



NOTICE OF RACE

IOCA(UK) Optimist Team Racing Championships 2024

Version 3, 16th May. Changes highlighted below.

1. The IOCA(UK) Optimist Team Racing Championships 2024, for four-boat teams, will take place on 18 & 19 May 2024 at Oxford Sailing Club (OSC).
2. The Organising Authority is IOCA(UK) Ltd, "IOCA" in conjunction with OSC.
3. Eligibility
 - a. The event is primarily for GBR-based teams, but non-GBR teams may request an entry.
 - b. Competing GBR sailors shall be members of IOCA.
 - c. There is no gender requirement. However IOCA will take the results of the championships into account when selecting GBR teams for international team racing events in 2024-25 as some of these events have a gender requirement. See <https://www.optimist.org.uk/events/2024-events/ioca-uk-tram-racing-2024/> for further details, including a link to the IOCA(UK) 2024 Teams Selection Policy.
4. Entries
 - a. Entry is open to all boats of the International Optimist Class with a Measurement certificate with a current sail button number and buoyancy endorsement
 - b. Participants shall be members of IOCA (UK) or an equivalent National Optimist organisation.
 - c. The event is limited to 16 teams but entry may be closed after fewer teams have entered.
 - d. Teams shall enter in advance at <https://ioca.uk.ourclubadmin.com/event/131>.
 - e. If more than 16 entries are received, IOCA will select entries based on date of entry, eligibility for international events, and average rankings.
5. Rules
 - a. Racing will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) including Appendix D. All races will be umpired.
 - b. Competitors should note that IOCA(UK) implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The Charter can be found on the Class website <https://www.optimist.org.uk/the-optimist-class/policies.-documents-and-minutes/>

- c. Rule 40.1 shall apply at all times afloat.
- d. The required **red protest flag** shall be attached to the competitor, clothing or PFD, and be capable of being displayed at arm's length. To signal a protest, the flag shall be displayed from a concealed position to a position where it is visible to the protested boat and umpires.
- e. In accordance with RRS 70.5(a), the right of appeal is denied.

6. Notices to Competitors and Changes to Sailing Instructions

- a. The official notice board will be entirely online, and found on the [event page](#) on IOCA(UK) OurClubAdmin.

7. Format

- a. The intended format has two stages: one **or more** all-sail-all round robins, followed by semi-finals and finals. Semis and finals will either be one race or first to two wins.
- b. However the Race Committee will seek to maximise the amount of racing for all teams, and may expand or contract the intended format depending on number of entries and weather conditions.
- c. For instance, an additional stage of Gold and Silver round-robins may be inserted after the all-sail-all round-robins, and/or the first round-robin stage may be curtailed and scored as two separate round-robins, each involving half the teams.
- d. The intended course is the **Box** Course.

8. Event Schedule

Saturday 18 May: Registration will open at **09.00**. The competitor briefing will be at **10.00**. First warning signal will not be before **10.55**.

Sunday 19 May: Time of first warning signal will be advised after racing on Saturday. There will be no warning signal after 17:00 on Sunday.

9. Coaching and On-the-Water Support

Individual coach or support boats are not permitted in the racing area.

10. Prizes

- a. The winning team will be awarded the Ramus Trophy
- b. The Organising Authority may award additional prizes at its discretion

11. Risk Statement

a. Rule 3 of the *Racing Rules of Sailing* states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

b. 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:

- I. 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;
- II. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

- III. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- IV. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- V. 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;
- VI. The provision of patrol vessel cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances; and
- VII. 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;

12. Insurance

- a. 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.

13. Data Protection(GDPR)

- a. The personal information you provide to the organising 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. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, Our Club Admin and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published. Your personal information will be stored and published in accordance with IOCA(UK)'s Privacy Policy and Publishing of Information Policy which can be downloaded from the Class documents page of <http://www.optimist.org.uk>.
- b. 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 or training purposes and will not be published without the express permission of all sailors who are identifiable in the images.