



**American Yacht Club Optimist Invitational Regatta
Saturday, July 25, 2015**

Organizing Authority: American Yacht Club (AYC), 499 Stuyvesant Ave, Rye, NY

NOTICE OF RACE

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current version of The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 The 2015 Rules for JSA of LIS (JSA) Events will apply.
- 1.3 Racing Rules listed below will be changed as indicated. The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions. The sailing instructions may also change other rules.
 - a. Rule 61 will be changed to require that immediately after finishing a race, without consultation with instructors, coaches or spectators, a boat intending to protest, shall notify the race committee finish boat of its intention to protest another boat and (if possible) provide the sail number of the protested boat.
 - b. Rule 60.3 will be changed to permit the protest committee to protest a boat when, from its own observation or a report received from any source, it believes a competitor may have committed a breach of sportsmanship or the Rules for JSA Events.
 - c. Appendix T, Section B, Post-Race Penalties will apply.

2 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1 All competitors shall comply with the eligibility rules of JSA and are required to be members of the United States Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA). Proof of Class Membership is required for registration.
- 2.2 This event is open to Optimist sailors representing member programs in JSA Area B. Sailors from programs outside JSA Area B may enter if space permits, in which case entries will be accepted in order of date of receipt.
- 2.3 All participants shall be certified as competent for this event by either the head instructor or the program head of their member program. Competency is defined by the JSA as follows: Each entrant is able to sail his/her Optimist to windward and to leeward in a variety of wind conditions, is able to right the boat after a capsized, and has previously sailed a race course.
- 2.4 This event is a qualifying event for the 2015 JSA Optimist Championship
- 2.5 The entry package must be received by Stephanie and Sander Spierings at American Yacht Club, 499 Stuyvesant Ave, Rye, NY 10580 no later than 5pm on Wednesday, July 22, 2015. One check or electronic payment payable to American Yacht Club, must be drawn per club to cover all fees.

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Entries for this regatta will be accepted via the JSA database regatta registration facility; if that is used, it is still required that payment be received by the due date.

- 2.6 The entry package consists of the entry form, a completed JSA Standard Waiver and Medical Release Form for each competitor, and a single payment to cover all fees. The entry is not complete until all these elements have been received at the address above.
- 2.7 The entry forms and waivers can be submitted via the JSA online regatta registration capability. Please have your club administrator locate this regatta via the regattas tab in the JSA online database and follow the directions there. Payment for regatta fees must be received as directed by 2.5.

3 FEES

- 3.1 The entry fee is \$70 per sailor. There is no fee to send an instructor.
- 3.2 Late entries and/or changes may be accepted at the discretion of the regatta chairperson. To inquire about registering after the date listed above, contact the regatta chairperson. Please do not send late entries or changes without permission from the regatta chairperson as they may not be accepted. The entry fee for late entries is \$100 per sailor.

4 SCHEDULE AND REGATTA FORMAT

- 4.1 **Registration:** All competitors and instructors/coaches shall appear in person at the registration table during the registration period. Instructors shall also attend the instructors' meeting to receive safety assignments. **Please note that competitors will not be able to register until after completion of the safety check.**

- 4.2 Competitors will be assigned to groups according to their age on the day of the regatta as follows:

White Fleet 10 and under
Blue Fleet 11 and 12
Red Fleet 13, 14, and 15

These groups may race together or separately, as described in the Sailing Instructions.

The race committee will supply colored streamers to be displayed by each boat if the groups race separately.

- 4.3 The schedule of events is as follows:

Time	Activity	Location
0830-1000	Registration	Clubhouse front porch
0830-1000	Measurement and equipment check	Dry-sail area
1030	Competitors Meeting	Front lawn near flagpole
1040	Instructors Meeting	Front lawn near flagpole
1100	Harbor Start	
1130	First Warning Signal	
Between races	Lunch	On the water
Following racing	Snacks and awards	Front lawn near flagpole

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- 4.4 No warning signal will be made after 1630.

5 MEASUREMENT, SAFETY AND EQUIPMENT

- 5.1 All boats shall conform to their class rules and with the JSA Optimist Inspection Checklist (Appendix A of the 2015 Rules for JSA Events). Boats are subject to inspection by the organizing authority or the judges at any time during the event.
- 5.2 **Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs):** In addition to the requirements of rule 40 and its U.S. Prescription, a condition of entry and participation in this regatta sailors shall wear a personal flotation device (PFD) approved by the US Coast Guard that is 100% dependent on foam for floatation and the appropriate size for the wearer with whistle attached and properly secured at all times (except for brief periods to adjust clothing) while on the water or on the dock in accordance with Rules for JSA Events. This instruction also applies to all instructors. Failure to comply with JSA rules can result in disciplinary action being taken (see Section 14).
- 5.3 **Bow line and whistle:** Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of its bow line, and each sailor shall have a whistle secured to his/her personal flotation device.
- 5.4 **Sail numbers:** Sail numbers must be complete and clearly visible from both sides of the sail. Entries of boats not complying with this instruction may be rejected by the Organizing Authority. If racing has already started, boats not complying with this instruction will be subject to protest by the race committee only.

6 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Preliminary sailing instructions may be available on line at www.americanyc.org before the event. Final sailing instructions will be available at the on-site registration/check-in desk.

7 VENUE

The racing area will be the waters south of American Yacht Club. Directions to American Yacht Club can be found at www.jsalis.org.

8 THE COURSES

Courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions and at the Competitors Meeting.

9 PENALTY SYSTEM AND PROTESTS

- 9.1 The penalty for breaches of the Rules for JSA Events will be at the discretion of the protest committee and may be less than or greater than DSQ for one or more races. Please see Rules for JSA Events 11.

10 SCORING

- 10.1 Five races are scheduled. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 10.2 When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

11 SUPPORT BOATS

- 11.1 Any club entering three or more boats shall supply a support boat equipped with a working VHF radio, an anchor and a first aid kit. An instructor, coach and/or other support personnel shall drive the support boat in accordance with Rules for JSA Events 10.4 (d) and (e) and shall register with the organizing authority at registration to receive safety patrol assignments.

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- 11.2 Spectator and support boats shall stay well clear of the race course area while boats are racing and shall monitor the VHF radio for updates and directives coming from the race committee.
- 11.3 If a club is not sending a support boat (i.e., a club is sending fewer than three boats), arrangements shall be made with another club to allow the instructor supervising those sailors to go out on the water. In no circumstances will competitors be allowed to sail without a designated instructor on the race course.

12 BOAT AND TRAILER STORAGE

- 12.1 All boats will be dry-sailed.
- 12.2 Boats, dollies, and/or trailers will be stored in the assigned area of the American Yacht Club parking lot.

13 PRIZES

- 13.1 Prizes will be awarded to the top five finishers in the Red, White, and Blue fleet age groups.
- 13.2 A sportsmanship trophy may be awarded at the discretion of the race committee.

14 PERSONAL CONDUCT

- 14.1 All junior sailors and instructors are expected to behave in accordance with recognized principles of sportsmanship, good manners and fair play. A junior sailor or instructor may be disciplined as per Rules for JSA Events 11.2 for actions that include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. swearing at, intimidating or harassing anyone, including teammates, on or off the water; or
 - b. stealing or borrowing without permission, anything that does not belong to them; or
 - c. possessing, consuming or being under the influence of alcohol, or controlled substances the possession of which is unlawful.
 - d. failure to wear a properly fastened PFD.
 - e. failure to comply with curfew requirements or other conditions of the regatta
- 14.2 Please note that if an instructor is asked to leave a race course, all juniors for whom that instructor is responsible shall leave the race course as well unless other satisfactory supervisory arrangements are made.

15 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, or any other organization (including the JSA or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- 15.3 As a condition of the participation of any boat in any race or related activity sponsored or undertaken by the American Yacht Club, the owner, helmsperson and each crewmember agree that the safety of the boat and the crew and the decision whether or not to start or continue to race is solely their responsibility. Responsibility for evaluating wind, sea and weather conditions rests with each competitor as does the responsibility for the safe condition and operation of their boat

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including safety equipment and rigging and for wearing a life jacket. Assistance from the race committee, patrol boats, or other support boats and from personnel aboard them is at the risk of the participant.

- 15.4 By participating in this event and any related activity sponsored or undertaken by American Yacht Club, the owner and helmsman agree: that they understand that sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of serious bodily injury (including permanent disability, paralysis, or death by drowning or otherwise), property damage and other economic loss; that the safety of the boat and her crew and the decision whether to start or continue to race is solely their responsibility and at their own risk, see RRS 4 "Decision to Race"; that American Yacht Club and its officers, trustees, members, committees, employees, or agents will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property, or to any participant, including injury or death and that each of them releases and waives all claims which he or she, or any heir, representative, successor or assignee, may have against American Yacht Club and its officers, trustees, members, committees, employees, or agents, arising out of or in any way connected with participation in such race or activity.

16 FURTHER INFORMATION

The Notice of Regatta, Sailing Instructions, results and other information will be available on the American Yacht Club web site at www.americanyc.org.

Regatta Chairperson:	<i>Stephanie Spierlings</i>	<i>stephanievroom@hotmail.com</i>
Principal Race Officer:	<i>Clemmie Everett</i>	<i>clemmie.everett@gmail.com</i>
Race Committee Chair:	<i>Don Dowd</i>	<i>ddowd@pinnacle-ny.com</i>