



United States Optimist Dinghy Association

Selection Process for 2023 Spring International Teams

General Information

The 2022 Allstate Sugar Bowl Optimist Midwinter Championship (the “*Qualifying Event*”), hosted by the Southern Yacht Club, November 24-26, will serve as the basis for selecting participants for the teams representing the United States at certain 2023 spring 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:

Please read this section carefully, as it changes how invitations will be extended from previous selection processes!

Beginning on or around November 28, 2022, invitations for teams will be issued to eligible competitors based on each competitor's order of finish at the *Qualifying Event*. 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 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 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 South American Championship – Paracas, Peru – April 15-22, 2023. Fifteen (15) top finishers from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of four (4) of the opposite gender will receive invitations. (Anticipated travel dates: April 10th and April 22nd).

B. 33rd International Vila de Palamos Optimist Trophy / 17th Nations Cup – Palamos – Costa Brava, Spain – February 15-19, 2023: Fifteen (15) top finishers from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of four (4) of the opposite gender will receive invitations. (Anticipated travel dates: February 11th and February 20th)

C. Lake Garda Optimist Meeting – Garda, Italy – April 6-9, 2023: Fifteen (15) top finishers from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of four (4) of the opposite gender will receive invitations. (Anticipated travel dates: April 1st and April 10th)

D. Magic Marine Easter Regatta – Braasemmermeer, Netherlands – April 7-10, 2023: Fifteen (15) top finishers from the Qualifying Event, including a minimum of four (4) of the opposite gender will receive invitations. (Anticipated travel dates: April 2nd and April 11th)

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 2022 Optimist Team Trials. 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.