High Tide – 7:43pm	<i>Boat launching recommended after 4:00 pm</i>

***We encourage all who are able to deliver Opti's and launch coach boats on Tuesday!***

Wednesday, July 31	7:00 – 8:30 AM	Opti Unloading, but NO Coach Boat or Parent Spectator boat launching at the SYC
	8:00 – 9:00 AM	Registration Check-in
	9:15 AM	Coaches Meeting
	9:30 AM	Skippers' meeting
	9:45 AM	Harbor Start for Championship Fleet
	11:00 AM	Approximate time of first warning gun for the day
	11:15 AM	After all Opti's have been launched, late coach and parent spectator boat launching at SYC is allowed. No trailer storage at SYC. Bring trailers to Southport Central School.
		Lunch on the water
	3:30 PM	No warning signal after this time
	4:45 PM	Barbeque at SYC
Thursday, August 1	9:15 AM	Coaches Meeting
	9:30 AM	Skippers' meeting
	9:45 AM	Harbor Start for Championship Fleet

11:00 AM	Approximate time of first warning gun for the day
11:15 AM	After all Opti's have been launched, late coach and parent spectator boat launching at SYC is allowed. No trailer storage at SYC. Bring trailers to Southport Central School.
	Lunch on the water
3:30 PM	No warning signal after this time
4:45 PM	Food and beverages immediately after getting off the water
After racing	Awards Ceremony ASAP

NOTE:

High Tide = 9:32 a.m.  
 Low Tide = 3:20 p.m.

**7. Format of the Regatta and Racing Areas**

- 7.1. Weather and resources permitting, SJYCSF is planning for two separate starting lines, one for the Championship Fleet (Red, Blue and White fleets combined) and one for the Optimist Green Fleet.
- 7.2. The racing area for the Championship Fleet will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting but is expected to be in the Sheepscoot River between government navigation marks "N 6" and "Gong 4 CL".
- 7.3. 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. For parents and spectators, most of the Green Fleet racing should be visible with the naked eye (although binoculars would make it even better) from the Hendricks Head beach, which is a public beach.

**8. Course**

- 8.1. The courses will be provided in the Sailing Instructions (SI).

**9. Scoring for the Championship Fleet**

- 9.1. The Low-Point Scoring System, RRS Appendix A, will be used except when modified by the Sailing Instructions.

- 9.2. One race constitutes a Regatta.
- 9.3. A competitor's worst finish shall be discarded when five or more races have been completed. If ten or more races are sailed – two worst finishes will be discarded.

## **10. Scoring for the Green Fleet**

- 10.1. Consistent with the USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships, section 18, the Green Fleet will not be scored.

## **11. Sailing Instructions**

- 11.1. Sailing Instructions will be available to competitors through Regattaman by July 25, 2024.

## **12. Protests**

- 12.1. Competitors in the Championship Fleet shall inform the Race Committee finish boat of the intention to file a protest immediately after finishing.
- 12.2. Protests shall be filed in writing within 30 minutes of when the Race Committee docks. The docking time for the Race Committee shall be posted on the Notice Board. The location of the protest forms will be announced at the Skippers meeting. Flying of a Code Flag B or other flag signal is not required. This modifies the USODA Class Rules.
- 12.3. Competitors in the Green Fleet are expected 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.
- 12.4. All competitors and support persons are expected to comply with RRS 69 – Misconduct.
- 12.5. Add to rule 62.2: On the final day of racing, any request for redress based on the scoring of a race shall be delivered no more than 30 min after the scores are posted on the Regatta Notice Board.

## **13. Safety**

- 13.1. Each competitor must wear a US Coast Guard or other government approved personal flotation device (PFD), properly secured at all times, from dock to dock, unless when temporarily adding or removing clothing. Wet suits, dry suits and inflatable PFDs do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. Failure to wear a USCG Approved PFD as required will result in disqualification.
- 13.2. A whistle must be attached with lanyard to the PFD. Competitors not complying with this instruction shall be given a penalty of five (5) points for each race in which they have failed to observe this instruction.
- 13.3. Each competitor shall submit an acceptable USODA Self-Certification Safety Checklist form during the regatta check-in. A coach's signature is required on the form. Forms

will be available online at the regatta website (section 4.1). Compliance with the safety standards listed on the form is subject to the review of the Regatta Safety Officer(s).

- 13.4. Each competitor is required to have an adult responsible for him/her on each race course (Championship and Green) who shall be a coach or representative from that competitor's club or a designated on the water coach who shall not be responsible for more than 10 competitors.** Each coach or representative must monitor the designated Race Committee VHF Channel for that particular line with his/her own VHF radio.
- 13.5.** Parents/guardians are responsible for the safety of the sailor. It is the responsibility solely of the parents/guardians of the sailor to decide if the sailor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the event. Parents not personally attending any part of the event must ensure that another adult is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their sailor.
- 13.6.** It is required that all coaches check in and out their competitors with the appointed person when they go out and come off the water. If a competitor is unable to go on the water for any reason, the adult responsible for him/her is required to notify one of the Race Safety Officers or the volunteer responsible for the safety check-in.
- 13.7.** A boat retiring from a race shall notify the Race Committee before leaving the course and check-in with the Race Safety Officer or volunteer responsible for check-in immediately after arrival ashore.
- 13.8.** All coach, support, parent, and spectator boats must have a working VHF radio on board to monitor the event or that boat will not be allowed in the sailing area.

#### **14. Coaches**

- 14.1.** Coaches shall check in at the event. The Race Committees reserves the right to ask any coach or any other support person as defined in the RRS, which includes a parent, to leave the racing area and return to the Harbor if a such person is being overly aggressive or impeding the racing. Coaches are encouraged to provide sound, safe and courteous information to the competitors between races, but are not allowed to coach during a race with the exception that coaching is allowed in the back of the Green Fleet.

#### **15. Equipment**

- 15.1.** 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.

#### **16. Liability**

- 16.1.** Participants compete in the Regatta entirely at their own risk. Waivers must be signed by all competitors and their parents/guardians at check-in.

## **17. Rule 47 – Trash**

- 17.1.** Competitors are reminded of Rule 47, which states that competitors “shall not intentionally put trash in the water.”

## **18. Media Rights**

- 18.1.** By participating in this regatta, a competitor and his or her parents/guardians grant to the SCYCSF and any Regatta sponsors the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any photographs, motion pictures and live, taped or filed television and other reproductions of him or her during the period of the competition without compensation.

## **19. RRS 3 States:**

- 19.1.** “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.” By participating in this event each competitor and his/her parent/guardian 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, failed 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.

## **20. Trophies**

### **20.1.** Opti Championship Fleet Perpetual Trophy

Overall 1, 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place

Red Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>

Blue Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>

White Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>

Green Fleet: Participation Awards

- 20.2.** Additional awards and prizes may be presented at the sole discretion of the organizing authorities and may be based on criteria other than Regatta Results.

## **21. Perpetual Trophy**

- 21.1.** The Maine State Optimist Championship is an open event. However, the perpetual trophy is awarded to the highest finishing “Maine Sailor.” The award of the perpetual trophy will be governed by a certification from each club that the participant, while sailing as a member of that club, is not a visiting sailor but is, in fact, an active participant in its regular programs or a seasonal/family member of that club.



## **22. Additional Information**

For additional Information contact:

Will Brinegar: Regatta Chair

Maddie Kaler – Co-Chair

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