****

**2024 Toyota Optimist National and NZIODA Ranking Regatta**

27-31st March

Organising Authority: Queen Charlotte Yacht Club

****Picton, New Zealand

**NOTICE OF RACE**

NB: The notation "[DP]" in a rule in the Notice of Race means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee be less than disqualification.

**1 RULES**

1.1 For all classes except the Green Fleet, the regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-24. For the White Fleet the NZIODA White Fleet Guidelines will apply. For the Green Fleet, the NZIODA Optimist Green Fleet Rules for Racing will apply. Refer to <https://optimist.org.nz/2022-ioda-class-rules/>

1.2 The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations Part I shall apply. <https://www.yachtingnz.org.nz/racing/safety-regulations>

1.3 Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, will apply as amended by the Sailing Instructions.

1.4 Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.

1.5 Appendix G3, Chartered or Loaned Boats, will apply.

1.6 If there is a conflict between languages, English text takes precedence.

**2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

2.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available no later than 0900, Wednesday March 13th at
https://www.qcyc.org.nz Printed copies of the Sailing Instructions will not be made available to competitors.

**3 COMMUNICATION**

3.1 The Official Notice Board will be located adjacent to the main entry for clubhouse.

3.2 The online notice board is located at https://www.qcyc.org.nz

3.3 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. [DP]

**4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

4.1 The regatta is open to boats of the Optimist class, competing in the Open, White and Green Fleets.

4.2 For all fleet entry guidelines refer to Addendum A.

4.3 The regatta is open to competitors born in the year 2009 or later.

4.4 Competitors must be a financial member of a yacht club affiliated to Yachting New Zealand AND be a member of NZIODA (class association).

4.5 This regatta is an NZIODA Ranking Regatta. Sailors who go on to be selected to a NZIODA travelling or development team will be required to be a New Zealand National or Resident in New Zealand. They will also be required to be:

a) A financial member of NZIODA <https://optimist.org.nz/sailor-registration/>

b) Eligible for an NZIODA representative team. Further details -<https://optimist.org.nz/nz-optimist-sailing-team/>

4.6 Eligible boats may enter by going to https://www.qcyc.org.nz and completing the online entry form and paying the correct entry fee by midnight, March 20th.

4.7 Late entries will not be accepted.

4.8 Overseas competitors will need to provide proof of age and club membership with their entry. A copy of their passport is acceptable at club registration.

4.9 The running and organisation of this regatta will be subject to the Ministry of Health Covid-19 requirements at the time.

4.10 Sailors wishing to charter a boat for the regatta should contact the Organising Authority or NZIODA for recommendations <https://www.qcyc.org.nz> or <https://optimist.org.nz/>

**5 FEES**

5.1 Required fees NZD (incl. GST) are as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Class** | **Entry Fee** |
| Open or White Fleet | $240 |
| Green Fleet | $190 |
| Late Entry Fee | No late entry |

5.2 Where more than one sailor from the same family enters the regatta, the second and subsequent sailor will receive a $20 discount.

5.3 There will be no refunds if entered competitors withdraw their entry after the entry closing date - midnight March 20th, 2024.

**6 ADVERTISING**

6.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies. [DP]

6.2 The Organizing Authority may provide bibs that competitors are required to wear as permitted by the World Sailing Advertising Code.

**7 QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES**

7.1 At the discretion of the Organising Authority the Open Fleet may be split into two or more fleets. In which case the regatta will consist of a Qualifying Series followed by a Final Series. The White and Green Fleets will each race as a single fleet.

**8 SCHEDULE**

8.1 Registration, safety and equipment inspection: Wednesday 27th March 1600-1900, Thursday 28th March 0800-0830.

8.2 Regatta welcome and sailors’ briefing: Thursday 28th March 0900. Support boat briefing to follow sailors' briefing.

8.3 Dates of racing:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Fleet** | **Scheduled races per day** | **Time of first warning signal** |
| 28th March | Open & White | Up to 5 | 1100 |
|  | Green | 3 | 1130  |
| 29th March | Open & White | Up to 5 | 1030 |
|  | Green | 3 | 1100 |
| 30th March | Open & White | Up to 5 | 1030 |
|  | Green | 3 | 1100 |
| 31st March | Open & White | Up to 5 | 1030 |
|  | Green | 3 | 1100 |

8.4 12 races are scheduled. If the fleet is split for the Open Fleet, the regatta will comprise a 6 race Qualifying Series and a 6 race Final Series.

8.5 The target time for races for all fleets will be 35-40 minutes.

8.6 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1500hrs.

8.7 Prize giving will follow as soon as possible after racing is complete.

**9 MEASUREMENT**

9.1 Competitors shall use only one hull, daggerboard, rudder (with tiller and extension), mast, boom, sprit and sail during the regatta.

9.2 Each boat from sail number NZL 4499 onwards (other than in the Green Fleet) shall have a valid Registration Book. The sail shall be accompanied by a Sail Measurement Certificate. These documents shall be available for inspection at registration and during the regatta.

9.3 Green Fleet boats are not required to hold current measurement certificates (alters International Optimist Class Rule 2.4.1) but all hulls shall carry valid World Sailing plaques.

9.4 Wet clothing, measurement and equipment checks may be made throughout the regatta at the discretion of the Technical Committee.

**10 VENUE**

10.1 The regatta venue will be Queen Charlotte Yacht Club, Shelley Beach, Picton. Refer to Addendum B.

10.2 The racing area for the Optimist Open and White Fleets will be the waters of Queen Charlotte Sound. The Optimist Green Fleet will race on the waters of Picton Harbour.

**11 THE COURSES**

11.1 The courses to be sailed will be trapezoid, windward-leeward, and/or triangular. The White Fleet will sail a shorter course than the Open Fleet.

11.2 Green Fleet will sail on a separate course to the Open Fleet.

**12 PENALTY SYSTEM**

12.1 Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, will apply as per the sailing instructions.

12.2 For the Open Fleet, to encourage boats to take penalties afloat, Observers may blow a whistle when they see what they believe to be a breach of a rule.

**13 SCORING**

13.1 Five races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

13.2 a) When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores.

 b) When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

**14 SUPPORT BOATS**

14.1 All support boats are required to register via the online form on the website
https://www.qcyc.org.nz

14.2 A representative from each support boat shall attend the daily support boat briefings.

14.3 All support and coach boats are asked to have VHF communications and be available to assist the race committee if required. The VHF channel to be used will be communicated at the support boat briefing.

14.4 No support boats may launch from Queen Charlotte Yacht Club. Support boat launching is available from either the Picton or Waikawa Marina Ramp.

14.5 All support person vessels shall always have an engine safety cut out switch (kill cord) attached to the driver while the engine is running unless prior written exemption has been provided by the Organising Authority. [DP]

**15 LAUNCHING AND STORAGE**

15.1 All competing boats shall be launched and retrieved from Queen Charlotte Yacht Club, unless instructed otherwise by the Organising Authority. [DP]

15.2 Beach trolleys shall be prominently marked with the boat’s sail number [DP]

**16 PRIZES**

16.1 Prizes will be awarded in accordance with NZIODA Guidelines at the conclusion of the regatta**.**

16.2 There may be draws for spot prizes throughout the regatta.

**17 INSURANCE**

17.1 Yachting New Zealand recommends that for national championships, each participating boat shall be insured with valid marine third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of $1,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

**18 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

18.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. RRS 3, Decision to Race, states as follows:- “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 inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor and the responsible adult 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 and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;

b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, 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 omission;

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 and other officials and volunteers by the event 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.

18.2 The Organising 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.

**19 RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS**

19.1 By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

**20 USE OF DRONE FOR MEDIA**

20.1 All those who take part in this event as competitors, as well as support crew or spectators, agree to be overflown by a drone during the duration of the event for promotion or media purposes. This includes your person and your property (boats).

**21 SUSTAINABILITY**

21.1 A competitor shall not intentionally put trash in the water. RRS 55 applies at all times while afloat. [DP]

21.2 The 2024 Toyota Optimist National Championship is a Clean Regatta and we request that competitors, supporters and officials support this initiative:

a) Bring your own reusables: water bottle, coffee cup, lunch box/bag for yourself and your support team and avoid single-use plastics.

b) Carefully choose the correct waste stream at the regatta venue - landfill, compost, recycling

c) Choose electronic viewing over printing out NOR or Sailing instructions

d) Try to minimise your environmental impact when travelling to the event. Plan your journey <https://at.govt.nz/>. Consider carpooling, community minibus or [Toyota hybrid rental](https://www.toyota.com/rental/hybrids.html) and offsetting carbon emissions. Refer to the NZ [Carbon Footprint Calculator.](https://www.toitu.co.nz/calculators)

**22 FURTHER INFORMATION**

22.1 For further information please contact:

Queen Charlotte Yacht Club

Email: racing@qcyc.org.nz

Website: https://www.qcyc.org.nz

**23 AMENDMENTS TO THE NOTICE OF RACE**

23.1 The Notice of Race may be changed. Changes will be posted on the regatta website at

https://www.qcyc.org.nz

**ADDENDUM A**

**NZIODA Fleet Guidelines**

1.1 For the Green Fleet:

The Green Fleet is open to less experienced Optimist sailors. The emphasis is on fun and the objective of this regatta is to offer less experienced sailors the opportunity to sail and participate without their feeling the need, or burden, to sail in the more competitive Open or White Fleets.

In the Green Fleet equipment used is not required to hold current measurement certificates (alters International Optimist Class Rule 2.4.1) but all hulls shall carry valid World Sailing plaques.

The objective of this regatta is to offer less experienced sailors the opportunity to sail in a Green Fleet regatta at the same venue as an Optimist White and Open Fleet regatta. It is unlikely that Green Fleet sailors will have sailed in an Optimist Open Fleet regatta of more than 40 boats.

It is expected that Green Fleet Sailors will:

* either be aged 12 years and under or in their first year of Optimist racing;
* have sailed for less than 2 seasons.
* have not previously raced outside of Green Fleet except at regattas where no Green Fleet racing was offered.
* On achieving a podium finish in Green Fleet at a NZIODA ranking regatta or the Sir Peter Blake Torbay regatta, or three or more podium finishes in other green fleet regattas, the sailor shall advance to the White or Open Fleet.

1.2 For the White Fleet:

The White Fleet is intended to provide a full race experience for developing sailors without the physical and mental demands of Open Fleet. The White Fleet is where our junior sailors enjoy sailing, but not necessarily in a stressful and competitive environment. Races for White Fleet sailors are shorter than they are for Open Fleet and less races may be sailed each day. Races are sailed on the same water as the Open Fleet.

1.3 For the Open and White Fleets:

Entry is open to all boats of the Optimist class that have valid measurement certificates and have passed the regatta registration.

**ADDENDUM B**

**Location of Race Venue**

The regatta venue will be Queen Charlotte Yacht Club, Shelley Beach, Picton New Zealand. https://maps.app.goo.gl/wfoxSRXgEAJrrbBYA

