



2023 Allstate Sugar Bowl Optimist Midwinter Championship

Southern Yacht Club
in conjunction with
U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA)
(collectively known as the Organizing Authority)
November 23-25, 2023
New Orleans, LA USA

NOTICE OF RACE

1 RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#) will apply.
- 1.3. The US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.1 and RRS 63.2 do not apply.
- 1.4. In all rules governing this event [SP] denotes a rule which a standard penalty from the “USODA Graded Penalty System” 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 A5.1.
- 1.5. [SP][DP] RRS 40.1 will apply at all times while afloat.
- 1.6. [DP][NP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable requests from an event official including reasonable actions to implement Covid-19 guidance, protocols or legislation. Such actions, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions. Failure to comply with requests may be considered misconduct.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available after November 15, 2023 at <https://usoda.org/regatta/CjxqLzqAbC>.

3 COMMUNICATION

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

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 at <https://usoda.org/regatta/CjxqLzqAbC> and providing all required competitor information, paying all required, 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 complete their entry online prior to check-in at the venue. Entry is not complete until the competitor has submitted a signed USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist and USODA Sailor Code of Conduct.



- 4.5 Online applications will close Sunday, November 19 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:

Class	Before Nov 2	Nov 2 – Nov 8	After Nov 8
Championship Fleet	130	155	180
Green Fleet	110	135	160

6 ADVERTISING

- 6.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

7 FORMAT

- 7.1 The Championship Fleet will race as one or more divisions depending on the number of entries. The process for allocating boats to divisions and the format will be specified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 7.2 There will be a Green Fleet if at least five (5) boats are registered by the initial deadline. See Green Fleet Addendum D for more information and schedule.

8 SCHEDULE

- 8.1 Program and Schedule

Wednesday, November 22

All Day Competitors Welcome to Arrive

Thursday, November 23

1500-1800 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in

Friday, November 24

0730-0900 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in

Continental Breakfast

0815 Coaches' Meeting

0830 Competitors', Coaches' and Parents' Meeting

0900 Harbor Launch

1000 First Warning Signal for Championship Fleet

After Racing Hot Snacks

Saturday, November 25

0730-0900 Continental Breakfast

0830 Coaches' Meeting

0900 Harbor Launch

1000 First Warning Signal for Championship Fleet

After Racing Awards Ceremony & Hot Snacks

- 8.2 Six (6) "Sets" of races are scheduled for the Championship Fleet if they sail a multi-division regatta. Eight (8) races are scheduled for the Championship Fleet if they sail a single division regatta. Three (3) "Sets" of races or four (4) races are scheduled for each day of racing, however up to four (4) "Sets" of races may be



sailed in one day providing the championship never gets more than one “Set” of races or races ahead of schedule. A “Set” is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed.

9 [SP] EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 9.1 Boats may be inspected at any time during the event.

10 VENUE

- 10.1 NoR Addendum A shows the shore facilities.
- 10.2 The racing area will be north of the Southern Yacht Club on Lake Pontchartrain.

11 THE COURSES

- 11.1 The courses to be sailed will be described in the sailing instructions.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 12.1 The “USODA Graded Penalty System” will apply. Percentage penalties will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- 12.2 RRS Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, will apply and is changed as follows: 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.
- 13.2 Rule 90.3(e) will be in effect. There shall be no changes to race or series scores, including the correction of errors, initiated more than 24 hours after the reasons outlined in rule 90.3(e)(1), (2) or (3.).

14 SAFETY

- 14.1 Each competitor shall complete a USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist prior to **Friday, November 24.**

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, a *Support Person* 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 or guardians not personally attending any part of the event shall ensure that another *Support Person* is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their sailor.
- 15.4 Each competitor shall designate, in writing at Registration, the *Support Person* that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.
- 15.5 The designated *Support Person* shall accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes onshore 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/CjxqLzqAbC> and pay a \$1 entry fee. A numbered flag, supplied by the organizing authority, shall be displayed at all times while on the water. A \$24 hold will be placed on the credit card provided as a security deposit for the flag.
- 15.9 [DP] Each support vessel shall have a working VHF radio monitoring the designated race committee channel, 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 CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

- 16.1 A chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of her class rules, provided that the race committee has approved her sail identification before the first race.

17 BERTHING

- 17.1 [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while in the boat park.
- 17.2 [DP] Trailers must be tagged and stored in specified areas. A map showing available space will be published with the regatta welcome packet.
- 17.3 [DP] Support person vessels shall be kept at locations assigned at check-in.
- 17.4 To arrange for storage outside of the event period, contact the the SYC Waterfront Director, Jim Brusgard, at jim@southernyachtclub.org.

18 RISK STATEMENT

- 18.1 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.**
- 18.2 The organizing authority including the sponsors, the race committee, the officers, directors, employees and members of the **Southern 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.

19 PRIZES

- 19.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

[Gold][Championship]Fleet

Overall: 1st through 5th (or 10th if over 80 sailors)
Red Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)
Blue Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)
White Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)
Girls: 1st through 3rd



Mendelblatt Trophy – 1st overall
Mandy Bremen Trophy – 1st Girl
Ewell C. Potts, Jr. Memorial Trophy – 1st White Fleet
John Lovell Trophy – Top GYA Sailor

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.

20 QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- 20.1 This regatta is a 2024 USODA Team Trials Qualifying event. The top 25% of the Championship Fleet (based upon the total number of boats registered in both the Championship and Green fleets) will receive invitations to compete in the 2024 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.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Regatta Chair: Mary Lovell, marydaquin@gmail.com

Principal Race Officer: Charles Meade

Protest Committee Chair: Peter Gerard

OPTI CHARTERS, VENDORS, POWERBOAT RENTALS & MORE

Professional Boats, www.professionalboats.com, 321-946-2572

Simmons Boatworks, 203-506-9333, rob@simmonsbw.com, <https://simmonsbw.com/>

Zim Sailing, charters@zimsailing.com, (401) 237-6117, www.zimsailing.com/charters

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

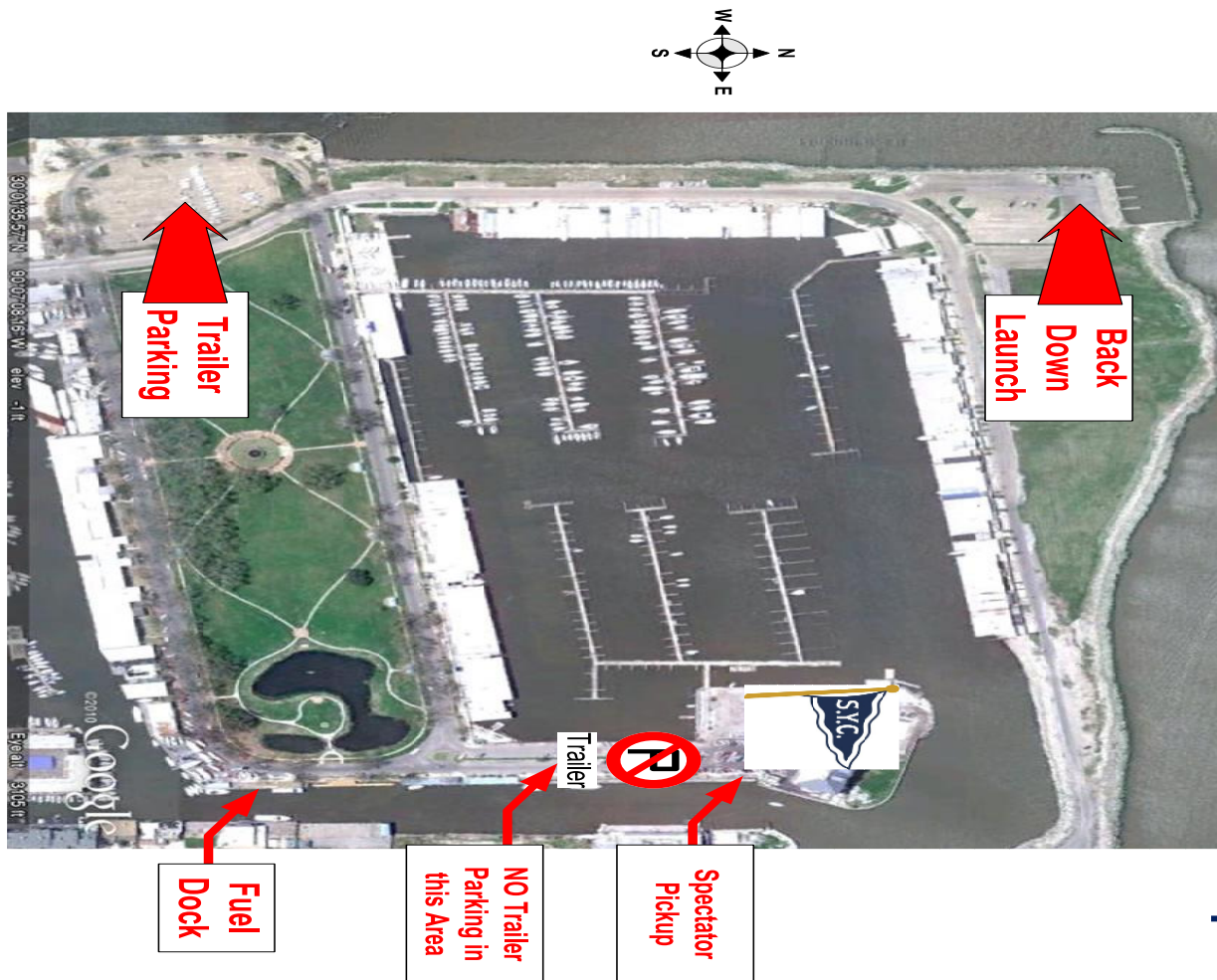
Host Website – <https://www.southernyachtclub.org/>

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

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



Addendum A: Venue Map



Southern Yacht Club Area Map



Addendum B: Green Fleet

1. Green Fleet Policy and Rules

- 1.1. Green Fleet will be run in accordance with the rules and policies outlined by the USODA. This includes the following:
- 1.2. Sailors are expected to use IODA class compliant equipment. However, Green Fleet sailors are exempted from the measurement process.
- 1.3. Active coaching during racing is allowed and encouraged for the back 50% of the fleet. Coaches on the Green Fleet course agree to help any sailor in need of assistance or coaching, not just their own.
- 1.4. Sailors will be expected to attend the morning and post racing briefings as outlined in the schedule.
- 1.5. Protests are not allowed, although a mock protest may be carried out for educational purposes.
- 1.6. Informal results may be kept and displayed on shore, but no prizes shall be awarded based on results. All competitors shall receive a Green Fleet participation medallion.

2. Green Fleet Entry Fees

- 2.1. Green Fleet sailors receive a discounted entry fee. This fee includes the same social events and meals as the standard entry fee. Entry fees are as follows:
 - a. The entry fee is \$110 for entries received by November 1, 2023.
 - b. A late fee of \$25 (\$135 total entry fee) shall be paid for entries received November 2, 2023 through November 8, 2023.
 - c. An additional late entry fee of \$25 (\$160 total entry fee) shall be paid for entries received November 9, 2023 through noon ET on November 19, 2023.

3. Green Fleet Schedule

- 3.1. Green Fleet will be using the following daily schedule. The schedule is approximate and is dependent on the wind conditions and the Championship Fleet schedule.

Schedule

Friday November 24 – Saturday, November 25

0800	Arrival/Rigging
0900	Green Fleet Briefing
0930	Green Fleet Launch
1000-1400	Racing
1500	De-Rig/Post Racing Briefing
1530	Dismissal

4. Racing Format

An effort will be made to complete as many short 15 minute races as practicable.