



International Optimist Class Association (UK)



2021 GILL BRITISH NATIONAL AND OPEN OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIPS

31st July – 6th August 2021

The Organising Authority is the International Optimist Class Association (UK), in conjunction with the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy.

Event website: ioca.uk/nationals

NOTICE OF RACE: JUNIOR, SENIOR AND REGATTA FLEETS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. The Organising Authority implements the RYA Racing Charter. Competitors shall undertake to sail in accordance with the Charter.
- 1.3. The Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Exoneration Penalty and Arbitration will be available.
- 1.4. The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the NoR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.5. RRS 40.1 applies at all times while afloat. [DP]
- 1.6. RRS 63.7 is changed so that in the event of a conflict between the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available on the event website at least three days prior to the event.
- 2.2. Sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board. Individual printed copies will not be distributed on the day, please print your own if required or view electronically to save paper.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The official notice board will be described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 3.2. [DP] At any time whilst afloat, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The championships are open to all boats of the International Optimist Class.
- 4.2. Participants shall be ordinary members of IOCA (UK) or an equivalent National Optimist organisation.
- 4.3. Entry shall be made via the IOCA (UK) Event Website, and the official Entry Form shall be submitted with the declaration of the Parent/Guardian.
- 4.4. There will be a confirmed total entry limit of 300 boats divided between the fleets at the organisers' discretion. Once confirmed entry limits are reached any subsequent entries will be placed on a waiting list. As more resources become available the entry limit may be raised (please find more details on the website).
- 4.5. In line with the standard IOCA (UK) conditions of entry, entries will only be confirmed once the entry fee has been paid. While the entry fee remains unpaid that entry will remain on the waiting list.
- 4.6. All promotions from waiting list to confirmed entries will depend on payment of entry fees and available space at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 4.7. Late entries or fleet transfers will only be accepted at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 4.8. Entry will be accepted only from competitors who will be aged 8 or older on 31st December in the year of the championship (Optimist Age 8 and above). Younger competitors may apply to compete; however, the Organising Authority has absolute discretion to accept or refuse such an entry.
- 4.9. Registration requirements are:
 - Measurement certificate with a current sail button number and buoyancy endorsement
 - Adequate third-party insurance of at least £3,000,000

Regatta Fleets

- 4.10. The objective of the regatta fleets is to provide 6 days of Optimist based activities, both on and off the water, including training and racing. Sailors and parents should note that the aim is for a balance between these activities.
- 4.11. Sailors whose primary focus is on racing and who are capable of staying on the water all day are therefore encouraged to join the Main Championship Fleets (Junior or Senior).
- 4.12. The regatta fleet will be divided into 2 fleets:
 - Regatta Racing
 - Regatta Coaching
- 4.13. The Regatta Racing fleet is intended to be for sailors with experience of regatta racing who want to race all day but who are not yet confident to join the Championship fleets. The emphasis will be on racing and developing racing skills. There may be some training races and the sailors may return to the shore for lunch on some days.
- 4.14. The Regatta Coaching fleet is intended for those sailors who have started to race in their clubs and/or at regional level and who want to improve their racing skills prior to entry to the Championship fleets. Generally, the fleet will be coached in the morning in groups and will race in the afternoon.
- 4.15. To ensure as far as possible that sailors are enrolled in the most suitable fleet the organisers may (after consultation):
 - move sailors between fleets and amend the stated entry conditions in order to achieve this
 - allow sailors who do not satisfy the stated entry conditions in section 4.16 to enrol in a Regatta Fleet, provided that a request (with reason) is made to the Organisers no later than the 24th June 2021 and there is a good reason for doing so.

Any such decisions by the Organisers are at their sole discretion.

- 4.16. The following are criteria for the regatta racing and coaching fleets:

- 4.16.1. Capable of completing a triangular course in a moderate breeze and of capsizing recovery without assistance
- 4.16.2. Entries will not normally be accepted from any sailors who has competed in the Main Fleet of a previous IOCA (UK) Championships other than 2020 End of Season Championships
- 4.16.3. IOCA recommend that sailors who are (Optimist) age 12 compete in the Main Championship Junior Fleet.

Regatta Racing

- 4.16.4. Evidence of racing in a regatta fleet, ideally at a national level.

Regatta Coaching

- 4.16.5. Evidence of racing at a club or regional level

5. FEES

- 5.1. Closing Date

Midnight on **14th July 2021**

- 5.2. The fees and refund policy are as follows:

	Before Closing Date	After Closing Date (If accepted)
Main Fleet	£250	£300
Regatta Racing	£275	£325
Regatta Coached	£300	£350
Refund for Cancellation	50%	None

- 5.3. A sibling discount, in the form of a refund, is available for families with three or more sailors across the Main and Regatta Fleet events. Entries should be completed as normal and the Sibling discounts must be applied for at the event from the race office after registration has closed and will subsequently be paid by bank transfer. For a third sailor, the discount is £65 for that entry only. For a fourth or subsequent sailor the discount is £130 for that entry only.

6. REGATTA FLEET – PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND COACHING

- 6.1. Every sailor must have a parent or other designated adult on shore at the venue at all times, who must have provided a mobile phone number, and have their phone switched on. Sailors remain the responsibility of that adult at all times while the sailor is not on the water, up until their boat is launched, and as soon as it returns to land. This does not include during official onshore activities arranged due to adverse weather conditions.
- 6.2. Sailors will be required to provide a contact at registration. If the contact is not available on shore at all times on a particular day, an alternative adult may be designated by providing contact details to the Race Office.
- 6.3. Sailing is a weather dependent sport, and sessions may not finish at the pre-designated time. Individual sailors may return to shore at any time. Sailors who are not collected promptly will be taken to the Race Office to await collection. Parents collecting from the Race Office will be expected to make a £5 donation to Chesil Sailability. Any sailor who is not collected promptly on more than one occasion without good reason may not be allowed to participate in the following day's activities. Any decision by the Organisers not to allow a sailor to take part under this section is final.

- 6.4. [DP] Sailors should note that coaching during racing will be permitted only by authorised Regatta Fleet coaches. Parents are asked not to attempt to coach their sailors while they are racing or being coached and to avoid the race course and coaching areas while activity is taking place (with the exception of parents who have volunteered to assist with safety or race management).

7. ADVERTISING

- 7.1. [DP] Boats shall be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority on the front 40% of the boat.

8. FORMAT OF RACING

Main Fleet

- 8.1. All Championship competitors Optimist aged 13, 14 and 15 will race in the Senior Fleet. All younger Championship competitors will race in the Junior Fleet.
- 8.2. The championships for both Senior and Junior fleets will consist of a qualifying series and final series.
- 8.3. The Senior and Junior fleets may be divided into flights for the qualifying series and re-flighted at the end of each day of the qualifying series. Following the qualifying series the Senior and Junior fleets may then be divided into divisions (for example Gold, Silver and Bronze). The number of divisions will depend on the size of entry and the size of divisions within each fleet will be similar. If an equal division is not possible the gold fleet will have more sailors.
- 8.4. There will be a boys and girls championship in both Senior and Junior fleets.

Regatta Fleets

- 8.5. The two Regatta Fleets will race separately but may be on the same course for some of the sessions.

9. SCHEDULE

- 9.1. Times of Registration, Briefings, First Warning signals etc for all fleets are all tabulated below.
- 9.2. Requests for late registration made after Day 0 will be at the discretion of the Organiser.
- 9.3. Dates of racing: Sunday 1st to Friday 6th August 2021
- 9.4. No warning signal will be made after 15:00 on the final day of the championship.

Day	Event	Location	Main Fleet	Regatta Racing	Regatta Coached
Day 0 Saturday 31st July	Registration	Event Hall	14:00 – 17:00		
	Regatta Fleet Safety Inspection	Event Hall	n/a	14:00 – 14:50 / 16:30 – 17:00	
	Opening Ceremony	Main Stage	15:00		
Day 1 Sunday 1st August	Late Registration (by prior arrangement)	Race Office	08:30 – 09:30		
	Support person vessel Briefing	Spinnakers	09:30	09:30	n/a
	Competitors' Briefing	Main Stage	10:00	10:00	10:00
	1 st Warning Signal		12:55	12:55	As directed
	Number of Races		2 Qualifying	Any	Any
Day 2 Monday 2nd	1 st Warning Signal		11:25	11:25	As directed
	Number of Races		3 Qualifying	Any	Any
Day 3 Tuesday 3rd	1 st Warning Signal		11:25	11:25	As directed
	Number of Races		3 Qualifying	Any	Any
Day 4 Wednesday 4th	Lay Period		a.m.	All Day	All Day
	1 st Warning Signal		13:55	n/a	As directed
	Number of Races		2 Finals	None	None
Day 5 Thursday 5th	1 st Warning Signal		11:25	11:25	As directed
	Number of Races		3 Finals	Any	Any
Day 6 Friday 6th	1 st Warning Signal		11:25	11:25	As directed
	Number of Races		2 Finals	Any	Any
	No Warning Signal After		15:00	15:00	15:00
	Prize Giving (TBC)	Main Stage	18:00	17:00	17:00

Main Fleet

- 9.5. The Championship will consist of up to 15 races.
- 9.6. It is the intention that the morning of Day 4 will be a lay morning (no racing). If the lay morning is to be cancelled a notice will be posted on the official notice board no later than 1800 on Day 3.
- 9.7. The intention is to run all races scheduled for a given day consecutively. There will not be time to go ashore between races. Competitors should be prepared to toilet afloat.

- 9.8. The intention is that there will be no more than three races a day, however, additional races may be sailed either in advance or arrears in order to complete the programme if weather or other reasons dictate.
- 9.9. Qualifying will continue until the end of racing on Day 3 unless 5 qualifying races have not been completed for all boats at that time, in which case the lay morning will be cancelled, and 3 qualifying races will be scheduled for Day 4. The qualifying series will then continue until the end of the day on which 5 qualifying races have been completed for all boats.

Regatta Fleets

- 9.10. The event may consist of any number of races for either Regatta Fleet.
- 9.11. The Regatta Coached fleet will generally come ashore for lunch, the Regatta Racing fleet will generally have lunch afloat, subject to the conditions.
- 9.12. A Lay Day is planned for Day 4 where there will be no formal racing, but other informal activities may be arranged. The Main Fleet event also has a lay morning on the same day. If the lay morning has to be cancelled for the Main Fleet due to lack of races, it will also be cancelled for both Regatta Fleets.
- 9.13. An "Away Day" is planned as an optional activity for the Regatta Coached fleet on the Lay Day. Sailors from the Regatta Racing fleet may attend subject to having the necessary safety vessels available. This will be a passage sail to a nearby location for a picnic lunch.

10. MEASUREMENT

Main Fleet

- 10.1. Each boat shall have a valid measurement certificate.
- 10.2. Pre-registration equipment inspection procedures / and or measurement requirements at Registration will be published on the event website prior to the event.
- 10.3. Equipment inspection checks may be carried out ashore and on the water at the discretion of the race committee.
- 10.4. [DP] After finishing, boats shall also comply with RRS 78.1 until they have passed the measurement station.

Regatta Fleets

- 10.5. Prior to registration, boats will be checked and measured. Competitors will not be able to register until they have successfully completed the measurement check. The measurement check for Regatta Fleet relates to items of safety and seaworthiness and should not be confused with the Main Championship Fleet measurement process.
- 10.6. Each sailor shall produce at registration evidence of a successful buoyancy test on the boat within the previous 12 months.
- 10.7. Specific attention is drawn to the following International Optimist Class Rules:
 - Each Unit (Buoyancy Bag) shall be 45 +/-5 litres", i.e. a minimum capacity of 40 litres. Boats with smaller buoyancy bags will not pass the check measurement process.
 - All Optimists must have a painter that is at least 8 metres long.
 - All Optimists that have a removable device to attach the boom strop to the mainsheet shall use a device that has a positive means of locking.
- 10.8. Boats will be monitored for continuing seaworthiness during the event and may be prevented from going afloat if basic safety (including the condition of buoyancy bags and having adequate equipment such as bailers, paddles, etc.) is compromised.

11. NOT USED

12. VENUE

- 12.1. The venue is Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy, Osprey Quay, Portland DT5 1SA, United Kingdom.
- 12.2. The racing area(s) will be in Portland Harbour and Weymouth Bay (see Appendix 1).

13. THE COURSES

Main Fleet

- 13.1. The junior and senior fleets will sail on the same race course.
- 13.2. The courses will be published in the Sailing Instructions, and will be predominantly windward leeward in nature with reaching legs to separate the fleets (e.g. trapezoid, worlds or M-Course).
- 13.3. The target time for the first boat in each fleet is 45 minutes.

Regatta Fleets

- 13.4. The courses will vary as appropriate to the conditions and sailors' ability.

14. PENALTIES

Main Fleet

- 14.1. Appendix P will apply, except as changed by NoR 14.2.
- 14.2. RRS P2.3 is deleted and in RRS P2.2 "second" is changed to read "second or subsequent".

Regatta Fleets

- 14.3. All rules disputes will be dealt with using RYA arbitration unless serious damage or injury has resulted.

15. SCORING

Main Fleet

- 15.1. 3 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 15.2. During qualifying, a race is only deemed to be completed when it has been completed by all flights. During the Finals series, each division (Gold, Silver, etc.) need not have completed the same number of races.
- 15.3. The boats in the Gold division will be ranked highest, followed by those in the Silver, Bronze (and subsequent divisions, if used), except for a boat disqualified from a final-series race under RRS 69.
- 15.4. The total score for each boat will be the sum of her scores as follows:

Qualifying series

- 4 or more completed races - All scores except her worst race score
- Fewer than 4 completed races - All race scores

Final series

- 4 or more completed races - All scores except her worst race score
- Fewer than 4 completed races - All race scores.

- 15.5. A boat's overall score for the championship is the sum of her Qualifying series score and her Finals series score, after exclusions as described above.

- 15.6. Points for the Senior and Junior fleets shall be calculated separately. Points for the National Championships shall be calculated including all competitors, whether eligible for the championship or not. Points for the Boys and Girls Championship shall also be calculated including all competitors, whether eligible for the championship or not.

Regatta Fleets

- 15.7. 3 races are required to be completed to constitute a series
- 15.8. The total score for each boat shall be the sum of her scores excluding her worst scores as follows:

Races Completed	Scores Excluded
1 - 3	0
4 - 7	1
8 - 11	2
12 or more	3

16. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

- 16.1. [DP] [NP] Support vessels who are not an official vessels must register at the Race Office and pay a fee of £95 which includes an IOCA administration fee, Portland Harbour dues, WPNSA Fee and a berth at the WPNSA marina from Day 0 to Day 6 (see Section 9).
- 16.2. Support person vessels will be required to carry identifying flags issues by the organisers and shall comply with the directions from Safety Control (please refer to the Sailing Instructions for further details). A deposit of £40 will be required and will be refunded when the identifying flag is returned.
- 16.3. All Support person vessel crews, safety crews and coaches will attend briefings by the race committee and organising authority as published in the event schedule.

17. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

- 17.1. 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.

18. BERTHING

- 18.1. [DP] [NP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are in the boat park.

19. NOT USED

20. COVID STATEMENT

- 20.1. [DP] [NP] By taking part in any of the events covered by this notice of race, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that they are responsible for complying with any regulations in force from time to time in respect of COVID-19 and for complying with the WPNSA and IOCA UK COVID-19 procedures. Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from an event official. Failure to comply may be misconduct. Reasonable actions by event officials to implement COVID-19 guidance, protocols or legislation, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions.

21. DATA PROTECTION

- 21.1. The personal information you provide to the organizing authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organizing authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.
- 21.2. Details of what information we collect and how we use it is set out in our Privacy Policy: <https://ioca.uk/privacy>.
- 21.3. Still or video photography may be used as part of the Race Management processes for the event. These images will only be used for Race Management and limited training purposes and will not be widely published without the express permission of all sailors who are identifiable in the images.

22. RISK STATEMENT

- 22.1. RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone." Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk.

By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event.
- b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
- c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
- e) The provision of a race management team, patrol vessels, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
- f) The provision of patrol vessel cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any competitors briefing held at the venue.

23. INSURANCE

- 23.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

24. PRIZES

- 24.1. Prizes will be listed in a separate document.

25. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 25.1. For further information please contact admin@optimist.org.uk

1. APPENDIX 1

