



## 2021 FALL INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

### INTERNATIONAL TEAM SELECTION, WAIVER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I/We acknowledge that my/our son/daughter/ward ("child"), has been qualified to participate on a USODA Team for an international sailing event (the Championship) based on his/her results at the qualifying Optimist National Championship (the Qualifier) held July 26-29, 2021. I/We understand that the decision to accept an invitation, and to participate with the Team and travel to the site of the Championship is mine/ours alone. I understand that my child is not required to participate on a Team, and that he or she will suffer no adverse consequences in the event he/she chooses not to participate (except the potential loss of deposits and other prepaid fees).

I/We understand that the USODA is a not-for-profit corporation and that it has no financial responsibility for the Team other than to possibly advance some funds to the organizers of the Championship to preserve the option of the Team. I/We understand that the Team and its parents are jointly and severally liable for all Team expenses including the repayment of funds advanced by the USODA and that the USODA is not responsible for any of the expenses of the Team. The budget for the Team that has been posted and the registration fee for the Championship represent an estimate of the expenses for the trip, but each parent is encouraged and expected to investigate the expenses and understand them fully before accepting an invitation to join the Team. The actual expenses for the Team may be more or less than stated in the budget and I/we understand that fact and my/our responsibility for any differences.

I/We understand that international travel and participation on the Team bears significant risk, including the potential for injury or loss of life. I/We have been afforded the opportunity to investigate all of the risks associated with this decision, including, without limitation, independently investigating the political climate in the Host Country (and every country through which the Team may travel), and the safety of the hotels, transportation and housing arrangements made available to my/our child. I/We have been afforded the opportunity to use any sources of information I/we have felt necessary, and I/we have no further questions or requirements for information regarding venue, transportation or housing arrangements, or on the political situation in the Host Country.

I/We understand the final decision to compete in the Championship is solely my/our decision, and that, if I/we choose to have my child compete with the Team, I/we do so voluntarily. The USODA, its representatives, team leaders, coaches, officers, directors, contractors, volunteers or agents have made no representations regarding the safety or appropriateness of the arrangements for the Team. I/We have solely relied on the results of my/our independent



investigation in determining whether or not the choice I/we have made is responsible, appropriate and safe for my/our child. I/We recognize and acknowledge that, although USODA may have made, or may make, certain arrangements for the Team, such as in-country travel, lodging and charters, it does so merely as a courtesy, and that I/we have independently determined that the arrangements are appropriate, reasonable and safe.

I/We acknowledge that my child may withdraw from any Team at any time, and that it is solely my/our responsibility to remain fully informed about the political climate of the Host Country, and the safety of hotels, transportation and housing arrangements made available to my/our child. Sending my/our child with the Team is an acknowledgement that I/we consulted with all sources of information desired and that I/we am/are fully satisfied with the safety of the venue, transportation and housing arrangement, and the political situation in the Host Country. There will be no refunds if a sailor commits to be on a Team and then cancels after payment. If the spot can be filled by the USODA, only then will the registration fee less \$500 be returned.

In consideration of, and as a condition of, my/our child participating in the Championship, I/we hereby warrant and represent that (1) I/We am/are the sole legal guardian(s)/parent(s) of the minor child named above, (2) I/We have made this decision voluntarily, and have not relied on any representatives, team leaders, coaches, officers, directors, contractors, volunteers or agents of the USODA, and that (3) This International Team Waiver and Acknowledgement is voluntarily entered into, and lawful and binding in all states and all countries. As further consideration of my/our child being permitted to compete as a member of the Team, I/we hereby release and forever discharge the USODA, representatives, team leaders, coaches, officers, directors, contractors, volunteers or agents from having any and all liability for any damages, claims, risks, or losses, including bodily injury or death arising out of associated with the USODA or the Championship (including but not limited to lodging, social events, and other activities).

I/We agree that the laws of the State of Rhode Island shall apply to this International Team Waiver and Acknowledgement, and that the substantive laws of the State of Rhode Island shall apply to any claims relating to my/our child's participation on the Team (including claims for injury or loss of life).

I/We agree that any disputes regarding this International Team Selection, Waiver and Acknowledgement Form and any claims relating to my/our child's selection, failure to be selected and/or participation on the Team (including but not limited to claims for injury or loss of life) must be submitted to binding arbitration to be administered by the American Arbitration Association, which shall be the sole and exclusive forum for the prosecution of any disputes or claim with all proceedings to take place in Providence, RI. I/We also acknowledge that any legal threats, or defamation of character to members of the USODA Board, directors,



representatives, team leaders, coaches, officers, contractors or agents could result in my/our child not being selected for any international team.

I/We indicated as part of the 2021 Fall International Teams registration process the Teams with which I/we am/are willing to participate. I/We understand that my/our child's ability to participate will depend on the **availability of open entries on each Team, my/our accurate completion and timely submission of this Registration, my/our payment of any required deposits**, confirmation of this Registration, and other factors in the USODA's sole discretion. I/We understand that an attempt will be made to assign qualified children to Team(s) according to the gender requirements, the order in which they finished at the Qualifier and their individual preferences as set out on an accurately completed and timely submitted Registration, and therefore that my/our child may not be assigned to a Team which is their first choice and also may not be assigned to any Team if I/we do not accurately complete and timely submit this Registration, or I/we am/are not willing to permit them to participate in every Championship. I/We also understand that the USODA reserves the right in the event of a late cancellation to extend an invitation for that cancellation to the next sailor on the list of finishers at the Qualifier who has not previously been invited to attend an international event or to another sailor in its sole discretion, and therefore that the USODA will not necessarily offer sailors a choice to change their Team selection in the event of a cancellation. I/We agree that this Registration shall not form the basis for any reliance, expectation, or claim of the existence of a contract and it is not a substitute for Class motions or practices and or Board votes.

All sailors should understand that the USODA reserves the right to amend this Registration at any time including after submission to the USODA and before completion of individual sailor's registrations to teams in order to implement an alternative basis for the selection or for other reasons. I/We understand that I/we do not have a vested right with respect to the selection of Teams based on either completion or submission of this Registration or upon finishes at any USODA event, or any other basis.

**The completion of the registration process on the USODA website and the step of electronically signing this waiver is an affirmation that the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child being registered have reviewed the contents of this international team selection, waiver, acknowledgement and registration and agree to be bound by their terms.**



### **Parent Code of Conduct**

As parent(s) we need to consider playing an important role in the developing attitudes, independence and confidence of my/our child/children. The international team experience will help them to gain the maximum benefit from the sport and will provide invaluable life experience. The parent(s) must agree to the following:

I/We will:

- Support my/our child to participate in this sport and not force them.
- Remember that children participate to have fun and “winning at all cost” is not tolerated.
- Refrain from coaching my child during the regatta or organized practices, unless I/we am/are one of the official coaches for that activity.
- Support the entire team, not just one, or several, sailors.
- Not arrange for private or semi-private coach to work with my/our sailor while participating with USODA at an IODA or other international event.
- Allow the coach to make all decisions related to sailing, training and nutrition.
- Refrain from rigging the boat during regattas and training.
- Support and respect the suggestions and decisions of USODA coaches.
- As necessary and on an equal basis, take part in team support volunteer duties as requested by the team leader. These may include but are not limited to: loading and unloading dollies when launching and returning; provide snacks, drinks, and other items necessary; provide landside safety and surveillance functions.
- Not use non-prescribed drugs, understanding that a drug-free environment is required to set proper standards for our young sailors.
- Respect the property of others, and neither steal, damage, destroy or borrow another's property without permission, nor tolerate such behavior by other parents or team members.
- Use appropriate language and understand that swearing, in any context, is unacceptable behavior for a parent of USODA.
- Acknowledge that any legal threats, or defamation of character to members of the USODA Board could result in my/our child not being selected or being removed from an international team.
- Behave and dress at all times in a manner consistent with the high standards expected of USODA.
- Inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my/our child or safety of others. I/We will inform the coach and team leaders of any medications my/our child requires.
- Follow and support all safety procedures given by coaches and other responsible adults, understanding the paramount importance of safety. I/We will notify a coach or other responsible adult if another sailor is in danger.



If I/we am/are unable to travel with my child to the regatta and practices I/we will appoint a responsible chaperone with POA for my/our child and act in my/our place for any required parent support duties. I/We understand that this chaperone should not be the coach.

I/We acknowledge that any decision to discipline a sailor for not following the sailors code of conduct is at the discretion of the Team Leader and the coach.

As parent(s), I/we need to uphold the Racing Rules of Sailing and honor the spirit of Corinthian sailing, pledge honesty and integrity in general, encourage good sportsmanship, and not deviate from the truth, or break rules which govern our sport of sailing, nor tolerate such behavior in others.

I/We need to maintain a positive mental attitude and be responsible for my/our conduct as representatives of USODA, by at all times following the various rules and regulations given by USODA coaches, the USODA Representative, the USODA Team Leader, and personnel from the host club.

All parents will treat USODA team members, coaches, competitors, regatta officials, hosts and all others with respect, regardless of race, religion, gender, national origin or abilities. Any issue parents have with other team members must be taken to USODA coaches, the USODA Representative or the USODA Team Leader, and NOT directly to the other team parent or sailor.

I/We understand that any violation of these rules will allow USODA to restrict my/our, and/or my sailor's participation in USODA /IODA events.

**By completing this Registration on the USODA website and electronically signing this Parent Code of Conduct the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child being registered agree that USODA team membership is by invitation of USODA and that this membership and invitation may be suspended or revoked unilaterally by USODA for violations of this code with or without a hearing.**



### **Sailor Code of Conduct**

1. I promise to maintain a positive attitude and to be responsible for my conduct as a representative of USODA, by at all times following the rules and regulations given by USODA coaches, the USODA Representative, the USODA Team Leader, and personnel from the host club.
2. I promise to uphold the Racing Rules of Sailing and honor the spirit of Corinthian sailing, shall pledge honesty and integrity in general, encourage good sportsmanship, and shall not deviate from the truth, or break rules which govern the sport of sailing, nor tolerate such behavior in others.
3. I will represent myself, my family, my team and my country with honor, honesty and integrity at all times.
4. I will not use, or tolerate the use by other team members, of alcohol, tobacco, or non-prescribed drugs, understanding that a drug-free environment is necessary in order to achieve individual and team success.
5. I will respect the property of others, and neither steal, damage, destroy or borrow another's property without permission, nor tolerate such behavior by team members.
6. I will treat team members, coaches, team leaders, competitors, regatta officials, hosts and all others with respect, regardless of race, religion, gender, national origin or abilities.
7. I will follow all safety procedures given by my coaches, team leader and other responsible adults, understanding the paramount importance of safety. I will notify a coach or other responsible adult if I feel that another sailor is in danger.
8. I understand that swearing, in any context, is unacceptable behavior for a representative of USODA.
9. I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow sailors, coaches, and parents.
10. I will support the entire team, not just one, or several, sailors.
11. I will respect the rules and requests as set forth by the Team Leader and Coach.
12. I will attend every practice possible and will give my undivided attention to my coaches at all times, especially during briefings, keeping my cell phone or iPod off.





13. I promise to participate in all Team and Regatta activities on and off the water as I am a representative of my team and my country.

14. I will not participate with USODA in an IODA or other international event with a private coach.

15. I will not leave the site of an IODA or USODA International Team event without first obtaining my parent's, coach's, and Team Leader's personal permission. I understand that it is not permissible to have another person convey a message that I am leaving, and that I am solely and personally responsible for obtaining prior consent.

16. I will behave and dress at all times in a manner consistent with the high standards expected of my team and of myself. I will not bully fellow sailors.

17. I understand that bullying will not be tolerated and will be disciplined by the coach/TL and could result in my dismissal from the team.

I understand that any violation of these rules will allow USODA, the Coach or Team Leader to restrict my participation in this and other IODA/USODA events.

**By completing this Registration on the USODA website and electronically signing this Sailor Code of Conduct the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child being registered agree (1) that they have reviewed this Sailor Code of Conduct with their child, (2) that their child understands and agrees to follow this Code of Conduct and (3) that USODA team membership is by invitation of USODA and that this membership and invitation may be suspended or revoked unilaterally by USODA for violations of this code with or without a hearing.**