

Sailing Instructions
2001 Optimist New England Championship
July 17-19, 2001
Sandy Bay Yacht Club
Rockport, Massachusetts

1 Rules

The regatta will be governed by the current *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), the Notice of Race (except as changed by the Sailing Instructions), the rules of USODA and IODA, and the Sailing Instructions.

2 Entries

Eligible boats may be entered by completing registration with the Sandy Bay Yacht Club. Eligibility requirements for competitors are that they must not be older than 15 years of age by the end of 2001. All competitors must be members of USODA or their national Optimist class organization. USODA membership will be available at registration.

3 Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the registration/check-in tent.

4 Changes to the Sailing Instructions

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted before 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

5 Signals Made Ashore

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagstaff near the registration/check-in tent.

5.2 Competitors shall not leave the harbor until flag R has been hoisted with one sound signal.

5.3 Flag AP with two sound signals means "The race is postponed. Do not leave the harbor." When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in race signal 'AP'.

6 Format of the Regatta

6.1 For the Championship Fleet races, the entire fleet will be randomly divided into 4 or 6 divisions (as much as possible with the same number of boats). An attempt will be made for each division to sail at least once together with each of the other Divisions, according to the Division Starting Schedule.

6.2 *Division Flags* - The division flags shall be considered Class Flags. All boats will display a colored ribbon (corresponding with the color of their divisions) permanently to the top of the sprit. These ribbons will be provided at the registration/check-in tent:

Division 1: Division pennant color: Purple
Division 2: Division pennant color: Blue
Division 3: Division pennant color: Orange
Division 4: Division pennant color: Yellow
Division 5: Division pennant color: Red
Division 6: Division pennant color: White

6.3 The Green Fleet will sail in one division.

7 Registration and Schedule of Races

Monday, July 16	13:00 – 20:00	Registration/Check-in
Tuesday, July 17	09:00	Skippers' Meeting
	09:30	Coach & Safety Boat Meeting
	10:00	Harbor Start
	11:00	1 st Warning signal of the day
Wednesday, July 18	09:00	Coach & Safety Boat Meeting
	09:30	Harbor Start
	10:30	1 st Warning signal of the day
Thursday, July 19	09:00	Coach & Safety Boat Meeting
	09:30	Harbor Start
	10:30	1 st Warning signal of the day

8 Class Flags

Class flags will be colored flags indicating division:

Green	Green Fleet
Blue, Purple, Yellow, Orange, Red, White	Divisions of Championship Fleet

9 Racing Area

The racing area will be in Sandy Bay as shown on the attached course chart.

10 Courses

10.1 The diagrams on the attached course chart shows possible courses including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which the marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

10.2 Boats which have finished shall return directly from the finishing line to the waiting area, as shown in the appendices, keeping well clear of all boats racing.

11 Waiting Area

Coaches, Team leaders, spectators, and other support personnel shall not enter the racing area while boats are racing. However, one coach boat per team of ten sailors may be in the corridor shown in the appendices, while keeping clear of any boats which may still be racing, with the sole purpose of communicating with non-racing competitors in transit from the finish line to the waiting area. The penalty for failing to comply with any requirement of this section may be any penalty prescribed by the Jury, up to disqualification from the regatta, for the sailor(s) associated with the infringing parties.

12 Marks

12.1 The marks for the Championship Fleet will be yellow inflated marks. A new mark, as provided in instruction 14, is an orange inflated mark.

12.2 The marks for the Green Fleet will be orange mooring balls. A new mark, as provided in instruction 14, is a yellow mooring ball.

13 The Start

13.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.

13.2 The starting line will be between a staff from which an orange flag is displayed on the Start Boat at the starboard end, and a staff from which an orange flag is displayed on the Pin Boat at the port end.

13.3 A boat shall not start later than 5 minutes after her starting signal.

14 Change of the Position of the Next Mark

To change the position of the next mark, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain the course configuration. When in a subsequent change of course a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

15 The Finish

The finishing line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the finishing boats.

16 Time Limit

The time limit will be 90 minutes for the first boat to sail the course and finish. Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored DNF. This changes rule RRS 35.

17 Support/Coach Boats

17.1 All support/coach boats shall register before July 16, 2001. One support boat for each ten sailors from a sailing program may be registered. All registered boats shall fly a yellow flag or streamer prominently from a staff at all times while on the water. The flag will be supplied by the race committee and must returned to the race committee by the end of the regatta. All support boats will also act as safety boats, and attend the daily meetings prior to the harbor start. All support boats will have adequate first aid and safety gear aboard, as well as a marine VHF radio.

17.2 Coaching of green fleet skippers while racing is permitted, however coaching shall be limited to skippers in the bottom half of the fleet in any given race. Coach boats shall neither create wakes nor otherwise interfere with competitors. Violations of this instruction may result in any penalty, which the jury deems appropriate, up to and including the disqualification of the coached skipper from the regatta. All coaches must meet and adhere to the following criteria:

1. Coaching of the bottom half shall be fair and equitable. Prejudicial, individual, or team coaching shall not be allowed.
2. Coaches must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved lifejacket.

18 RRS 42

18.1 RRS Appendix N shall be in effect.

18.2 The Jury boats may be identified by a red flag.

19 Protests

19.1 Boats are not exempted from displaying a red flag according to the second sentence of RRS 61.1(a). (Amends RRS 61.1(a), third sentence. A boat required to display a flag shall do so until she is no longer racing.

19.2 Upon finishing each race, protesting boats shall immediately, without consultation with coaches, spectators, or any others, notify the race committee boat at the starboard end of the finishing line of their intention to protest and the sail number of the protested boat. This adds to RRS 61.1(a).

19.3 All protests shall be filed at the protest room no later than thirty minutes after the finish boat docking time. The docking time (beginning of protest time) will be posted on the official notice board.

19.4 Protests will be heard in the approximate order of receipt. The time and place of protest hearings will be posted within thirty minutes after the end of protest time. This is the notice required by RRS 63.2

20 Scoring

20.1 For the Championship Fleet, A race will be defined as one complete series of 2 starts of all 4 divisions, (or 3 starts of all 6 divisions), according to the sequential numbering in the Division Starting Schedule of these Sailing Instructions. The series will consist up to 10 races, of which 1 shall be completed to constitute a series. Only races which have been completed for all divisions will count.

20.2 The Low Point Scoring System, Appendix A2, will be used.

20.3 If six or more races are completed, a throwout race will be allowed. If all ten races are completed, two throwout races will be allowed.

21 Safety

21.1 All sailors shall at all times on the water wear a safety tag provided to the sailor at registration.

21.2 When leaving the harbor and arriving back in the harbor after the end of racing, all sailors must pass through the safety gate and have their sail number recorded.

21.3 When a competitor leaves the racing area before the end of racing each day, he/she shall notify the race committee or a support boat before retiring. If someone is unable to notify the race committee afloat, they shall notify the safety person ashore before leaving the harbor area. Failure to comply with this sailing instruction may make the sailor ineligible to sail at this regatta again.

21.4 Each competitor shall wear adequate personal buoyancy, properly secured at all times. Wet suits, dry suits and inflatable PFD's do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. A whistle shall be attached to the life jacket. A loop shall also be tied at the end of the painter.

21.5 Any competitor who fails to comply with the requirements in rule 22.1 – 22.2 may be disqualified from all races that day.

21.6 Equipment and boat safety checks may be made ashore at random.

22 Trophies

Trophies will be awarded to the top ten finishers overall, and the top ten finishers in each of the Red, White, Blue and Green Fleets. The regatta winner will also be recognized with the Optimist New England Championship Trophy.

23 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.