



2011 USODA Optimist West Coast Championship

August 6th-7th, 2011

Hosted by Santa Barbara Yacht Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012*.
- 1.2. "Conditions governing USODA Events" will apply, and can be found at www.usoda.org/.
- 1.3. Rule 61.1(a)(2) is deleted. A boat is therefore required to display a red flag if she intends to protest concerning an incident in the racing area, and shall continue to display it until she has reported her intention to protest.
- 1.4. Rule 61 is changed as follows: A competitor shall inform the race committee finish boat of its intention to protest, including sail number of the protested boat, immediately after finishing.
- 1.5. Appendix P, "Special Procedures for Rule 42", will apply. In addition, the following changes to Appendix P shall apply:
 - a. P2.1 "First Penalty" is changed to read: when a boat is first penalized under Appendix P1, her penalty shall be as follows: (i) if the penalty is signaled prior to finishing, the boat shall receive a two turns penalty under Rule 44.2 and if the boat fails to take the penalty she shall be disqualified without a hearing and (ii) if the penalty is signaled after the boat finishes, then (10) points shall be added to the boat's score for the race.
 - b. P2.2 "Second Penalty" is changed to read "Second and Subsequent Penalties". Also, the following shall be added to the end of the first sentence of P2.2: "unless her penalty is signaled after she finishes in which case she shall promptly notify the Race Committee finish boat that she is retiring."
 - c. P2.3 is deleted.
- 1.6. Rule 63.7 is replaced with: "If there is a conflict between the sailing instructions and the notice of race, the sailing instructions shall apply."

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located near the boat launch area.

3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board before 1030 on the day that it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE AND LAUNCHING

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed near the registration area.
- 4.2. When code flag "AP" is displayed, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in Race Signal "AP."

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Day / Date / Time	Activity	Location
Friday, August 5th		
1600-1900	Check In	Registration tent near boat launch area
Saturday, August 6th		
0830-0930	Check In	Registration tent near boat launch area
0930	Coaches and Parents Meeting (Mandatory)	Boat Launch Area
1000	Skipper's Meeting (Mandatory)	Boat Launch Area
1200	First Warning for Championship Fleet	Ocean race course
1700	Competitor's Banquet and Raffle	Santa Barbara Yacht Club
Sunday, August 7th		
0930	Coaches and Parents Meeting (Mandatory)	Boat Launch Area
1000	Skipper's Meeting (Mandatory)	Boat Launch Area
1200	First warning for championship fleet	Ocean Race Course
1500	No first warning signal for start of new race	
After Racing	Prizegiving	Boat Launch Area

Green Fleet sailors' schedule will be the same through the first competitors meeting at which point a second, separate meeting for Green Fleet sailors will be conducted and the remainder of the schedule for that fleet will be announced.

6. RACING AREA

The racing area will be in the Santa Barbara Channel approximately one mile from the entrance to the harbor.

7. THE COURSE

SI Addendum 1 illustrates the course, including the approximate angle between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. The course length and exact configuration will be based on sailing conditions.

8. MARKS

- 8.1. Rounding marks 1, 2, 3S and 3P will be Yellow Tetrahedron marks. Rounding mark 4 will be a Green Tetrahedron mark and shall be left to starboard on the leg between mark 2 and mark 3.
- 8.2. The starting marks will be the race committee signal boat at the starboard end of the starting line and an Orange Tetrahedron mark at the port end.
- 8.3. The finishing marks will be a race committee finish boat at the starboard end of the finish line and an Orange Tetrahedron mark at the port end.

9. RESTRICTED AREAS (see also SI 20 and SI Addendum 1)

- 9.1. The racing area is the space encompassing the course and the starting area. It extends 100 yards beyond any racing boat and all marks. Except as permitted by SI 20, only competing boats and official boats (designated as such by the race committee) may enter the racing area while boats are racing.

10. THE START

- 10.1. Class flag will be the Optimist Class Flag.
- 10.2. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat and an Orange Tetrahedron mark.
- 10.3. A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes rule A4.
- 10.4. If code flag "I" and/or "Z," or the black flag has been displayed, the Race Committee may attempt to hail the sail number(s) of boats on the course side of the starting line or its extension **during the minute before** her starting signal. Failure of the Race Committee to hail, failure of the amplification system, the order of the hail, or failure of a boat to hear a hail shall not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This instruction changes RRS 41 and 62.1.
- 10.5. Any starting penalties from races that are abandoned after the starting signal and not re-sailed on the same day will not carry over to those races if they are re-sailed on another day in the regatta. This changes rules 30.2 and 30.3.

11. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee finish boat and an Orange Tetrahedron mark.

12. RETURN TO THE STARTING AREA

- 12.1. All boats that have finished shall immediately sail beyond the race committee finish boats and promptly return directly to the leeward side of the starting area via the corridor shown in SI Addendum 1.
- 12.2. If the race committee intends to start another race on the same day, it will display the Second Substitute (with no sound) while boats are finishing.

13. ON-WATER PROTEST COMMITTEE

- 13.1. On-water protest committee boats will display code flag "J".
- 13.2. In addition to enforcing rule 42, the protest committee will be watching to see if boats break a rule of Part 2 (When Boats Meet) or rule 31 (Touching a Mark). When the protest committee sees a boat break such a rule, it may make one sound signal but will not display any flag nor hail any sail number. If no boat takes a penalty under rules 31.2 or 44.1, the protest committee may protest one or more boats.

14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1. The time limit for the first boat in a race to sail the course and finish is 90 minutes.
- 14.2. Boats failing to finish within twenty (20) minutes after the first boat in a race sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This instruction changes rules 35, A4, and A5.

15. PROTESTS, REQUESTS FOR REDRESS, AND SCORING INQUIRIES

- 15.1. Protest forms are available at the Registration Tent located near the Boat Launch Area. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

- 15.2. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the race committee signal boat docks. The race committee shall post the time of docking on the official notice board as soon as practical.
- 15.3. The protest notices required by rule 63.2, and the notification of protests by the race committee or the protest committee required by rule 61.1(b), will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible after a protest has been delivered, but not later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit.
- 15.4. At the end of each race day the protest committee will post a copy of all redress requests (other than those handled initially as scoring inquiries) on the official notice board not later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit. Competitors who want to become a party to a specific redress hearing shall submit a written request to the protest committee 15 minutes prior to the scheduled hearing time. Redress requests that are filed regarding an incident that occurs after the day's protest time will be posted as soon as practical on the official notice board. Competitors who want to become a party to any of these hearings shall submit a written request to the protest committee 15 minutes prior to the next day's start, or on the last day of the regatta within 15 minutes of the redress request posting.
- 15.5. Hearings will be held at the Protest Room located in the Santa Barbara Yacht Club Fleet Room (next to the lower deck of the yacht club). The helmsman shall represent the boat. This changes rule 63.3(a). Representatives of boats who are parties to a hearing and their witnesses shall remain on call in the vicinity of the Judges' Area.
- 15.6. A list of boats penalized for breaking rule 42 will be posted as soon as practical after racing.
- 15.7. If the race committee posts a list of boats scored OCS, ZFP or BFD on the official notice board before the protest time limit, a request for redress based on such a posted score shall be made no later than one hour after the protest time limit. This changes the first sentence of rule 62.2.
- 15.8. Requests for redress relating to possible scoring errors will initially be reviewed by the race committee before being scheduled for hearing by the protest committee. This instruction changes rule 63.1.
- 15.9. Requests for redress relating to an OCS or starting penalty shall state the procedural error the competitor believes the race committee may have made. Further, the competitor will be expected to establish that he or she started properly. This changes rule 62.2.
- 15.10. A breach of sailing instructions 12.1, 17 and 20, will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a).
- 15.11. The penalty for the first time a boat breaks any of sailing instructions 12.1, or 20, shall be a ten (10) point scoring penalty. The penalty for subsequent occurrences will be at the discretion of the protest committee and may be less than or greater than DSQ.
- 15.12. On the last day of the regatta a request to reopen a hearing or a request for redress shall be delivered (a) within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision before that day, or (b) no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rules 62.2 and 66.

16. SCORING

- 16.1. The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply.
- 16.2. One completed race shall constitute the regatta.
- 16.3. When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of all of her race scores. When from six (6) to ten (10) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When eleven (11) 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.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1. A competitor retiring from a race shall notify a race committee boat or safety boat before leaving the course, or notify the race committee immediately upon returning to shore.
- 17.2. In addition to the requirements of rule 40 and it's US Prescription, a condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a US Coast Guard approved PFD or for international sailors, a PFD approved by their country's corresponding authority, properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing. Wet suits, dry suits and inflatable PFD's do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. Failure to wear one will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee
- 17.3. Each competitor shall have a whistle attached to their PFD at all times while on the water.
- 17.4. Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of its bow line.

18. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT

- 18.1. Boats are allowed only one hull, dagger-board, rudder (including tiller and extension), mast, boom, sprit, and sail during the regatta. Substitution of damaged equipment must be approved by the race committee as soon as practical.
- 18.2. Measurement may be made of boats at anytime during the regatta at the direction of the race committee. See also SI 12.

19. COACH AND SUPPORT BOAT REGULATIONS (see also SI 10 and SI Addendum 1)

- 19.1. Coaches are expected to be good role models for young sailors and conduct themselves accordingly ashore and on the water. Any behavior that deviates from these expectations may result in restrictions or excusal from the event at the discretion of the organizing authority, principle race officer, and/or protest committee.
- 19.2. General coach and support boat requirements
 - a. Coach boats shall fly a pink flag with a number provided by the race committee at all times while on the water. Coach boats shall carry a working VHF radio and monitor the race committee channel when possible, particularly in windy or threatening weather.
 - b. Support boats shall fly a yellow flag with a number provided by the race committee at all times while on the water.

- c. Coach and support boats shall not display distinctive markings or signaling apparatus, or any flags other than their ensign and the flags provided under (a) or (b) above while any boats are racing.
- d. Coach and support boats shall follow the instructions of race committee, safety, protest committee, and race management boats.
- e. No coach or support boat shall tie up to or congregate around any aid to navigation, such as buoys or channel markers.

19.3. Restrictions

- a. All coach and support boats shall stay clear of the racing area at all times while boats are racing, except where permitted in this instruction.
- b. All coach and support boats shall further stay more than 100 yards away from any racing boat and move slowly and with minimal wake.
- c. Coach boats (not support boats) may enter the corridor as boats are finishing and briefly talk to sailors provided they stay well clear of any racing sailing boat.

19.4. Penalties

- a. Competitors affiliated with any coach or support boat that breaks SI 19 may be protested for breaking Rule 41. (Outside help).
- b. Coaches or support boats that break SI 19 may be subject to disciplinary actions up to and including exclusion from the venue.

20. ENVIRONMENT

Discharge of trash into the water by competitors, support boats, race committee or protest committee is prohibited.

21. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded according to the notice of race. Subsequent prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the organizing authority.

22. 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. A waiver must be signed by all competitors and their parent/guardian.

**SI ADDENDUM 1 - Race Course and Restricted Areas
(see also SI 10, 11, 12, and 20)**

