



**Puerto Rico Team Qualifier Regatta Series for
2024 Optimist South American Championship**
(Series Qualifier Race Events)

NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

1. QUALIFIER REGATTA SERIES:

- 1.1. Qualifier Regatta Series for the Puerto Rico Optimist Sailing Team for the following International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) Events:
 - **2024 Optimist South American Championship (SAMs) at Encarnacion, Paraguay
August 31 to September 7, 2024**
- 1.2. The following events will serve as Qualifier Regattas to select the Team that will represent Puerto Rico in such events, according to continental IODA rules.
 - Advantix Regatta at Roosevelt Roads, Ceiba
Event Host: Marlins Sailing School
Dates: March 15 - 17, 2024
 - Pan Pepin International Dinghy Regatta
Event Host: Club Náutico de San Juan (CNSJ)
Dates: May 24 - 27, 2024
- 1.3. In the event, PROA and its partners are unable to coordinate Qualifier Series for the 2024 Optimist World Championship (Worlds) given “special circumstances” or “Acts of God”; then these events may also be considered as Qualifier Series for the 2024 Optimist World Championship (Worlds).
- 1.4. For the Regatta to be confirmed in the Qualifier Series it must adhere to the IODA Race Management Guidelines. Digital copy of the document may be downloaded from the IODA webpage www.optiworld.org
- 1.5. Each Regatta Host shall endeavor to obtain all the required permits for their Qualifier Regatta.
- 1.6. It shall be the responsibility of each Event Host to comply with all applicable federal and local regulatory, environmental and safety requirements.

- 1.7. PROA reserves the right to eliminate any and/or all the Qualifier Regattas from the series at any time for any reason.
- 1.8. Each race will be recorded to reach a final standing.
- 1.9. The number of sailors to be considered to represent Puerto Rico in the above-mentioned (section 1.1) event will be determined by IODA. PROA will request for each event as many positions as possible for the country (PUR), considering the gender rule. Please refer to the PROA Selection Process for additional details.
- 1.10. If a qualified sailor is not able to participate in the event for which he/she has qualified, PROA will use the PROA ranking standing at that time to invite other sailors of their eligibility to participate in such event. The order followed will be from the top position being one (1) moving down the list accordingly.

2. CODE OF CONDUCTS

These Regattas will follow the policies of World Sailing, IODA, IODA Code of Conduct, CNSJ Code of Conduct, Marlin Sailing School, and PROA Code of Conduct. **These Codes apply to each person (e.g. coaches, instructors, officials, parents, athletes, family members or visitors).**

3. ENTRIES, REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. Entries will be limited to Optimist Advance (Red, Blue and White).
- 3.2. Entry and Registration information will be provided by the respective Regatta Hosts.
- 3.3. Registration fees will be established by each Host.
- 3.4. All skippers must sign the waivers provided by the Regatta Hosts.
- 3.5. Waivers will be provided prior to the event.

4. ELIGIBILITY:

- 4.1. To qualify as a PUR team member for the SAMs, all sailors must (1) register and compete on all the events identified as Qualifier Series in Section 1.2, (2) be a bona fide PROA Member, (3) must not turn sixteen in the calendar year of the IODA event, (4) be a bona fide resident of Puerto Rico.
- 4.2. Sailors aspiring to qualify for the 2024 Puerto Rico Optimist South American Championship Team are strongly encouraged to participate in the RWB or Championship Fleets in USODA and other open international events.

5. SCORING AND RANKING SYSTEM FOR QUALIFYING EVENTS:

- 5.1. Regardless of race format, races will be scored using RRS A4 and all other rules that apply according to Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024.

5.2. The series scores will be the “High Point Percentage System” according to Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024. Please refer to the PROA Selection Process for additional details.

6. TIES AND OTHER RULES

6.1. Race ties will be scored using rule A7. Series ties will be broken using rule A8.1. Rules A1, A3, A5, A6, A9 and A10 also apply.

7. FLAG BEARER

7.1. The flag bearer for the 2024 Optimist South American Championship will be the sailor ranking #1 considering SCORING AND RANKING SYSTEM mentioned in section 5 and the PROA Selection Process.

7.2. In addition, the flag bearer shall not have any Code of Conduct violations. Such violation shall automatically disqualify the sailor from being flagbearer.

8. DISCLAIMER LIABILITY CLAUSE

Competitors participating in the regatta are entirely at their own risk. Competitors agree to be bound by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), by Sailing Instruction (SI), the Notice of Race (NOR) and any additional information to the SI or to the NOR. Competitors agree to take any responsibility for nautical qualities of their vessel, the rigging, the crew ability, and safety requirements. Competitors also agree to take any and all responsibility for damages caused to third persons (bodily injury included but not limited thereto) or their belongings, to themselves (bodily injury included but not limited thereto) or to their belongings, ashore and at sea as a consequence of their participation in the regatta, relieving of any responsibility to the regatta venue and all its members, the sponsors and all persons involved in the organization under whatever qualification and to accept full responsibility for their behavior and dress of yacht's crew, representative and guest. Competitors are to be acquainted with RRS Part 1 Fundamental Rule 4: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". In any case, competitors agree that the venue, event organizer, the sponsors, and their agents, have no responsibility for loss of life or injury to members or others or for the loss of, or damage to any vessel or property. As part of the registration process, each individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a declaration accepting this disclaimer of liability.

9. RISK STATEMENT 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, parents or legal guardians 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.

10. INFORMATION

For additional information, please contact PROA President Mr. Pablo A. Méndez-Lázaro via email proa.optisailing@gmail.com

