

John Walsh

I would like to be considered for the USODA Board of Directors. My daughter started sailing the Optimist 2 years ago, but the family has been sailboat racing for years. My wife and I were both recruited to the Naval Academy for sailing and met on the Varsity Offshore Sailing Team. Sailboat racing has always been an integral part of our lives. I see how much my daughter truly enjoys Opti sailing, especially the clinics and regattas. I can only imagine all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to ensure this organization runs smoothly. I just want to give back to ensure all the kids can grow to love the sport.

Professional, Sailing, and Board of Directors Experience

Professional Experience - I am currently the Chief Test Pilot of VX-20 and scheduled to take over as Commanding Officer in November. VX-20 one of the largest test squadrons in the Navy in charge of all "Big Wing" aircraft test for the Navy and consists of over 1,100 military, government civilians, and contractors.

Sailing Experience

- Small Sailboat racing growing up – Sunfish, Lasers, and 420s
- High School – Laser and 420
- College - USNA Varsity Offshore Sailing Team (Many long distance and race weeks up and down the east coast)
- Now – Opti Dad transport and campaigning a J-80 in preparation for J-80 Worlds next year in my spare time.

Board of Director Experience - I served on the Board of Governors of the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA for 5 years and I was also the Chair of the Junior Activities Committee.

Thank you very much for the consideration, if you need any other information or have any questions, let me know.

Sincerely,
John Walsh