



FIDELITY BAHAMAS OPTIMIST NATIONAL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP 2024

Friday, October 4th – Sunday, October 6th, 2024

Organizing Authorities: Exuma Sailing Club

The Bahamas Optimist Dinghy Association and Bahamas Sailing Association

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The current conditions of the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) will apply.
- 1.3 The following prescriptions of Bahamas Sailing Association (BSA) shall apply:
 - a) Racing Rules of Sailing PART 4 – Add under preamble: “BSA prescribes that Part 4 rule 40 shall also apply to boats sailing to the race course from the launching area and vice-versa.”
 - b) Rule 40 – Add: “BSA prescribes that competitors racing in single-handed dinghies shall wear personal floatation devices at all times while afloat except as provided in rule 40.”
- 1.4 RRS 33 will be changed as follows: Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules.
- 1.5 The first three sentences of RRS 61.1(a) are changed to “A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. When the protest shall concern an incident in the racing area that she was involved in or saw she shall hail “Protest”. She shall inform the Race Committee at the finishing line immediately after finishing of the boat she is protesting, or as soon as practicable after she retires.”
- 1.6 RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) will apply
- 1.7 RRS Appendix P (RRS 42) will apply with special procedures for Rule 42 with changes to include a point penalty for a penalty given after finishing a race. Appendix 2.3 is deleted and Appendix 2.2 is changed to “When a boat is penalized for a second and subsequent times during a regatta, she shall promptly retire. If she fails to do so she shall be disqualified without a hearing and her score shall not be excluded.”
- 1.8 In all rules governing this event where applicable:-
 - a) [DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the Jury; and
 - b) [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

2. ADVERTISING

2.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 The regatta is open to competitors sailing on boats of the Optimist class that fulfill the eligibility requirements stated below.

3.2 Competitors shall have been born in 2009 or later.

3.3 Competitors shall be junior or associate members of the Bahamas Sailing Association or Club member of Club recognized by the BSA.

3.4 Competitors who are neither Bahamian nationals nor resident in The Bahamas are eligible as Open Competitors in Championship fleet and Green fleet, and will be eligible for Championship fleet prizes but shall not be eligible to win the "Geoffrey Holowesko Floating Championship Trophy".

3.5 Age Divisions for Championship Fleet:

- White Division – 10 and under on the first day of racing (5th October, 2024)
- Blue Division – 11 and 12 on the first day of racing (5th October, 2024)
- Red Division – 13, 14, and 15 on the first day of racing (5th October, 2024)

4. FEES

4.1 Entries shall be made by completing the relevant online registration forms to be found at https://exumasailing.club/opti_nationals_2024.html and by paying the required fee as provided in 4.2 on or before September 21, 2024.

4.2 Entrance Fee is B\$130.00 payable on or before September 21, 2024, by bank transfer or by check drawn on a Bahamian bank account and payable to the Exuma Sailing Club (ESC) or by cash delivered to ESC. This covers all meals Saturday & Sunday, a regatta shirt, and a registration pack. Entrance fees will be free of conversion charges from foreign currency and free of all bank charges and commissions. Any conversion charges and bank charges and commission will be charged to the Competitor.

4.3 Late registration is B\$150.00 on or after September 22, 2024.

4.4 For Bahamian competitors (Bahamian nationals or non-Bahamian nationals normally resident in The Bahamas) not fully paid member of Bah ODA at the time of registration US\$15.00 fee will be collected at registration. 4.5 Competitors and Support Persons shall complete their Registration in person and on-site at ESC between 5:00pm-6:00pm on Friday 4th October, 2024.

5. SCHEDULE

5.1 Dates of Registration and Racing:

Friday, October 4th, 2024:

5:00pm - 6:00pm - Registration

6:00pm - 7:00pm - Opening Ceremony [Augusta Bay Pool Deck (food available for purchase)]

Saturday, October 5th, 2024:

7:30am - Breakfast at ESC Cove

8:30am - Skippers Meeting

10:00am - Warning Signal with race(s) to follow

12:30pm - Lunch On the Water

2:00pm - Warning Signal with race(s) to follow

5:30pm - Dinner Party at Splash Bar & Grill

Sunday, October 6th, 2024:

8:00am - Breakfast at ESC Cove

10:00am - Warning signal with race(s) to follow

1:30pm - Lunch @ ESC Cove

5:00pm - 7:00pm - Dinner & Awards at Augusta Bay Pool Deck

5.2 The Race Committee will attempt to complete 7 races.

5.3 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound for at least five minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

5.4 On the last day of the regatta no warning signal will be made after 1:00pm.

6. MEASUREMENTS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available at https://exumasailing.club/opti_nationals_2024 and at ESC Cove notice boards.

8. COMMUNICATION

[DP] While racing, 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.

9. VENUE

9.1 The general racing area will be in the vicinity of Elizabeth Harbour, Great Exuma, Bahamas. 9.2 The exact locations of the courses will depend on the specific wind and sea conditions and are at the discretion of the Race Committee.

10. THE COURSES

The diagram in Appendix #1 show the courses, including the approximate angles 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 the sailing conditions.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1 Appendix P will apply

11.2 Any competitor using a one/two turn(s) penalty shall report that use to the Race Committee promptly upon finishing that race.

11.3 The Jury Boat will be identified by displaying the code flag J.

11.4 In addition to the application of Appendix P, the jury will observe racing for other rule infringements. When a protest committee member sees such an infringement, and no boat hails protest or takes an appropriate penalty, the protest committee member may make one sound, but no yellow flag will be pointed, and no sail number will be hailed. This signal means that one or more members of the protest committee believe a boat should take an appropriate penalty.

11.5 RRS P2.3 will not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one.

11.6 No protests shall be heard for the green fleet.

12. SCORING

12.1 The low point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.

12.2 Three races shall constitute a regatta.

12.3 When fewer than 6 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 6 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

13. [NP][DP] SUPPORT PERSONNEL AND BOATS

13.1 Support Persons shall register at Registration and boats used by them shall be marked with a Flag given to them at Registration.

13.2 Support Persons shall monitor the race committee channel on the VHF radio and be available to assist with safety when requested. The VHF channel will be stated at the Skippers Meeting.

14. CHARTER BOATS

14.1 Charter Boats are not mandatory.

14.2 Charter Boats are available privately through Bahamas Sailing Association who shall allocate boats on a first come first serve basis and otherwise may allocate boats in their sole discretion, additional fees may apply. 14.3 Competitors may use their own foils, spars, fittings and running rigging.

14.4 Sails may be provided to competitors who are residents of The Bahamas.

15. BERTHING

Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are in the Exuma Sailing Club Cove.

16. PRIZES

Trophies shall be awarded to:

- a) Top three finishers in Championship Fleet without gender distinctions regardless of nationality or place of residence
- b) Top finisher who is a citizen of or resident in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas will be awarded the "Geoffrey Holowesko Floating Champion Trophy"
- c) Top three finishers in each of the Red, Blue and White Divisions of the Championship Fleet without gender distinctions regardless of nationality or place of residence
- d) Top three finishers in Green Fleet without gender distinctions, regardless of nationality or place of residence
- e) Special Awards from host club will also be awarded

17. DISCLAIMERS OF LIABILITY

17.1 The Bahamas Sailing Association, Exuma Sailing Club, The International Optimist Dinghy Class Association, The Bahamas Optimist Sailing Association and their officers, members and volunteers do not accept liability for loss of life or property, or personal injury or damage caused by or arising out of the Bahamas Optimist National Championship 2024. Competitors take part in the Championships entirely at their own risk. RRS 4.

17.2 The establishment of the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions in no way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of a competitor for the management of the boat he or she is sailing. 17.3 At-fault occurrences to other boats are the responsibility of the competitor. Competitors are not covered by any liability insurance provided by the organizing authority and should provide their own coverage for personal goods and liability protection. The organizing authority recommends that competitors consult their own insurance carriers to ensure they are covered at this event and regarding additional personal liability insurance coverage.

17.4 A competitor is advised to have personal accident and health insurance that covers him while attending the event and while racing.

17.5 To the fullest extent permitted by law, each competitor agrees to indemnify and hold BSA, ESC, IODA and Bahamas Optimist Sailing Association, their owners, affiliates, officers, employees, agents, members, volunteers, committee persons and race officials acting in their official capacities, harmless from any claim arising from a competitor's acts or omissions.

17.6 All competitors and Support Persons will be required to sign the hold Harmless Agreement.

18. PHOTO AND VIDEO DISCLAIMER

By participating in the event, competitors give absolute right and permission in perpetuity to the organizing authority for any photograph and video footage taken of themselves or the boat they are sailing during the event to be published in any media whatsoever, for either editorial or

advertising purpose to be used in press information without compensation and without the competitor's approval of such images or any use of them. Competitors also agree to allow the Exuma Sailing Club to broadcast their races via drone to be livestreamed on the internet. Individual photo packages are available for purchase.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

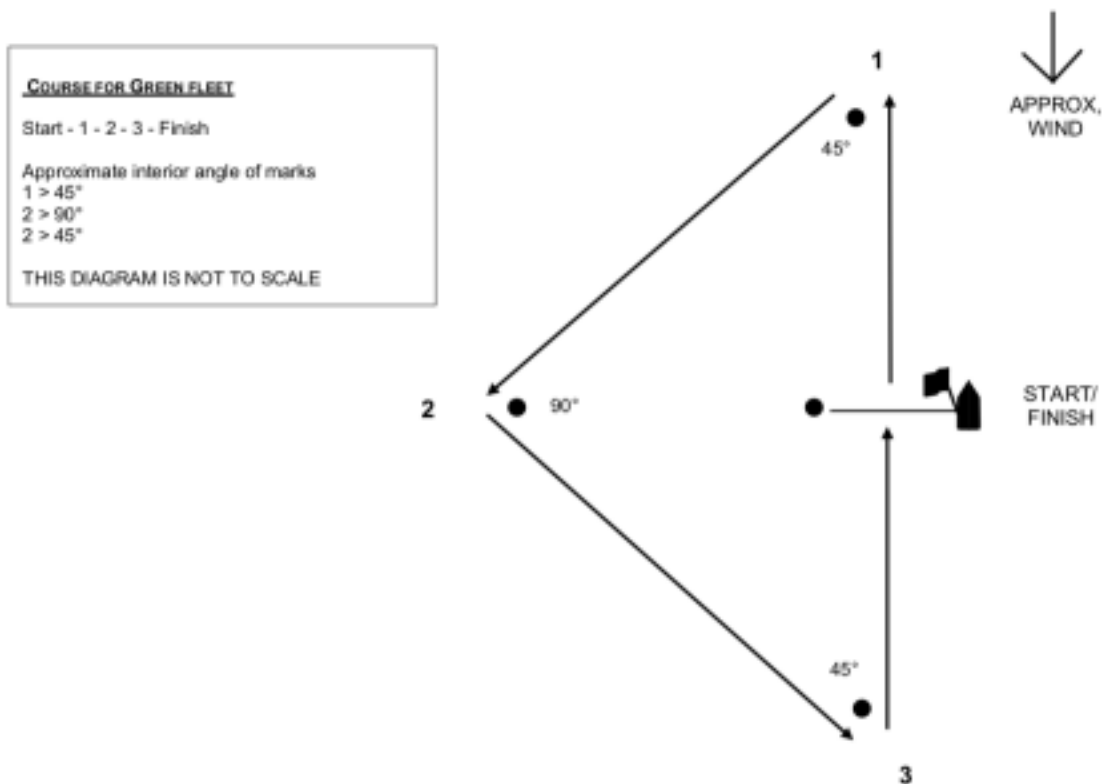
All information regarding this event can be found on the Exuma Sailing Club website at https://exumasailing.club/opti_nationals_2024 and communications may be made by email sent to exumasailingclub@gmail.com.

Telephone/WhatsApp contacts are

Committee Chair – Erin Tomlinson - 242-376-4845

Transportation and Boat Logistics – Jimmie Lowe - 242-357-9077

Exuma Sailing Club - Dallas & Tamara Knowles -242- 524-8246/7



APPENDIX 1 – Bahamas Optimist National Championship

RACE COURSES

