



United States Optimist Dinghy Association

Selection Process for 2024 Summer/Winter International Teams Posted April 2, 2024

General Information

The 2024 Optimist Team Trials (the “*Qualifying Event*”), hosted by The San Francisco Yacht Club, April 18-21, will serve as the basis for selecting participants for the teams representing the United States at certain 2024 summer and winter international events for which the USODA has received invitations.

Competitors may elect to participate in one of the USODA international teams with selection to be based first on order of finish at the *Qualifying Event* and second to complete any applicable gender allocations. It is USODA policy that all international teams adhere to the IODA (International Optimist Dinghy Association) policy of at least 25% members of the opposite gender, except for the IODA World Championship team and any all-female international teams.

Total Number of Sailors in the Team	Minimum Number of Sailors of Each Gender
5 to 6	1
7 to 9	2
10	3
11 to 16	4
17 to 19	5
20	6
21-26	7
27 to 29	8
30	9

Team Eligibility and Selection Process:

To be eligible to receive an invitation to any international event, competitors must meet **ALL** the following eligibility requirements:

- 1) be Team Trials Eligible, as defined in Section 6.5 the [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships](#);
- 2) compete in the *Qualifying Event*;

Team Invitations and Announcements

Beginning **April 22, 2024**, invitations for teams will be issued to eligible competitors based on each competitor's order of finish at the *Qualifying Event* as follows:

- At the time an invitation is received, the competitor will be able to choose one event from those that are available at that time. ***Each competitor will have a single 24-hour window to accept***

their invitation by selecting one event from those available at the time they receive their invitation, paying all registration fees, and completing the online Team Selection Waiver with Parent and Competitor Code of Conduct on the USODA website. Invitations not accepted within 24 hours will expire and that competitor will not be eligible to receive any other invitations. Once a team is complete, the final list of competitors will be posted on the USODA website.

Follow-on Invitations: On occasion, a competitor will need to drop from a team, and this will open a new position. If time allows, the USODA will offer the position to the next eligible competitor, even if they have already accepted to participate in another team. This can create a chain of changes. When these follow-on invitations are made, the parents will have 24 hours to accept and pay on the USODA website.

There will be NO REFUNDS if a competitor commits to be on an international team and then cancels after payment, unless the spot can be filled, in which case the registration fee, less \$500, will be refunded.

Posted Budgets:

Budgets will be posted for each team prior to the start of seeding of teams. These budgets are based on the information available at the time they are created and may not reflect the final cost of attending the event. The dates given on the budgets are also based on preliminary information.

If an event is cancelled by the Organizing Authority (OA) or competitors are not allowed to travel into a certain country based on the State Department's/CDC guidelines, the USODA will refund to each competitor a pro-rata share of the funds remaining in that team's account, less the \$100/competitor USODA Administrative Fee. The International Committee and USODA admin will immediately begin the process of requesting refunds from the OA, charter companies, airlines, hotels, etc. and additional pro-rata refunds to each competitor will be made as funds are returned. Please be advised that there may be instances where the OA, charter company, etc. are not able to refund fees based on contracts entered, which will impact the ability for USODA to provide refunds to its competitors. This is a risk each family needs to be aware of.

It is highly recommended that you only make refundable travel arrangements considering the current state of travel around the world.

Support Parents:

If you are joining a team, please consider whether you would be interested in being a Support Parent for that team. The USODA tries to help facilitate finding a Support Parent, and the sooner a Support Parent is found, the better organized the team will be. We prefer that a Support Parent has already participated in an international team, but it is not mandatory. Strong leadership and organizational skills are a benefit. Please email usodainternationalcommittee@gmail.com if you are interested.

The Teams:

A. IODA Optimist World Championship – Mar del Plata, Argentina – December 5-15, 2024

- Five (5) finishers from the Qualifying Event will receive invitations
- Anticipated travel dates: November 28 and December 15, with training beginning November 29

B. IODA Optimist European Championship – Carrara, Italy – June 29 – July 6, 2024

- Four (4) finishers from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of one (1) of the opposite gender will receive invitations
- Anticipated travel dates: June 23 and July 6, with training beginning June 24

C. IODA Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship – Mumbai, India – November 5-12, 2024 (pending allocation of spots from IODA)

- Seven (7) finishers from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of two (2) of the opposite gender will receive invitations
- Anticipated travel dates: November 1 and 12, with training beginning November 2

D. IODA Optimist North American Championship – San Juan, Puerto Rico – July 13-20, 2024

- Twenty-four (24) finishers (including the 5 sailors attending the IODA World Championship) from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of seven (7) of the opposite gender will receive invitations
- Anticipated travel dates: July 7 and 20, with training beginning on July 8

E. IODA Optimist South American Championship – Encarnacion, Paraguay – August 31 – September 7, 2024

- Fifteen (15) finishers from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of four (4) of the opposite gender will receive invitations
- Anticipated travel dates: August 24 and September 7, with training beginning on August 25

F. Nieuwpoortweek Regatta – Belgium – June 29 – July 3, 2024

- Fifteen (15) finishers from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of four (4) of the opposite gender will receive invitations
- Anticipated travel dates: June 25 and July 4, with training beginning on June 26

Alternative Selection and other notices:

If no races are completed at the *Qualifying Event*, or the Executive Committee of the USODA Board of Directors concludes, prior to the start of the first race, that a substantial percentage of the registered competitors cannot attend or otherwise participate in the *Qualifying Event* for reasons beyond the control of the Organizing Authority, the fallback event for seeding these International Teams will be the 2023 Optimist Southeast Championship . Only competitors who have registered to attend the *Qualifying Event* and completed any on-site check-in requirements will be eligible.

All competitors should understand that the USODA reserves the right to amend this document at any time, including the order of team selections and the alternative selection process.

Competitors do not have a vested right with respect to the selection of the international teams based on their finishes at the *Qualifying Events* or on any other basis. This posting is informational only and shall not form the basis for any reliance, expectation, or claim of the existence of a contract and is not a substitute for Class motions, Class practices and or Board votes.