

2026 Connecticut Optimist State Championship

Saturday, September 26, and Sunday, September 27, 2026

Notice of Race

1. Rules

- 1.1. This event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028, including the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association.
- 1.2. The Equipment and Measurement Rules of USODA.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. This event is open to all Optimist Sailors sailing in White, Blue, and Red Fleets.
- 2.2. All participants shall be certified as competent for this event by either their head instructor, head coach, parent or the program head of their member program. Competency is defined as follows: Each entrant is able to sail his/her Optimist to windward and to leeward in a variety of wind conditions, is able to right the boat after a capsize, and has previously sailed and completed a race.

3. Entry and Fees

- 3.1. The entry fee schedule is:
 - 3.1.1. Until September 1, 2026 midnight: \$100
 - 3.1.2. After September 1, 2026: \$120
 - 3.1.3. No registrations accepted after midnight, September 20, 2026.

4. Check In

- 4.1. All competitors are required to check in in person in advance of the competitor meeting. Competitor names will be cross-referenced with their registered sail number.

5. Measurement, Safety, and Equipment

- 5.1. All boats shall conform to Optimist class rules. Boats are subject to inspection by the organizing authority or the judges at any time during the event.
- 5.2. Sail Numbers: Sail numbers must be confirmed during check-in and shall not change without permission of the Organizing Authority (OA). Sail numbers must be complete and clearly visible from both sides of the sail.

6. Schedule

- 6.1. Saturday, September 26
 - 6.1.1. 0830-1000 Check In and Safety Check
 - 6.1.2. 1000 Competitor and Coach Meeting
 - 6.1.3. 1130 First Warning Signal
 - 6.1.4. 1630 No Warning Signal after this time
- 6.2. Sunday, September 27
 - 6.2.1. 0830-1000 Check In and Safety Check
 - 6.2.2. 1100 First Warning Signal

- 6.2.3. 1630 No Warning Signal after this time
- 6.2.4. 1730 Awards and Refreshments (will be soon as possible after racing)

7. Sailing Instructions

- 7.1. Sailing Instructions will be available on The Clubspot event page on or before Wednesday, September 1, at 1800.
- 7.2. Changes to the sailing instructions shall be posted to The Clubspot event page at least 15 minutes before the competitors meeting on the day they will take effect. Except changes that affect the schedule will be posted on or before 1800 the day before they take effect.

8. Boat Storage, Launching, and Parking

- 8.1. When not sailing, Optimists may be stored in the Niantic Bay Dry Sail Area and beach.
- 8.2. Support boats may be launched from the club hoist after explicit permission is granted for each such boat, or from the Niantic River Boat Ramp located at 21 Avenue B, Waterford, CT.
- 8.3. Vehicle parking will be across the street from NBYC in the sand/dirt parking lot.

9. Venue

- 9.1. The racing area will be in Niantic Bay. A more exact sailing area will be communicated at the competitor's meeting.

10. Scoring

- 10.1. The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply.
- 10.2. Ten races are scheduled but the total number of races sailed will be at the discretion of the race committee.
- 10.3. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 10.4. When five or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 10.5. When six or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

11. Support Boats

- 11.1. Spectator and support boats shall stay at least 75 yards away from the racing perimeter while boats are racing and shall monitor VHF channel 68 for updates and directives coming from the Race Committee.
- 11.2. All spectator and support boats shall make no wake while operating near the race course.
- 11.3. At all times, support persons including the registered driver(s) of a support vessel shall comply with directions given by or under the authority of a race official. This includes assisting in rescue operations when requested to do so.
- 11.4. Failure to comply with these protocols may result in a penalty for the sailor(s) associated with the violators.

12. Disclaimer of Liability

12.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with during or after the regatta.

13. Communications

13.1. Except in an emergency, while racing, a sailor shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones, other electronics, and any other signaling system.

14. Further Information

14.1. This Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions, results and other information will be available on the The Clubspot event page.

14.2. Refreshments will be provided after sailing on day two. Sailors are asked to bring their own lunches and reusable waterbottles.

Regatta Chair/OA

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