

NOTICE OF RACE
MAINE STATE OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIP

20-21 July 2026
Portland Yacht Club
40 Old Powerhouse Rd.
Falmouth, Maine 04105

The Organizing Authority is The Portland Yacht Club.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028.
- 1.2. The Class Rules will apply except for any that are altered by the Notice of Race.
- 1.3. All competitors must wear USCGA-Approved personal flotation devices at all times while on the water.
- 1.4. The Sailing Instructions will be available on the event website.

<https://theclubspot.com/regatta/7j6HudIS25>

2. VENUE

- 2.1. All onshore activities will occur at The Portland Yacht Club, which is at 40 Powerhouse Road, Falmouth Maine 04105.
- 2.2. The racing area is Casco Bay, either outside Clapboard Island, or southwest of Clapboard Island. SI shall denote exact locations.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online official notice board is located on the Clubspot registration site:
<https://theclubspot.com/regatta/7j6HudIS25>
- 3.2. From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make or receive electronic voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. This modifies RRS 41.

4. ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1. This regatta is open to all boats of the USODA Class subject to all conditions stated in this NoR and all entry requirements.
- 4.2. All competitors are strongly encouraged be current members of the USODA.

5. ENTRY & FEES

- 5.1. Entry is available on-line at: <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/7j6HudIS25> Late fee applies after 12pm, 12-June.
- 5.2. All competitors must complete a waiver of liability as a condition of eligibility. These are available on the regatta registration website.
- 5.3. n/a
- 5.3. Entry fees include all on-shore activities and refreshments for competitors.
- 5.4. All Participants must be registered and paid by 5PM on 19 JULY 2026
- 5.8. There is no coach registration fee.
- 5.9. Limited moorage for coach boats is on a space-available basis. Email tom@sail1design.com for details. Additional moorage is available at [Handy Boat Service](#)
- 5.10. Refunds for cancelled entries 50% up to 18 July 2026 and no refunds thereafter.

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available on the event website no later than 18 July 2026.

7. SCHEDULE

7.1. The schedule of events is as follows:

Sunday 19 JULY

Boat park open to equipment arrival 1600-1800 or earlier by specific arrangement with the Regatta Chair only.
Check-in open 1600 1800.

Monday 20 JULY

Check in Open 0800. All check ins must be completed by 0900.

Competitors Meeting 0915

First Warning Signal as soon as practicable afterward.

Tuesday 21 JULY

Rigging of Boats 0900

First Warning Signal as soon as practicable afterward.

Last possible warning signal 1500 .

7.2. All protests must be received by the protest committee no later than 30 minutes after the Race Committee boat has docked following racing on the day of the protest. The time of RC boat docking shall be displayed on the Sailing Notice Board outside the Junior Clubhouse.

8. COURSES AND DECISIONS TO RACE

8.1. The courses will be windward-leeward with a gate at the leeward end of the course, set with movable marks as described in the sailing instructions.

8.2. The race target time is subject to RC discretion.

8.3. The minimum wind speed for starting shall be that in which the Race Committee considers the boats have sufficient capability for pre-start maneuvers.

9. SCORING

9.1. The Low Point Scoring System (Appendix A) shall be used except as modified below.

9.2. When fewer than six (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When six (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

10. AWARDS

10.1. Awards will be given to the top 3 boats in Red, White, and Blue fleets, and the perpetual overall Maine State Optimist Champion will be awarded, to be engraved by the winner. While scores will be kept in Green Fleet, awards shall be given to all Green Fleet competitors.

11. BOAT LAUNCHING AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE & PARKING

11.1. Optimist boats shall be kept on the Portland Yacht Club Junior Sailing parking lot.

11.2. Support boats may launch from the Falmouth Town Landing Ramp. Please be advised that launching at low tide is challenging and in some cases not possible.

11.3. Trailers and other equipment is/are permitted at Portland Yacht Club for the period 19-21 JULY in association with this event. Trailers must be stored in the designated area given at and/or before registration.

11.4. To arrange boat storage outside of the event period, Contact the event chair at: tom@sail1design.com

11.5 Parking is extremely limited at the PYC. Please make every effort to carpool and the parking lot will close down when full. There is absolutely no visitor parking in the lot; all visitors must park in the field. Those not following this rule will be towed.

12. COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS

12.1. Coach boats agree to serve as safety/support boats for all in event of need. Further emergency plan instructions for support vessels will be provided electronically after registration. Support boats *may* be required to display flags supplied by the OA for identification purposes.

12.2. During racing, coach and support boats shall monitor the race committee VHF channel and remain more than 100 yards from the course area, except when asked to assist by the race committee.

12.3. All coach and support boats shall act as rescue boats if so instructed by the Race Committee (more details in Sailing Instructions).

12.4. All other boats (e.g. spectator) will not be permitted in the racing area, and shall stay a minimum of 200 yards from the course area, per conditions detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

12.5 Coach boats shall launch and haul at the Falmouth Town Landing.

12.6 Coach boats shall tie up on the inboard side of the Jr. Float during the event unless otherwise directed by the Regatta Chair.

13. RISK, DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY, & PERSONAL CONDUCT

13.1. Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. See RRS 4 (Decision to Race). The organizing authority 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.

13.2. Competitors shall accept full responsibility for all their actions during any activity related to this event. This includes on-shore activities before, during, and after the regatta.

14. RIGHT TO USE NAME & LIKENESS

By participating in this event, all competitors automatically grant the organizers and sponsors the right to make, use and show, at any time and at their discretion, any photographs or videos of him or her produced during the period of the event without compensation.

15. CHARTER BOATS

Race Optimists may be available for charter. Please call Tom Sitzmann 443.220.2089

16. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

16.1. Portland, Maine is 5 miles from Falmouth, making it the closest area with hotels/restaurants to our Falmouth venue. Freeport, 8 miles away, also has several major hotels. Additional useful information on lodging, travel, and tourism is available online at Visit Portland: <https://www.visitportland.com/>

16.2. For more information, please contact Regatta Chairman Thomas Sitzmann at tom@sail1design.com -or- 443.220.2089