



# United States Optimist Dinghy Association

## Selection Process for 2021 Fall International Teams

### General Information

The 2021 Optimist National Championship, hosted by Big Blue Sailing Academy at Old Dominion University, will serve as the basis for selecting participants for the teams representing the United States at certain 2021 Fall 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 Optimist National Championship 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.

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 Optimist National Championship will be eligible to register by application entry for the 2021 Fall International Teams event, where they will indicate (Yes/No) which fall team(s) they would like to attend. Deposits will not be required. If a sailor does not submit an application entry to the 2021 Fall International Teams AND select the team(s) they are interested, they will forfeit any claim to a spot on a team based on their results at the 2021 Optimist National Championship. The deadline for submitting an

application entry is July 31, 2021 at midnight. No applications will be accepted after this time!

### **Team Announcements:**

Teams will be announced one at a time starting with the IODA South American Championship team. Parents will have 24 hours to accept their sailor's invitation, pay all registration fees and complete the online Team Selection Waiver with Parent and Sailor Code of Conduct on the USODA website. Failure to accept within 24 hours will result in the invitation being rescinded.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 Fall international team(s) they selected on their 2021 Fall International Team registration.

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.

### **Parent Champions:**

If you are joining a team, please consider whether you would be interested in being a parent champion. The USODA tries to help facilitate finding a parent champion, and the sooner a parent champion is found, the better organized the team will be. We prefer that a parent champion 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](mailto:usodainternationalcommittee@gmail.com) if you are interested.

### **The Teams:**

**A. IODA South American Championship, Mar de Plata, Argentina – November 6-13, 2021.** Fifteen (15) top finishers, including a minimum of four (4) of the opposite gender may be invited to join the United States team attending the 2021 South American Championship. (Anticipated travel Dates: November 3<sup>rd</sup> and November 13<sup>th</sup>)

**B. IODA Asian & Oceanian Championship – Royal Varuna Yacht Club, Thailand – November 6-13, 2021.** Seven (7) top finishers, including a minimum of two (2) of the opposite gender may be invited to join the United States team attending the 2021 IODA Asian & Oceanian Championship. (Anticipated travel Dates: November 1<sup>st</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup>). **Note: We do not automatically receive an invitation to this event. We have requested 7 spots, which will be allocated after the first entry deadline for the event, assuming space is available.**

### **Alternative Selection and other notices:**

In the event that no races are completed at the 2021 Optimist National Championship, 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 Big Blue Sailing Academy, the fallback event for seeding the Fall International Teams will be the 2021 Team Trials and only competitors who have registered to attend the 2021 Optimist National Championship and completed any on-site check-in requirements will be eligible.

**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 Fall 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 Optimist National Championship, 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.**