



Team Composition

The USODA USNT Committee supports a National Team comprised of the top 36 sailors (not including seniors) based upon Team Trials results, plus the top 15 sailors based upon Spring Team Qualifier results. Up to 5 additional sailors may be added to the National Team at the discretion of the USNT Committee and the USNT Performance Director at any time during the season.

Members of the USNT reset completely at each year's Team Trials (i.e. sailors making the USNT at either Team Trials or the Spring Team Qualifier in one year are not automatically selected for the USNT the following year).

Summary of Qualification Criteria and Team Composition

Qualification Criteria	USNT
Team Trials	Top 36 finishers (not including seniors)
Seniors (age-outs)	Sailors turning 15 years old between Team Trials and the end of the calendar year
Approx. Team Size Following Team Trials (Based on Team Trials results)	
Regular	36
<u>Seniors (estimate)</u>	<u>8</u>
Total	44
Spring Team Qualifier	Top 15 finishers as described in the selection process below
Potential Team Size following STQ (based on Spring Team Qualifier results and USNT discretionary additions)	
TT Regular	36
TT Seniors	8
STQ Additional	8
<u>USNT Additions</u>	<u>1</u>
Total (Approximate)	53



Selection Process

The top **36** finishers from the **Optimist Team Trials** will be invited to join the National Team for the season.

- Sailors will be invited to join the teams based on the order of their finishes at Team Trials.
- Sailors will be required to accept or turn down the invitation to join the team and will be required to pay a membership fee of \$550 to accept their invitation.
- Only those sailors accepting invitations and paying their membership dues from among the top 36 finishers (not including age-outs) will be named to the National Team.
- Sailors turning 15 years old between Team Trials and the end of the calendar year (age-outs) who finish among the top 36 will be offered **Senior** spots on the teams, but these will not be counted towards the 36 allocated spots. Senior spots are available only after Team Trials and are not offered after the Spring Team Qualifier.
- So long as a sailor is eligible to compete in the Opti, he or she is eligible to hold a place on the team for all or part of the year.
- There will be no minimum number of sailors on the team. For example, if only 30 of the top 36 sailors decide to join the USNT after Team Trials, then the team will remain at 30 sailors until the Spring Team Qualifier.
- Sailors who accept an invitation to the USNT will remain members of the team until the next Team Trials unless they become ineligible due to aging out as described above, disciplinary action or they choose to withdraw from the team.

Additional sailors will be invited to join the USNT based on their results of the **Optimist Spring Team Qualifier**.

- Sailors finishing among the top 15 places at the Spring Team Qualifier who are not already members of the USNT will be invited to join the USNT.
- Sailors invited to join based upon their Optimist Spring Team Qualifier results will be required to pay a membership fee of \$450.



- Sailors who accept invitations and pay their membership dues after the Optimist Spring Team Qualifier will remain members of the USNT until the next Optimist Team Trials.

In addition to spots designated for the USNT at Team Trials and at Spring Team Qualifier, the USNT Committee and the USNT Performance Director may, within their sole discretion, add up to five (5) sailors to the USNT at any time during the season. Such discretion will be reserved for sailors with special circumstances that may have prevented the sailor from competing and/or qualifying for an invitation at Team Trials or Spring Team Qualifier, but where the sailor has exhibited the high skill level otherwise required to qualify for invitation to the USNT. Sailors may not petition for special invitation. Any sailors invited to join the USNT during the season at the discretion of the USNT Committee and USNT Performance Director will be required to pay a membership fee of \$550.

Guest Sailors

- Guest sailors from a club hosting or coordinating a training block may be invited to that USNT training block. The number of guest sailors from the host club invited to a training block will depend on the size of the practice, with guest sailors not to make up more than 20% of the sailors attending the training block. The maximum number of guest sailors shall be five (5) from the host club.
- Guest sailors will pay a registration fee \$100 higher than the fee paid by USNT members.
- All guest sailors must be Team Trials Qualified in order to attend a training block, except for the first training block of the season.
- Guest sailors will not become members of the USNT.

Membership and Training Block Fees

Qualified sailors joining the USNT following Team Trails will be required to pay a membership fee of \$550, and those joining after the Spring Team Qualifier will be required to pay a membership fee of \$450.

- Membership fees will be non-refundable.
- Training block fees will be assessed on a per-event basis similar to the way regatta fees are charged, and registration will be managed on the USODA website.



- Sailors must travel within the USNT published travel times and guidelines for each practice. USODA or the USNT Committee will not be responsible for changes in ticketing required when the guidelines are not followed.
- USNT members are expected to register for training blocks prior to the established deadline, which is usually six (6) weeks prior to the start of training block. Space permitting, if a sailor registers for a training block within a one-week window after the general registration deadline, a late fee of \$175 will be assessed.
- Refund Policy:
 - If a sailor cancels before the initial registration deadline, then they may receive a full refund, less a \$25 administrative fee.
 - If a sailor cancels after the initial deadline, but before registration closes (so within the "late fee" period), then they may receive a refund for the practice fee less the \$175 late fee.
 - If a sailor cancels after registration closes then there is no refund since coaches have been confirmed, flights paid for, etc.
- Host Club guests will not be assessed any late fees or cancellation fees, however they must have completed the registration process prior to the start of the training block to which they have been invited.

USNT Committee

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