



United States Optimist Dinghy Association

Selection Process for 2021 Summer International Teams

General Information

The 2021 Optimist Team Trials, hosted by Lakewood Yacht Club, will serve as the basis for selecting participants for the teams representing the United States at certain 2021 Summer international teams for which the USODA has received invitations.

Competitors may elect to participate in one of the USODA international teams with the order of selection to be based first on order of finish at the 2021 Team Trials 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 that all teams must consist of at least 25% members of the opposite gender, except for the IODA World Championship team.

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 Selection Process:

In connection with the roll-out of the USODA's new website, many changes are being made to the team selection process. First and foremost, unlike prior years, parents and sailors will not need to complete "International Team Paperwork" in advance of the start of seeding and the notarization of paperwork will no longer be necessary. Instead, all sailors entered in the 2021 Team Trials will receive an invitation to apply to the 2021 Summer International Teams event, where they will indicate (Yes/No) which summer team(s) they would like to attend. A \$250 deposit is required to complete this application. This deposit will only be refunded if the sailor does not qualify for the team(s) he/she selected AND the team is fully seeded. Sailors are not required to accept their invitation to apply for a spot

on a Summer international team. If a sailor does not accept the invitation and pay the deposit, they will forfeit any claim to a spot on a team based on their results at the 2021 Team Trials.

Team Announcements:

Teams will be announced one at a time starting with the IODA World Championship team. Parents will have 24 hours to register and pay on the USODA website once their sailor receives an invitation. Failure to accept within 24 hours will result in the invitation being rescinded. Once the team is complete, the final list of sailors will be posted on the USODA website.

If a competitor declines an invitation to join a team, the competitor will be eligible for an invitation to any other 2021 Summer international team(s) they selected on their 2021 Summer International Team application.

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 sailor, 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 sailor 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 Draft Budgets:

Draft budgets will be posted for each team prior to the start of seeding of teams. The budgets are drafts based on the information available at the time they are created. The dates given on the draft budgets are based on preliminary information.

If an event is cancelled by the Organizing Authority (OA) or sailors are not allowed to travel into a certain country based on the State Department's/CDC guidelines, the USODA will refund to each sailor a pro-rata share of the funds remaining in that team's account, less the \$100/sailor international travel 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 sailor 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 sailors. This is a risk each family needs to be aware of.

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

Team Leaders:

If you are joining a team, please consider whether you are interested in being a team leader. The USODA tries to help facilitate finding a team leader, and the sooner a team leader is found, the better organized the team will be. We prefer that a team leader 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 World Championship, Riva del Garda, Italy – June 30-July 10, 2021. Five (5) top finishers may be invited to join the United States team attending the 2021 World Championship. (Anticipated travel Dates: June 23rd and July 10th)

B. IODA European Championship – El Puerto de Santa Maria (Cadiz), Spain, June 20-27, 2021. Four (4) top finishers, including one (1) of the opposite gender may be invited to join the United States team attending the 2021 IODA European Championship. (Anticipated travel Dates: June 17th and 27th)

C. IODA North American Championship – Nuevo Vallarta, Riviera Nayarit, Mexico, May 29-June 5, 2021. Twenty-four (24) top finishers, including seven (7) of the opposite gender may be invited to join the United States team attending the 2021 IODA North American Championship. (Anticipated travel Dates: May 26th and June 5th)

D. Topsport Vlaanderen Nieuwpoortweek Regatta – Flanders, Belgium, July 3-7, 2021. Fifteen (15) finishers, including four (4) of the opposite gender may be invited to join the United States team attending the 2021 Topsports Vlaanderen Nieuwpoortweek Regatta. (Anticipated travel dates: June 29th and July 8th)

E. Irish Nationals – Lough Derg, Ireland, August 19-22, 2021. Fifteen (15) senior finishers and seven (7) junior finishers (four (4) from Team Trials and three (3) from ODP2), including seven (7) of the opposite gender may be invited to join the United States team attending the 2021 Irish Nationals. (Anticipated travel dates: August 15th and 23rd)

F. French Nationals Girls Team – TBD, France. Seven (7) top girl finishers may be invited to join the United States team attending the 2021 French Nationals. (Anticipated travel dates: TBD)

Alternative Selection and other notices:

The USODA Board of Directors is currently working on a fallback provision for seeding teams in the event no races are completed at the 2021 Team Trials, 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 sailors cannot attend or otherwise participate in the regatta for reasons beyond the control of Lakewood Yacht Club. That

provision will be published before the start of the 2021 Team Trials

All sailors should understand that the USODA reserves the right to amend this document at any time, including the time before completion of sailor registrations to Summer teams identified above or to implement an alternative basis for the selection of international teams.

Sailors do not have a vested right with respect to the selection of the international teams based on their finishes at the 2021 Team Trials, 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.