

NOTICE OF RACE

2024 Texas Youth Race Week, a US Sailing Junior Olympic Event

Houston Yacht Club
in conjunction with
U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA)
and the Texas Sailing Association (TSA)
(collectively known as the Organizing Authority)
August 31 – September 2
La Porte, TX USA

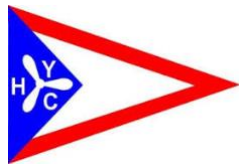
The notation [DP] in a rule in the sailing instruction means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the Protest Committee (PC), be less than disqualification. The notation [NP] in a rule in the sailing instructions means that instruction is not grounds for redress by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a) and 64.2.

1. RULES:

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 “The Texas Youth Racing Circuit Conditions” apply and are available on the web site at <http://www.tx sail.org/>. A copy will also be available at the regatta site. See attached Addendum A applicable to the Optimist Class.
- 1.3 A competitor must notify the Race Committee (RC) of their intent to protest another boat, at the finish line, before talking to a coach, parent or other Support Person. If this instruction is not followed, the protest will be found to be invalid. This is in addition to and modifies the requirements of class rules and RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.4 [DP] All boats shall have sail numbers which match the registration form. Sail numbers meeting class standards are required.
- 1.5 Appendix T, Arbitration, shall be used.
- 1.6 The rules for ILCA, 420 and skiff classes are modified so that membership in a class organization is not required.

2. ADVERTISING:

[DP] Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.



3. ELIGIBILITY:

- 3.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the Optimist, ILCA 4, 6, and 7, Open Skiff, and Double-Handed (420 Club) classes. All classes are “bring your own boat”. A minimum of three boats is required to form a class.
- 3.2 The regatta is open to all junior sailors who are less than twenty (20) years old and who do not turn twenty (20) years of age during this calendar year.
- 3.3 Online applications will close Wednesday, August 28 at 11:59 PM ET. Requests to enter after the online entry deadline are subject to approval by the organizing authority.

4. ENTRY FEE:

The entry fee is \$185 for each sailor, whether in single or double-handed boats. A late fee of \$25 will be assessed for registrations after August 24, 2024. The entry fee includes a t-shirt and the following meals for each sailor: lunches on Saturday-Monday and dinner on Sunday. Meal tickets will be available for non-competitors for an extra charge of \$60.

5. REGISTRATION AND CHECK IN:

- 5.1 Registration for ILCA and 420 will be available at <http://www.txsail.org/>.
- 5.2 Registration for optimist championship and green fleets will be available at <https://usoda.org/regatta/9GAXbj5HTf>
- 5.3 Registration for the regatta will end at 11:59 PM on Wednesday, August 28, 2024. Requests to enter after the online entry deadline are subject to approval by the organizing authority. However, meals and/or regatta giveaways may not be available to late registrants
- 5.4 All sailors are required to check in on-site. Check-in at the regatta will be conducted in the Clubhouse on Saturday, August 31 from 9:00 -10:30 am
- 5.5 Execution of a **Liability Release Agreement** as set forth in the Registration Form shall be required. Parents are urged to provide a signed **Medical Consent Form** to enable other adults to obtain emergency medical services in the event of the parents’ unavailability during the regatta.

6. SCHEDULE:

6.1 Program and Schedule

Friday, August 30

All day Competitors and Support Persons may arrive

Saturday, August 31

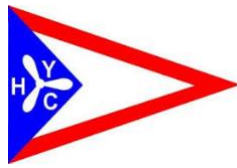
0900-1030 Competitor Check-in and Coach Registration/Check-in

1000 Coaches’ Meeting at the Pavillion

1030 Competitors’, Coaches’ and Parents’ Meeting at the Pavillion

1100 Harbor Launch

1200 First Warning Signal



After Racing
Sunday, September 1

1030
 1100
 1200

After Racing

Monday, September 2

0930
 1000
 1100
 1430

After Racing

Dinner available for purchase

Coaches' Meeting at the Pavillion
 Harbor Launch
 First Warning Signal
 Regatta Dinner and Pool Party

Coaches' Meeting at the Pavillion
 Harbor Launch
 First Warning Signal
 No First Warning Signal for a race or "Set" of races after this time
 Awards ceremony

6.2 To arrange for storage outside of the event period, contact the Houston Yacht Club Harbor Master (charter@houstonyachtclub.com)

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

7.1 The sailing instructions will be available by **August 24, 2024** on the official Notice Board at <https://houstonyachtclub.com/tyrw-notice-board>

8. VENUE:

Races will be conducted in the upper Galveston Bay.

9. COURSES:

Courses will be described in detail in the Sailing Instructions.

10. SCORING:

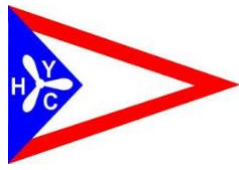
10.1 Rule 90.3(e) will be in effect. There shall be no changes to race or series scores, including the correction of errors, initiated more than 24 hours after the reasons outlined in rule 90.3(e)(1), (2) or (3.).

10.2 The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply with the following changes:

10.2.1 One (1) completed race, or "set" of races is required to constitute a regatta.

10.2.2 When five (5) to nine (9) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

10.2.3 When ten (10) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two (2) worst scores.



11. SAFETY

11.1 [DP] RRS 40.1 is in effect so that each competitor shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket (PFD), in good condition, that is 100% dependent on foam for flotation (i.e., inherently buoyant) and the appropriate size for the sailor, at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing. A violation of this instruction may be protested by race officials or a competitor; however, an inadvertent and momentary breach of this instruction may receive a penalty less than disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. A pinnie may be worn outside of the PFD. This changes RRS 64.2.

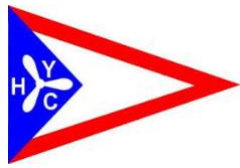
12. ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

- 12.1 All coaches shall register in person, Saturday, August 31 from 9-10:30am in the clubhouse. A numbered flag, supplied by the organizing authority, shall be displayed at all times while on the water. A \$25 hold will be placed on the credit card provided as a security deposit for the flag.
- 12.2 [DP] Each support vessel shall have a working VHF radio monitoring the designated race committee channel, an anchor suitable for anchoring in the waiting area, and a basic first aid kit.
- 12.3 [DP] All support boats that are required by Texas state law, must wear a safety kill-switch lanyard, especially when in the proximity of and approaching sailors in and on the water. If a support boat is required to use a kill switch and is not equipped with or is not using a kill switch, the support boat may be subject to protest.
- 12.4 [DP] There shall be no unauthorized unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) drone flight permitted above the racing area, waiting area, corridor, coach/spectator boat zones, start line or finish line.

13. RISK, DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY & PERSONAL CONDUCT

- 13.1 Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.**
- 13.2 The organizing authority including the sponsors, the race committee, the officers, directors, employees and members of the **Houston Yacht Club**, USODA, TSA, and all those involved in these organizations will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the event.
- 13.3 Competitors will accept full responsibility for all his/her actions during any activity related to the event. This includes on-shore activities before, during and after the regatta until such time as they leave the venue for home or the airport.

14. MISCONDUCT AND PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES



14.1 All competitors and support persons (including coaches and parents) are expected to maintain the highest levels of conduct throughout the entire event until such time as they leave for home or the airport. Enforcement of discipline and conduct shall be conducted as per RRS 69 and/or the policies and procedures of US Sailing (Regulation 15.01).

14.2 Prohibited Substances

14.2.1 Per US Sailing Regulation 10.03 B and 10.03 C, for Junior and Youth events or for junior or youth competitors in any Texas Sailing Association Junior event, no participant or competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water: 1. Marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law; 2. Any alcoholic beverages. This regulation is in effect from date and time of arrival through date and time of departure from the locale.

14.2.2 An alleged breach of one of these regulations shall not be grounds for a protest. This changes RRS 60.1(a), 60.2(a) and 60.3(a). If a competitor is found to have breached one of these elements, they shall be excluded from the remaining races of the series and, where practicable, be removed from the regatta venue and sent home. When a competitor withdraws from part of an event, the scores of all completed races shall stand for the purposes of determining the seeding or subsequent rounds or stages in the event. However, that competitor's boat/team will no longer be eligible to compete in the event, shall be removed from the final event scores, and each boat/team with a worse finishing place in the event shall be moved up one place.

14.2.3 Hearings related to NOR 14.2.1 and 14.2.2 will be held in accordance with the recommendations of Appendix M5 of the RRS. The officers for hearing a violation will consist of the Chief Judge, acting as chairman of the hearing, the Protest Committee and the Chairman of the Texas Sailing Association Junior Committee or his or her designee in the event he or she is not present. The regatta chair shall serve ex officio as a nonvoting member of the panel and will have an open right to express his or her views during the hearing process.

15. TROPHY PRESENTATION:

15.1 Trophy presentations will be held on Monday afternoon approximately one hour after the last race or when protest hearing(s) are completed.

15.2 Prizes will be given as follows:

Optimist Championship Fleet

Overall: 1st through 5th (or 10th if over 80 sailors)

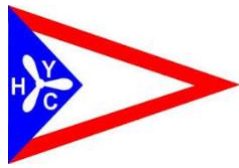
Red Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)

Blue Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)

White Fleet: 1st through 3rd (or 5th if over 80 sailors)

Girls: 1st through 3rd

Green Fleet: Participation awards for all sailors



ILCA 4.7	1 st through 3 rd (or 5 th if over 20 sailors)
ILCA 6	1 st through 3 rd (or 5 th if over 20 sailors)
ILCA 7	1 st through 3 rd (or 5 th if over 20 sailors)
420	1 st through 3 rd (or 5 th if over 20 boats)
Skiff	1 st through 3 rd (or 5 th if over 20 sailors)

Additional awards and prizes may be presented at the sole discretion of the host and organizing authority and may be based on criteria other than the event.

16. CLUB AMENITIES

The Houston Yacht Club is the oldest yacht club in Texas and we're excited to welcome you for this event.

The club has a full kitchen and bar with food and beverages available for purchase. Ice and (non-ethanol) fuel are available for purchase near the boat ramp. Visitors who wish to take advantage of these services are encouraged to call ahead with your credit card information and set up a temporary club membership.

Limited accommodations are available on the 3rd floor of the clubhouse for a fee. Please call to make reservations.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information please contact:

Shalina Warrior, shalinawarrior@gmail.com; 281-900-9467

Cheryl Perdue, perduegroup@gmail.com

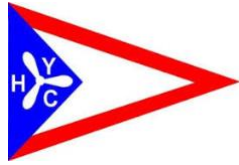
Optimist Registration: USODA Executive Director, Beth Danilek, usoda@usoda.org

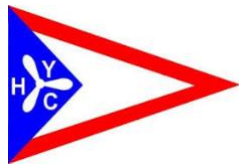
[Optimist RWB PRO: Jack Yoes](#)

[ILCA/ 420 PRO: Billy Richnow](#)

[Chief Judge: Tony Nunes](#)

[Houston Yacht Club 281-471-1255](#)





NoR Addendum A – Optimist Class

1 RULES

- 1.1. The [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#) will apply.
- 1.2. The US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.1 and RRS 63.2 do not apply.
- 1.3. [SP] denotes a rule which a standard penalty from the “USODA Graded Penalty System” may be applied by the race committee or technical committee without a hearing, or a discretionary penalty applied by the protest committee with a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1.
- 1.4. [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.5. [SP][DP] RRS 40.1 will apply at all times while afloat.
- 1.6. [DP][NP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable requests from an event official including reasonable actions to implement Covid-19 guidance, protocols or legislation. Such actions, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions. Failure to comply with requests may be considered misconduct.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

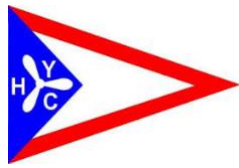
- 2.1. The event is open to **all boats** of the International Optimist class that fulfill the eligibility requirements as defined in the [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#).
- 2.2. Eligible boats may enter by completing an entry online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/9GAXbj5HTf> and providing all required competitor information, paying all required, and electronically signing the USODA Waiver of Liability.
- 2.3. Each competitor shall confirm their entry by checking the Event Registration page. If a competitor is not listed on the USODA website, then the competitor is not entered. **Entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA or TSA event.**
- 2.4. Each competitor shall complete their entry **online prior to** check-in at the venue. Entry is not complete until the competitor has submitted a signed USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist and USODA Sailor Code of Conduct.

3. FORMAT

- 3.1. The Championship Fleet will race as one or more divisions depending on the number of entries. The process for allocating boats to divisions and the format will be specified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 3.2. There will be a Green Fleet if at least five (5) boats are registered by the initial deadline.

4. SCHEDULE

- 4.1. The Green Fleet schedule will be the same through the Competitors’ meeting, at which point a second, separate meeting for Green Fleet competitors will be conducted and the remainder of the schedule for the Green Fleet will be announced.
- 4.2. Twelve (12) “Sets” of races are scheduled for the Championship Fleet. Twelve (12) races are scheduled for the Championship Fleet if they sail a single division regatta. Three (3) “Sets” of



races or four (4) races are scheduled for each day of racing, however up to four (4) “Sets” of races may be sailed in one day providing the championship never gets

more than one “Set” of races or races ahead of schedule. A “Set” is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed.

5. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 5.1. The sailing instructions will be available by **August 24, 2024** at <https://usoda.org/regatta/9GAXbj5HTf>.

6. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 6.1. The “USODA Graded Penalty System” will apply and will be included in the sailing instructions. Percentage penalties will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- 6.2. RRS Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, will apply and is changed as follows: RRS P2.3 does not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it applies to any penalty after the first one.

7. SAFETY

- 7.1. Each competitor shall complete a USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist prior to **1000 on Saturday, August 31st**.

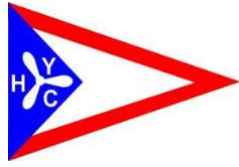
8. ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

- 8.1. All coaches, parents, guardians and ‘designated adults’ are support persons (See RRS definition *Support Person*).
- 8.2. In addition to the requirements of RRS 3 Decision to Race, a *Support Person* is responsible for the safety of their competitor. It is the responsibility of this adult to decide if their competitor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the event. The adults supervising the competitors are ultimately responsible for the risks.
- 8.3. Parents or guardians not personally attending any part of the event shall ensure that another *Support Person* is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their sailor.
- 8.4. Each competitor shall designate, in writing at Registration, the *Support Person* that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.
- 8.5. The designated *Support Person* shall accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes onshore activities before, during, and after the event.
- 8.6. The organizing authority strongly recommends that each sailor have a support (coach or spectator) vessel on the racecourse throughout the event.
- 8.7. The organizing authority recommends there be at least one support vessel for every 10 sailors.

9. [SP] EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 9.1. Boats may be inspected at any time during the event.

10. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS



10.1. A chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of her class rules, provided that the race committee has approved her sail identification before the first race.

11. QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS

11.1. This regatta is a **2025** USODA Team Trials Qualifying event. The top 25% of the Championship Fleet (based upon the total number of boats registered in both the Championship and Green fleets) will receive invitations to compete in the **2025** Optimist Team Trials. In the case where competitors in the top 25% are not team trials eligible, additional competitors will be invited. In the case of series-ties for the last qualifying place, all tied competitors shall receive invitations.