

NOTICE OF RACE 2016-Revised Feb 29, 2016
SPRING OPTI-FEST

US SAILING Center • Martin County
1955 NE Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach, FL
5-6 March 2016

1. Organizing Authority & Host

1.1 US SAILING Center of Martin County (USSCMC)

2. Rules

- 2.1 This regatta will be governed by the rules as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 2.2 By participating in this regatta, a competitor grants to the Organizing Authority and its sponsors the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any photographs, motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of him or her during the period of the competition without compensation.
- 2.3 RRS A4.1 and A5 are changed such that boats starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored, DNS. RRS 35 is changed to allow the Race Committee to finish boats in place on the race course if they are unreasonably delaying the completion of a race. RRS 61.3 is changed to also require competitors to inform the Race Committee as soon as possible after finishing of their intention to protest. RRS 62.1 is changed by adding failure of equipment chartered from USSCMC.

3. Eligibility & Entry

- 3.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the Optimist class.
- 3.2 Eligible crews may be entered by completing an entry form, registering with the Organizing Authority and paying the entry fee.

4. Registration & Fees

- 4.1 Registration and entry fees must be received at USSCMC ~~no later than March 3, 2016 February 2016 to avoid late fee.~~ The entry fee is \$90/boat. Fees include t-shirts, lunch on the water, Raffle and a cook-out of hamburgers and hot dogs after sailing on Saturday.
- 4.2 ~~All registrations received from 27 February – 1 March 2016 will be charged an additional \$25 late fee.~~ Registration will be closed at 2300 on 3 March 2016.
- 4.3 ~~Late registration may cause a competitor to not receive a dolly parking spot for rigging near the rest of their team. The USSCMC will group dolly & sailboat parking spots according to coaches and or clubs. Spots will be assigned to all registrants by 29 February; anyone registering after this date will most likely not be assigned a spot near their coach or club. Parking assignments will be available one day prior to the event at www.usseme.org on the “Upcoming Regattas” webpage~~
- 4.4 An event T-shirt is included with each registration. ~~Shirt sizes and quantities will not be guaranteed with any registration after 21 February.~~
- 4.5 A lodging questionnaire will be a required document at check-in. This form will be made available online at www.usseme.org on the “Upcoming Regattas” webpage and at check-in.
- 4.6 Entry forms are available [Click Here](#)
Entry forms may also be submitted online through RegattaNetwork.com and will be linked through the Upcoming Regattas page at www.usseme.org. Payment shall be made online. *NOTE:* The official date of registration is determined by the date of payment.
- 4.7 ~~Early Check-in will be held on Friday 4 March from 1600-1800.~~ On site Check-in will **also** be held on Saturday 5 March 2016 from 0800-1000 hrs.

5. Format of the Regatta

- 5.1 The Red, White and Blue Fleet may sail as one fleet. There will also be a Green Fleet.
- 5.2 Depending on the number of entries, the Red, White and Blue Fleet may be divided into two divisions.
- 5.2(a) If divided into divisions, the Red, White and Blue Fleet will race in 'sets' of races. A 'set' is a group of scored races in which all divisions compete.
- 5.2(b) Divisions will be reassigned at the end of the first day's racing.

6. Schedule of Events

6.1	Friday 4 March	1600-1800	Early Check-in
	Saturday 5 March	0800	Continental Breakfast
		0800-1000	Check-in
		1000	Competitors' Meeting (except Green Fleet)
		1030	Green Fleet Competitor's Meeting
		1100	First Warning Signal (except Green Fleet)
		1130	First Warning - Green Fleet
		1700	"Hit the Beach" Cook-out
	Sunday 6 March	0800	Continental Breakfast
		0900	Green Fleet Competitor's Meeting
		0930	First Warning Signal (except Green Fleet)
		1000	First Warning - Green Fleet
		1430	No Warning Signal After 2:30pm
			Awards Ceremony After Racing

6.2 Race Committee will run as many races as possible with a maximum of 15 races.

7. Sailing Instructions

- 7.1 Sailing Instructions will be available at check-in and posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 7.2 There will be separate Sailing Instructions for Green Fleet.

8. Penalty System

- 8.1 For the Green Fleet only, RRS 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

9. Courses

- 9.1 Courses will be specified in the Sailing Instructions.

10. Scoring

- 10.1 If the Red, White and Blue Fleet sails as one fleet, one race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta. If the Red, White and Blue Fleet is divided into divisions, one 'set' of races is required to be completed to constitute a regatta.
- 10.2 If the Red, White and Blue Fleet sails as one fleet, **when 8 or more races** have been completed a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. If the Red, White and Blue Fleet is divided into divisions, when **8** or more 'sets' have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. Both of these change RRS A2.
- 10.3 In the event that the Red, White and Blue Fleet is divided into divisions, RRS 30.2, 44.3(c) and A4.2 are changed so that the scores are based on the combined number of boats in the two largest divisions.

11. Prizes

- 11.1 Awards will be given to the top five finishers in the R/W/B Optimist Divisions, with awards going to the first overall and **the first for each state represented**. First Place Finishers in each of the Red, White & Blue Fleets will both win entries to the 2016 Junior Olympic Sailing Festival, (Opti Racing).

11.2 All Green Fleet competitors will receive participation awards.

12. Safety

12.1 All competitors shall wear U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets, or a life jacket approved by the country of their citizenship or residence, at all times while on the water. Failure to do so is protestable only by the Race Committee and may result in disqualification.

13. Coach and Support Boats

13.1 All coach and support boats shall register and prominently fly a designated flag from a staff at all times while on the water.

13.2 Flags will be available at the south end of the check-in room. A security deposit will be required and returned to you at the end of the event with the return of your flag.

14. Disclaimer of Liability

14.1 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. Local Accommodations

15.1 Please consider supporting those who support the USSCMC. The following hotels support our Regatta Season and are offering special Regatta Rates:

Holiday Inn - Port St. Lucie 772-337-2200 or 800-459-5044

Best Western PLUS - Stuart 772-287-6200

Hampton Inn - Stuart 772-692-6922

16. Contact Information

Alan Jenkinson, Executive Director

Phone: 772-334-8085 Fax: 772-334-2997

www.ussecmc.org