



2026 Optimist Team Race National Championship

Larchmont Yacht Club
in conjunction with U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA)
(collectively known as the Organizing Authority (OA))
September 17-20, 2026
Larchmont, NY 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 [2026 USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#) will apply
- 1.3 The US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.1 and 63.2 do not apply.
- 1.4 [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 60.5(b) and A5.1.
- 1.5 [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.2(a) and 61.1(a).
- 1.6 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: (2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or
- 1.7 [SP][DP] RRS 40.1 will apply at all times while afloat.
- 1.8 [DP][NP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable requests from an event official. Failure to comply with requests may be considered misconduct.
- 1.9 Appendix D, Team Racing Rules, will apply with the following changes. Other changes may be made in the Sailing Instructions (SI):
 - a) RRS D1.1(d) is deleted (“arm signals”).
 - b) RRS D2.1(c) is replaced with: “A boat intending to request redress for an incident in the racing area, or protest for an alleged breach of a rule other than a rule of Part 2, RRS 31, RRS 42, or marked [NP] per NoR 1.5 shall, at the first reasonable opportunity after she finishes, inform the race committee at the finishing line of her intent to protest or request redress and, when applicable, identify the protested boat.”
 - c) RRS D3.3(c) also applies when the protest committee determines that a boat’s support person has broken a rule and, as a result, the support person’s team has gained a competitive advantage.
- 1.10 Appendix U Audible-Signal Racing System, a US Sailing prescription, will apply as modified by the SI.
- 1.11 RRS 63.7(b) is changed: A party to a hearing may not ask for a reopening.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI)

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available **September 17** at <https://usoda.org/regatta/6liNHA2dyn>



3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The online notice board is located at <https://usoda.org/regatta/6liNHA2dyn>.

4 ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

- 4.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the International Optimist class that fulfill the eligibility requirements as defined in the [2026 USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#).
- 4.2 Each team shall consist of at least four (4) competitors, with a maximum of five (5), but only four (4) competitors will sail in each race.
- 4.3 Competitors and teams shall be in compliance with the Team Racing Eligibility requirements outlined in section 7 of the [2026 USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#).
- 4.4 The number of teams will be capped at **36**.
- 4.5 Registration will take place in two steps:
- a) Team Application
- 4.5.a.1. Coaches shall submit a [Team Application](#) for their team(s) from **May 12, 2026 through June 30, 2026**. Individual competitor names are not required at this time.
- 4.5.a.2. As of midnight ET on June 30, 2026, if **36** or fewer teams have submitted Team Applications, all teams will be accepted. If more than **36** teams have submitted Team Applications, teams meeting the eligibility requirements in Section 7.3.1 of the USODA Conditions will be considered first, and teams requesting multiple entries may be limited to allow other teams the opportunity to participate. A waitlist of teams not initially accepted will be maintained and posted on the USODA Event Website.
- 4.5.a.3. The entry fee for accepted teams must be paid within 48 hours. Teams not paying their entry fee within 48 hours will forfeit their spot to the next team on the waiting list (if any). **Entry Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**
- 4.5.a.4. Team Applications received after **September 1, 2026**, are subject to approval by the organizing authority and subject to a late fee of \$150.
- b) Competitor Registration
- 4.5.b.1. Each competitor shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/6liNHA2dyn>, providing all required competitor information, including their team selection and Team Trials Eligibility designation, and electronically signing the USODA Waiver of Liability no later than **September 1, 2026**.
- 4.5.b.2. As part of sailor registration online, sailors agree to be bound by the Sailor Code of Conduct (Addendum A) and Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist (Addendum B).
- 4.6 Coaches shall submit final team rosters no later than September 10, 2026.
- 4.7 Substitutions: Approval of the organizing authority is required to substitute a competitor on a team after September 10, 2026. Any requested substitutions must be made in writing by the coach to the OA and meet the eligibility requirements of NoR 4.1 and 4.3, and comply with NoR 4.5(b)(1) and 4.5(b)(2) before the first scheduled race.

5 FEES

- 5.1 Team entry fees must be paid within 48 hours of acceptance:



- a) The entry fee is **\$1300** for a 4-person team and **\$1625** for a 5-person team for teams who applied before **September 1, 2026**.
- b) An additional late fee of \$150 shall be paid for teams who applied after **September 1, 2026**.

6 ADVERTISING

- 6.1 [DP] Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.
- 6.2 [DP][SP] Each team member will be issued an individual team identification number (TIN) which shall be applied as instructed by the Organizing Authority. Additionally, each team member will wear a distinguishable team pinnie over their PFDs. USODA will provide pinnies to teams who do not have their own that meet this requirement.

7 FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

- 7.1 The event will be a four-boat against four-boat team race. For those teams having five competitors, any four may compete in a race, and the fifth competitor shall remain in the area designated for coaches from the warning signal until that race has been completed.
- 7.2 Based on the number of teams registered, the Principal Race Officer in conjunction with the USODA Representative and the Chief Umpire will determine the regatta format.
- 7.3 The planned format will be specified in the SI and posted on the official notice board by 1800 on **September 17, 2026**.
- 7.4 The Principal Race Officer, with concurrence from the Chief Umpire and Class Representative, may modify the format during the event in a fair and practical way considering the number of entries, existing and predicted weather conditions, time constraints and any other relevant factors, to bring the event to a conclusion. This replaces RRS D4.2(b).

8 SCHEDULE

8.1 Program and Schedule

Thursday, September 17

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|-------------|--|
| 0900 | [DP]Competitors Welcome to Arrive. Arrangements may be made to drop off trailers at LYC before this time by contacting sailing@larchmontyc.org |
| 1600-1800 | Mandatory Competitor Check-In and Support Vessel Registration |

Friday, September 18

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 0800 | [DP] No arrivals at LYC before this time |
| 0830-0930 | Mandatory Competitor Check-In and Support Vessel Registration |
| 0915 | Coaches' Meeting |
| 0930 | Competitors Meeting |
| 1000 | Harbor Launch |
| 1100 | First Warning Signal |
| After Racing | Umpire Briefing for Competitor |
| | Competitors' Dinner in LYC Pando (Additional tickets available for purchase) |

Saturday, September 19

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 0800 | [DP] No arrivals at LYC before this time |
| 0830 | Coaches' Meeting |
| 0900 | Harbor Launch |



1000 First Warning Signal
After Racing Umpire Briefing for Competitors

Sunday, September 20

0800 [DP] No arrivals at LYC before this time
0830 Coaches' Meeting
0900 Harbor Launch
1000 First Warning Signal
1530 No start after this time
After Racing Awards

9 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

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

10 VENUE

10.1 The racing area will be the waters of western Long Island Sound near **the Larchmont Harbor Breakwater**

11 COURSE

11.1 The course will be a starboard hand digital N as described in the SI.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 The USODA Graded Penalty System (GPS) will apply and will be provided in the sailing instructions.

13 SCORING

13.1 Scoring will be in accordance with Appendix D, as modified by the SI.

14 UMPIRING AND PROTESTS

- 14.1 The Regatta will be umpired in accordance with Appendix D rule D2. Some races may have more umpires than others as determined by the Chief Umpire in consideration of the stage of the event.
- 14.2 The required 'red' protest flag for competitors shall be attached to the competitor's PFD and be capable of being conspicuously displayed (waved) at full arm's length where it is easily visible to the protested boat and umpires, and then concealed when the incident is closed. The umpires recommend using a bungee cord, that when stretched exceeds the length of the competitor's arm, to attach the flag to the competitor's PFD.

15 SAFETY

15.1 Each competitor shall agree to abide to the USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist as part of registration for the event.

16 ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

- 16.1 All coaches, parents, guardians and 'designated adults' are *support persons* (See RRS definition *Support Person*).
- 16.2 In addition to the requirements of RRS 3, an adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) 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.

- 16.3 Parents not personally attending any part of the event must ensure that another adult is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their competitor.
- 16.4 Each competitor shall indicate in writing at Check-In the parent or adult representative that shall be responsible for them throughout the course of the event.
- 16.5 The designated adult will accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes on-shore activities before, during, and after the Regatta.
- 16.6 **A designated adult for each team using pinnies provided by USODA shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/6liNHA2dyn> (Class “Pinnie Deposit”) and provide a credit card (by paying \$1) for the pinnie security deposit. If all pinnies are not returned at the end of the event, \$150 will be charged to the credit card provided.**
- 16.7 Each team is allowed one designated coach vessel per 4 or 5-person team.
- 16.8 All support vessels shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/6liNHA2dyn> (Class “Coach/Spectator”) by selecting ‘Register Now’ and paying a \$1 entry fee during registration. A numbered flag, supplied by the organizing authority, shall be displayed at all times while on the water. A \$25 fee will be charged to the credit card if the flag is not returned at the end of the event. **Coaches shall be current members of USODA at the Coach or Sustaining membership level.**
- 16.9 [DP] Each support vessel shall have a working VHF radio and monitor the radio, an anchor suitable for anchoring in the waiting area, and a basic first aid kit.
- 16.10 [DP] All support vessels under 26 feet 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.
- 16.11 [DP] All coaches shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD at all times on the water.
- 16.12 [DP] There shall be no unauthorized unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) drone flight permitted above the racing area, waiting area, corridor, coach/spectator boat zones, start line or finish line.

17 BERTHING

- 17.1 [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while at LYC.
- 17.2 [DP] Support boats shall be launched and retrieved at the public ramps at Harbor Island in Mamaroneck, approximately 3 miles east of the club.
- 17.3 [DP] Trailers must be stored in specified areas designated by LYC employees and volunteers.
- 17.4 [DP] Support vessels shall be kept on moorings or other locations assigned by LYC marine facilities (VHF #72).
- 17.5 [DP] Parking/storage rules will apply to vehicles, trailers and support vessels.
- 17.6 [DP] Coach boats shall only approach or tie up on docks as and when specifically permitted by LYC marine facilities.
- 17.7 [DP] Other support vessels shall not approach or tie up on any LYC docks, provided that, as and when specifically permitted by LYC marine facilities, during periods when no competitors are launching or retrieving their boats, they may use the LYC “gas dock” for very brief periods of active refueling. In no event shall they be left unattended on the “gas dock” for any period.



- 17.8 To arrange for storage outside of the event period, contact the Race Office at sailing@larchmontyc.org.

18 RISK STATEMENT

- 18.1 RRS 3 states: '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 officials, the officers, directors, employees and members of the Larchmont 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 regatta.

19 PRIZES

- 19.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

Gold Fleet: 1st through 3rd place Teams
Silver Fleet: 1st through 3rd place Teams

Additional awards and prizes may be presented at the sole discretion of the organizing authority and may be based on criteria other than the regatta.

20 QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- 20.1 The top two USA teams meeting the Team Race Eligibility requirements from the Gold Fleet may qualify to represent the USODA at the Berlin Opti Team Cup in Berlin, Germany, October 9-11, 2026.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Regatta Chair:

Principal Race Officer:

Protest Committee Chair:

Event Website: <https://usoda.org/regatta/6liNHA2dyn>

YC Website:

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/USOptiSailing/?ref=bookmarks>

Twitter: @USOptiSailing

OPTI & RIB CHARTERS & VENDORS

Club Boat Charter Co., clubboatcharterco@gmail.com, (434) 989-8137

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

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

US One-Design/Sail McLaughlin, www.sailmclaughlin.com, (508) 827-7902

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



Notice of Race – Addendum 1

SAILOR CODE OF CONDUCT FOR United States Optimist Dinghy Association

Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct applies to me as a member of the United States Optimist Dinghy Association (“USODA”). It applies when I participate in a USODA Sanctioned Event. This includes USODA sponsored regattas, USODA National Team (“USNT”) and USODA Optimist Development Program (“ODP2”) practices and international regattas which I attend as a representative of the USODA (each an “event”). This Code of Conduct starts to apply to me when I arrive at an event and ends when I leave the event. This Code of Conduct applies to my behavior both on and off the water. I understand that this Code of Conduct applies in addition to the Racing Rules of Sailing and in addition to any behavior rules that my club or private team may require of me. I understand that I may be subject to additional conduct rules if I participate in an international event, USNT, or ODP2 event. I understand that violations of this Code of Conduct may result in a hearing or punishment from the USODA directly and that my violation of this Code of Conduct may additionally violate the Racing Rules of Sailing, subjecting me to hearing, punishment or sanction imposed by US Sailing.

- I will use my best efforts to learn and follow the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- I will be honest, fair, courteous, respectful and a good sport, whether I am winning or losing.
- I will treat competitors, coaches, regatta officials, parents, hosts and all others with respect, even if I believe that person is wrong.
- I will comply with the reasonable requests of any regatta official, USODA team coach and/or parent chaperone that may be associated with an event.
- I will not use another's property without permission, steal or damage another's property.
- I will not hit, abuse, bully, make fun of or call anyone names.
- I will not swear or curse.
- I will not abuse my equipment in anger.
- I will follow all safety procedures and instructions given by race officials, regatta hosts and other responsible adults. I will promptly notify a race official, coach or responsible adult if another person is in danger.
- I will not engage in any conduct that endangers the health or safety of another competitor.
- I will only use class legal equipment.
- I will not use (including by vaping) alcohol, tobacco, or any drugs that were not prescribed specifically for me.

By completing registration, the sailor agrees to have read and reviewed these rules of conduct and understands that they are expected to follow all of them.



Notice of Race – Addendum 1 (cont'd)

Code of Conduct Hearings:

Any competitor, coach, parent, Race Committee member, member of the Organizing Authority, judge or umpire may report an alleged breach by me of this Code of Conduct during an event.

I may report an alleged breach by another competitor or support person.

All reports must be made in writing (a Conduct Report), though no special form is required, which identify the sailor being complained of and the basic facts of the alleged breach of this Code of Conduct.

The Conduct Report must be presented to any one of the following persons:

the Chief Judge of the event, or in the absence of a Protest Committee, the Principal Race Office (PRO),
the Head Coach of the event (if this is a practice event),

The party taking the Conduct Report shall communicate the report to the USODA Executive Director and as outlined in Appendix L of the World Sailing Misconduct Guidance Manual, they shall determine the appropriate path for addressing the alleged misconduct.

Any decisions of the Conduct Committee are final and non-appealable.

Possible Discipline:

If, after hearing, the Committee determines that a breach has occurred, it may:

- a. Impose any of the following disciplinary actions and is not restricted to imposing just one:
 - i. Require a written or verbal apology to be either privately or publicly made;
 - ii. Issue a written or verbal warning to the competitor, record of which warning shall be maintained with such sailor's membership file;
 - iii. Issue a written report concerning the competitor's behavior to his or her home club or sailing team;
 - iv. In the case of property damage or theft, award damages to the owner of the injured property plus a fine if deemed appropriate in the case of intentional property damage or theft;
 - v. Suspend such sailor's eligibility to attend a future USODA event;
 - vi. Suspend such sailor's eligibility to receive an invitation to attend an international event with a USODA team; and/or
 - iv. Suspend such sailor's membership within USODA for a period of time deemed appropriate by the Committee in its sole discretion. The Committee may consider any prior warnings issued to a sailor previously in a suspension determination.

or

- b. In the event of a serious or material breach of the Code of Conduct for conduct which may violate either Rule 2 or 69 in its opinion, make a report to the Chair of the Protest Committee (or Chief Judge/Umpire) with a recommendation to hold a Rule 2 hearing or to consider a possible Rule 69 hearing under the US Racing Rules of Sailing.

By completing registration, the sailor agrees to have read the above paragraphs regarding hearings and punishment for a Code of Conduct violation and understand the possible consequences to them for a Code of Conduct violation.



Notice of Race – Addendum 2

BOAT SELF-CERTIFICATION SAFETY CHECKLIST

By completing this registration, the sailor certifies they will be in compliance with these minimum safety standards required to compete at this event and is therefore granted permission to compete.

- Painter (bow line) Loop - Two-inch loop of line out of bow gunwale
- Painter (also known as the bow line) tied to mast step, knot free, 8 meters, w/ bowline at the outboard end
- Bailer 1 minimum, 2 preferred tied to boat
- Air Bags 3 (even w/boats with side tanks)
- Rudder Retainer Clip (prevents rudder from popping out)
- Centerboard Retainer (prevents centerboard from popping up)
- Centerboard Retainer Line (ties centerboard to boat)
- Mast Tie in Line or Collar
- Main Sheet Snap - Closed Snap
- U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD (lifejacket)* with whistle attached by line or lanyard (or for international sailors, a lifejacket approved by their country's corresponding authority with whistle attached by lanyard)
- Mainsheet Bridle - No looser than 100 mm from the boom at any point
- Paddle attached to hull by lanyard or elastic cord (weighs no less than 200g, having corner radii of minimum 5mm and a blade able to contain a rectangle of 200mm x 130mm)