

South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association

SAYRA Junior Grand Prix Championship Series

Notice of Series 2026



1.0 Rules:

- 1.1 The series will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and:
- 1.2 The SAYRA Junior Championship Committee "[Code of Ethics](#)": All competitors, parents, coaches, or other parties of interest are expected to comply with all rules of sportsmanship (RRS) and the "Code of Ethics". Violation on their part may result in the competitor's disqualification from the race, regatta, or Series and reporting to their member club.
- 1.3 Host Club's Notice of Race (NOR), section 1 RULES shall reference and provide a link to this SAYRA Junior Grand Prix Championship Series NOR.
- 1.4 O'pen Skiff class rule C.2.3(c) is Not in effect.

2.0 Club Host Regatta Eligibility:

Appendix A and B reflect Host Requirements and Recommendations, please read completely.

- 2.1 Club shall be a member in good standing of the SAYRA organization.
- 2.2 Club shall notify the SAYRA Jr Committee of who will serve as their local SAYRA Jr Representative for the event. That representative will act as point of contact for scores and regatta information.
- 2.3 Club shall report scores to the SAYRA Jr Chair at sayrajr@sailing@gmail.com within 1 week after the event.
- 2.4 Club shall comply with section 7.0 Scoring. Additional specifications for host club responsibilities can be found in Appendix A. Please reference this additional specification prior to the regatta and with your regatta scoring delegate. If you have any questions, please reach out to the SAYRA Jr Committee at sayrajr@sailing@gmail.com.
- 2.5 Any Club failing to follow these NOR Club eligibility requirements may be subject to removal from future series participation.

3.0 Sailor Series Eligibility and Entry:

- 3.1 This series is open to boats of the following classes:

Optimist – Green, White, Blue and Red Fleets

Sunfish – Junior Fleet

ILCA – 4, 6, and 7 Fleets

C420 – Spin/trap (Non Spin may compete but must start and be scored with C420)

O'Pen Skiff - U13 and 13+ Divisions.

- 3.2 To qualify for the series, each sailor shall be a member of a SAYRA organization, or a dependent, or a ward of a member of a SAYRA organization. Qualifiers must also be a primary resident of the SAYRA region. If you are a member of more than one club, please note that on your registration to the series.
- 3.3 Each sailor shall conform to the eligibility requirements of the host club's Notice of Race
- 3.4 **All sailors participating in this series are required to register: their name, birthday, home club(s), contact information, and division sailing at the Host Club Regatta event.**
- 3.5 Acceptance of a registration by the host club does not automatically qualify an individual to be scored in the SAYRA Junior Grand Prix Series unless he or she meets the eligibility requirements of this Notice of Race.
- 3.6 Optimists are sailed in four divisions:
 - Green Fleet: Open to all novice sailors under age 15 and through 12/31 of the calendar year in which they turn age 15;
 - White Fleet: Age 10 and under;
 - Blue Fleet: Age 11 - 12;
 - Red Fleet: Age 13 – 15, and through 12/31 of the calendar year in which they turn age 15.
 - Skipper's age on the first day of a regatta determines his or her fleet for that regatta (consistent with USODA requirements). Skippers move fleets on their 11th and 13th birthdays. Those turning 15 may continue in the Red Fleet through December 31st of that year.
 - SAYRA Series Scoring: Sailors who change fleets during the year will still receive participation points for each regatta sailed. For SAYRA Series year-end purposes, Optimist Red, White, and Blue sailors will be scored in the fleet they completed the most regattas in for the SAYRA GP season. Example: A sailor sails 3 individual regattas in Blue fleet and then 2 in Red fleet. Their overall series score for the year will be based on their blue fleet finishes. Green fleet scores are handled separately and do not contribute to the year-end standing of Opti RWB sailors. For proper scoring of Optimist Red, White, and Blue, see Scoring below Section 7.
 - USODA requests that participation trophies are awarded to all Green Fleet sailors. If you are unclear, please contact those listed in section 2.4.

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3.7 Sunfish Class Age Restrictions

Junior Fleet

Eligible to race if they will not reach their 19th birthday in 2026

3.8 ILCA Age Restrictions

ILCA 4 (4.7)

Eligible if they will not reach their 18th Birthday in 2026

ILCA 6 (radial)

Eligible if they will not reach their 19th Birthday in 2026

ILCA 7 (full)

Eligible if they will not reach their 21st Birthday in 2026

3.9 C420 (spin/trap)

Eligible if skipper and crew will not reach their 19th Birthday in 2026

3.10 O'Pen Skiff

Under 13 yrs Division

Eligible if they will not reach their 13th Birthday in 2026

13 years + Division

Eligible if they are 13+ yrs old and will not reach their 17th Birthday in 2026

4.0 Schedule of Events

The events that can be attended and counted towards the series championship can be found below and on the SAYRA website calendar. Complete details here: <https://sayra-sailing.membershiptoolkit.com/JrChamp>

May 2-3	Fresh	Atlanta Yacht Club- Cinco de Mayo Jr Regatta
June 6-7	Salt	South Carolina Yacht Club- SCYC Jr Regatta
June 20-21	Salt	James Island Yacht Club- Father's Day Open Regatta
July 10-12	Salt	Hobcaw Yacht Club- Hobcaw Annual Open Regatta
July 25-26	Salt	Carolina Yacht Club SC- CYC Invitational
August 1-2	Salt	Carolina Yacht Club 1853- SAYRA Invitational
September 12-13	Salt	Beaufort Yacht and Sailing Club- Pluff Mud Jr Regatta
September 19-20	Fresh	Lake Norman Yacht Club- Board Bash
October 9-11	Fresh	Augusta Sailing Club- Halloween Regatta
November 7-8	Fresh	Columbia Sailing Club- Midlands

5.0 Qualification

5.1 To qualify for the Series, a competitor must sail a minimum of 1 saltwater and 1 freshwater regatta.

5.2 For ALL fleets except OPTI GREEN, SUNFISH JUNIOR, and O'PEN SKIFF, the best 3 of 9 regattas in the series will be scored.

5.3 For Opti Green fleet, Sunfish Junior, and O'Pen Skiff the best 2 of 9 regattas will be scored.

6.0 Protests

6.1 Regatta Protests: All protests or requests for redress emanating from an alleged breach of a rule of the Racing Rules of Sailing in a regatta will be administered by the host club's Protest Committee. Host Clubs are encouraged to carefully select Protest Committee members so as to avoid conflicts of interest.

6.2 Series Protests: Requests for redress/protest concerning scoring and eligibility will be acted upon by a panel of judges selected by the SAYRA Jr Chair.

6.3 Series Protests Time Limit: The time limit to file a protest or redress request with the SAYRA Jr Chair shall be January 1, 2026. This will be determined by the time stamp of the request. The request shall be filed via email and in accordance with the RRS Part 5, Section A.

7.0 Scoring

The High Point Scoring System will apply to this series as follows:

7.1 The Series will be scored on the basis of the finishing position attained in registered class at each event. All competitors in each fleet will be included when determining available high point values.

7.2 NOR Section 5.0 indicates how many regattas are counted and the minimum requirements to qualify. Only one score per competitor will be used per venue.

7.3 SAYRA series points will be awarded to registered skippers only.

7.4 Series ties will be broken using the sailor's highest scoring single event. If a tie still remains, the second highest score will be used and so on.

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7.5 Regatta results shall provide overall Class of boat, as well as Division/Fleet results. For example: 1st – 10th Overall scoring for Optimists, as well as Fleet Divisional results. Please see Appendix A and B for the Host guidelines and scoring template. If you don't understand this, please ask those listed in section 2.4 PRIOR to the event.

7.6 Scores shall be sent to the SAYRA Jr Grand Prix Championship Series Scorer as specified in section 9 within 1 week after the regatta. It is the responsibility of the host club's SAYRA Jr. Representative to submit the scores properly and promptly. Failure to do so will jeopardize the host club's event scores being used in the series scoring. See NOR Section 2.0. NOTE: if the regatta has been sailed prior to the date of this NOR, those scores will be accepted.

7.7 Each club shall provide the complete registration information with their event scores as outlined in Appendix C.

8.0 Awards

Trophies will be awarded as follows in the SAYRA Junior Grand Prix Championship Series provided the award winner meets the qualifications according to this NOR. The awards will be presented at the 2026 SAYRA Annual Meeting. Series standings will be posted online at www.sayra-sailing.com and updated within 30 days of each regatta.

Optimist – Green - Participation Awards for qualified sailors

The purpose of the Green fleet is to encourage novice sailors. To discourage sailors from staying in Green fleet, in order to win races and receive awards, USODA's policy is to present "Participation Awards" to all skippers sailing in the green fleet that meet the participation requirements in section 6.0. By not recognizing a champion, sailors and their parents are encouraged to move to the appropriate age fleet as they become more confident of their abilities.

SAYRA series points will be awarded to registered skippers only. Awards will be given to the skipper and their crew. If the crew changes, then the skipper will determine who to give the crew award to.

Optimist Red, White and Blue	1 st – 3 rd Overall each division
Sunfish Junior	1 st – 3 rd Overall
ILCA 4, 6 or 7	1 st – 3 rd Overall each division
C420 Spin/Trap	1 st – 3 rd Overall
Open Skiff U13, 13+	1 st – 3 rd Overall each division

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APPENDIX A: HOST Club Requirements

- Club shall be a member in good standing of the SAYRA organization (Series NOR 2.1).
- Host Clubs must include in their event's NOR links to the 2026 SAYRA JR Grand Prix NOR and the SAYRA Jr Code of Ethics.
- Host Clubs must have a Coaches Meeting each morning of their event to review daily plans, to address any concerns or areas where help may be needed, and to remind coaches to encourage good sportsmanship.
- Host clubs planning on limiting attendance at their event must state so in their NOR prior to opening registration.
- Each club will have a SAYRA Jr Representative that shall act as point of contact between the host club and the SAYRA Jr Committee. They will notify the SAYRA Jr Committee of any misconduct or infractions of the SAYRA Jr Code of Ethics.
- The club's SAYRA Jr representative is responsible for making sure the regatta PRO and scorer understand the requirements of this NOR, especially which divisions sail together and that Overall and Division scoring is required.
- The club's SAYRA Jr representative is responsible for making sure scores are submitted properly to the SAYRA Jr Chair within 1 week of the regatta and that submitted scoring follows the template in Appendix B (Series NOR 2.3) Remit scores to: sayrajrailing@gmail.com.
- Club shall use the SAYRA Junior Grand Prix Championship Series NOR section 7.0 Scoring for reporting regatta results to be used in the SAYRA Junior Grand Prix Championship Series.
- Fleets can be started together where practical and based on registered sailors.
 - Optimist Red, White, & Blue Fleet shall **always** start together. (Will be scored overall for SAYRA)
 - Optimist Green should **always** start separate.
 - O'Pen Skiff U13 & 13+ shall **always** start together. (Will be scored overall for SAYRA)
 - ILCA 4, 6 and 7 can start together or separate (Will be scored separately for SAYRA)
 - Sunfish Juniors should start with Adult Sunfish fleet.
 - 420 Spin and Non Spin **must** start and be scored together. (Will be scored overall for SAYRA)
 - Confusion or questions, please contact the SAYRA Jr Committee prior to the regatta.
- Failure to follow these NOR Club eligibility requirements may cause scores for their event not to be used in the series and jeopardize the club's ability to submit to be a host the next year.

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APPENDIX B: HOST Club Regatta Recommendations

Sailing Instructions/NOR:

- Host shall provide youth friendly NOR/SI specifying age requirements for class divisions in accordance with Series NOR (3.7-3.10).
- SI shall include youth course diagrams.

Skippers Meeting:

- Provide a separate youth course competitors meeting.
- Provide a separate Green Fleet skippers meeting that includes white board diagrams and 'class' like instruction. Mindful that this is likely their first out of town event and we want to encourage a positive experience.
- Identify Coach boats, Safety boats, & Spectator boats on the Jr Course and share with them the safety plan and VHF Channel to monitor.

Launch Plan:

- If the regatta is combined with a larger open event, clubs are encouraged to have a separate launch plan for the junior fleet and explain in detail at the Jr Skippers meeting (i.e., to avoid adults and juniors launching at the same time on the same ramp).
- Utilize parents and coaches to help achieve goals.

On the Water:

- Host clubs are recommended to provide a minimum of one safety boat per junior course, more as needed based on the number of participants and sailing conditions.
- Utilize the coach boats/parent spectator boats as needed in times of safety plan activation. (Share the safety plan ahead of time.)

Support:

- Host clubs are recommended to have at least one US Sailing certified judge helping on the water and on the protest committee.
- Host clubs are recommended to have at least one US Sailing Club Race Officer (or equivalent) helping on the water with the races.

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APPENDIX C: Host Scoring DATA REQUIRED

Each club shall provide the following information with their event scores, along with a copy of all registrant data:

- Name – First & Last (all sailors including skipper and crew for 420s)
- Mailing Email Address of Registered Sailor
- Email Address of Parent/Guardian
- Date of Birth (all sailors including skippers & crew)
- Club Representing (if representing more than one club, it must be listed at the time of registration)
- Junior/Adult (Junior sailors must be noted on list of registrants for those fleets combined with adults)
- Male /Female
- Class of boat sailed (ILCA, Optimist, 420, Sunfish, O'Pen Skiff)
- Division of boat
 - Optimist: Red, White, Blue, Green
 - ILCA: 4, or 6, 7
 - Sunfish: Junior
 - Club 420 (Spin/Trap)
 - O'Pen Skiff: U13, 13+
- Overall class finishing places with divisions noted.
- ILCA/Sunfish PLEASE use (raw) scores per division (4, 6 or 7) and identify junior sailors
- C420 Spin/trap (Non Spin may compete but must start and be scored overall with C420)
- Please do not award place finishes for the Opti green fleet. See section 8.

Multiple formats for the results are accepted (e.g., Regatta Network, SailWave, Yacht Scoring, Excel).