



Regatta Fun Fleet Optimist Nationals 2020 Sailing Instructions

Introduction

The basic purpose of the IODAI Regatta Fun Fleet for the Optimist Nationals 2020 is to introduce novice sailors aged between 8-12 years old to racing. The Regatta Fun Fleet provides sailors with an opportunity to gain sailing confidence and experience in a fun and safe environment whilst receiving basic race coaching at the National event. The Regatta Fun Fleet is NOT a competitive racing fleet. It is a fleet where sailors can improve their basic sailing skills and be introduced to race sailing. Regatta Fun Fleet sailors are encouraged to move to the Main Fleet after 1-2 seasons participation therein.

COVID-19 Special Protocols

To maintain the safety and well-being of all involved in the event, the OA will issue COVID-19 Special Protocols prior to the event.

All competitors and support persons must comply with these Special Protocols.

If the protest committee finds that a competitor or a support person has infringed these protocols the competitor, or competitors associated with the infringing support person, may be penalized as deemed appropriate by the Protest Committee.

This changes rule 63.1

1. Racing Rules

1.1 This event shall be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

1.2 Irish Sailing prescriptions will apply.

1.3 IODAI Class Rules will apply.

2. Eligibility Requirements

2.1 All sailors MUST be able to sail a triangle course competently in medium airs.

2.2 It is advisable that sailors have participated in club racing prior to

joining the Regatta Fun Fleet.

2.3 The Head Coach may at his/her discretion request a Regatta Fun Fleet sailor to remain ashore or sit in a rib if he/she deems the sailor to not be capable of sailing in the weather conditions of the day.

2.4 In the event of adverse weather conditions the Regatta Fun Fleet may be cancelled by the Head Coach.

2.5 It shall be at the sole discretion of the Head Coach to split the Regatta Fun Fleet into groups to enable more competent sailors to sail in more difficult conditions while less able sailors stay ashore.

3. Registration

3.1 Registration Times for Regatta Fun Fleet, as follows

Date:	Time
Friday 14 th Aug 2020	18:30 to 20:00
Saturday 15 th Aug 2020	09:30 to 10:30

4. Boat Safety Standard

4.1 To sail in the Regatta Fun Fleet, competing boats must be Optimist dinghies which comply with the IODAI Safety Check List (hereinafter referred to as "IODAI Safety Check List"). The IODAI Safety Check List is accessible under the documents section of www.iodai.ie.

4.2 No formal measurement documentation is required to race, however, written evidence of a buoyancy test within the last 12 months is required.

4.3 All sailors must be equipped with a properly fitted lifejacket and whistle.

4.4 Regatta Fun Fleet sailors are strongly recommended to purchase a proper mast lock to secure the mast rather than relying on a rope to tie the mast down.

4.5 All Regatta Fun Fleet sailors must sign the on-line event declaration forms; <https://www.royalcork.com/aib-optimist-nationals-2020/>

4.6 If, for any reason, a sailor is found not to comply with the IODAI Safety Check List, they shall not be permitted to launch on the water.

4.7 A sailor who has failed to comply with the IODAI Safety Check List shall be allowed to launch once proof of safety compliance can be evidenced.

5. Regatta Fun Fleet Commitment to Sportsmanship

5.1 All Regatta Fun Fleet sailors commit to sportsmanship behaviour on and

off the water at all IODAI events.

5.2 If a Regatta Fun Fleet sailor is deemed to have violated the Sportsmanship behaviour of IODAI, it shall be at the sole discretion of the Head Coach and Regatta Fun Fleet Coordinator to suspend and/or expel a sailor from the Regatta Fun Fleet.

5.3 The decision to suspend or expel a sailor for bad conduct may be appealed to the Committee of IODAI.

6. Coaching

6.1 Where possible, all sailors will receive race coaching on and off the water prior to the commencement of Regatta Fun Fleet racing.

6.2 Coaching will continue throughout all Regatta Fun Fleet races.

6.3 Only IODAI Regatta Fun Fleet and Local club coaches shall provide coaching to the Regatta Fun Fleet.

7. Sailors Lunch

7.1 Sailors are required to bring their own lunch in their boat each day of the IODAI event.

7.2 The Regatta Fun Fleet shall not return to land until the final race has been completed, save in the case of medical emergency or postponement of sailing by the Head Coach or Regatta Fun Fleet Race Officer (hereinafter referred to as "the Race Officer").

8. Safety and Rigging Check

8.1 It is the responsibility of all sailors to ensure that their boats are correctly and safely rigged.

8.2 Sailors are encouraged to rig their own boats. Coaches may assist in rigging.

8.3 The Coach assigned to each sailor will perform a final rigging check of their boat.

9. Medical conditions

9.1 All parents or guardians of Regatta Fun Fleet sailors are asked to disclose any relevant medical condition the sailor has (in addition to the medical disclosure form) to the Head Coach and Regatta Fun Fleet Coordinator on the first day of an IODAI event.

9.2 If a sailor requires a medical apparatus (such as an inhaler etc.) please ensure that this is given to their group Coach.

10. Identification Ribbons

- 10.1** Each sailor shall be provided with a coloured ribbon to identify the group to which they have been assigned.
- 10.2** Identifying coloured ribbons shall be provided to the sailor by their assigned coach.
- 10.3** The identifying coloured ribbon shall be split in two, with one ribbon section to be tied to the sailor's life jacket, and the other ribbon section to be secured to the top of the sailor's sprit.

10. Briefing

- 10.1** A Regatta Fun Fleet briefing will be held separately at 11.00am on Saturday the 13th August.
- 10.2** All Regatta Fun Fleet sailors must attend the Regatta Fun Fleet briefing.
- 10.3** Parents of Regatta Fun Fleet sailors are advised not to attend this briefing, considering the Covid precautions in place.
- 10.4** The Race Officer shall attend the initial briefing of the Regatta Fun Fleet to explain the race-course layout and designated race area to Regatta Fun Fleet sailors.
- 10.5** The Race Officer shall display and explain the use of all flags intended to be used in all races.
- 10.6** The Race Officer shall explain the starting sound sequence to be used in all races.
- 10.7** Briefing for the Regatta Fun Fleet shall be held as advised on all subsequent race days.
- 10.8** A wet de-brief for the Regatta Fun Fleet coaching pods shall be held immediately on coming ashore.

11. Sound Signals

- 11.1** The Race Officer shall sound 5 short air-horn blasts prior to the commencement of racing as a warning to alert sailors that the race starting sequence is due to commence.

12. Flags

- 12.1** The Regatta Fun Fleet shall use the following flags at all IODAI events:
 - a. Optimist class flag – O flag

- b. Preparatory flag – P (Blue Peter) flag
- c. First Substitute flag – General Recall flag
- d. X flag – Individual recall flag

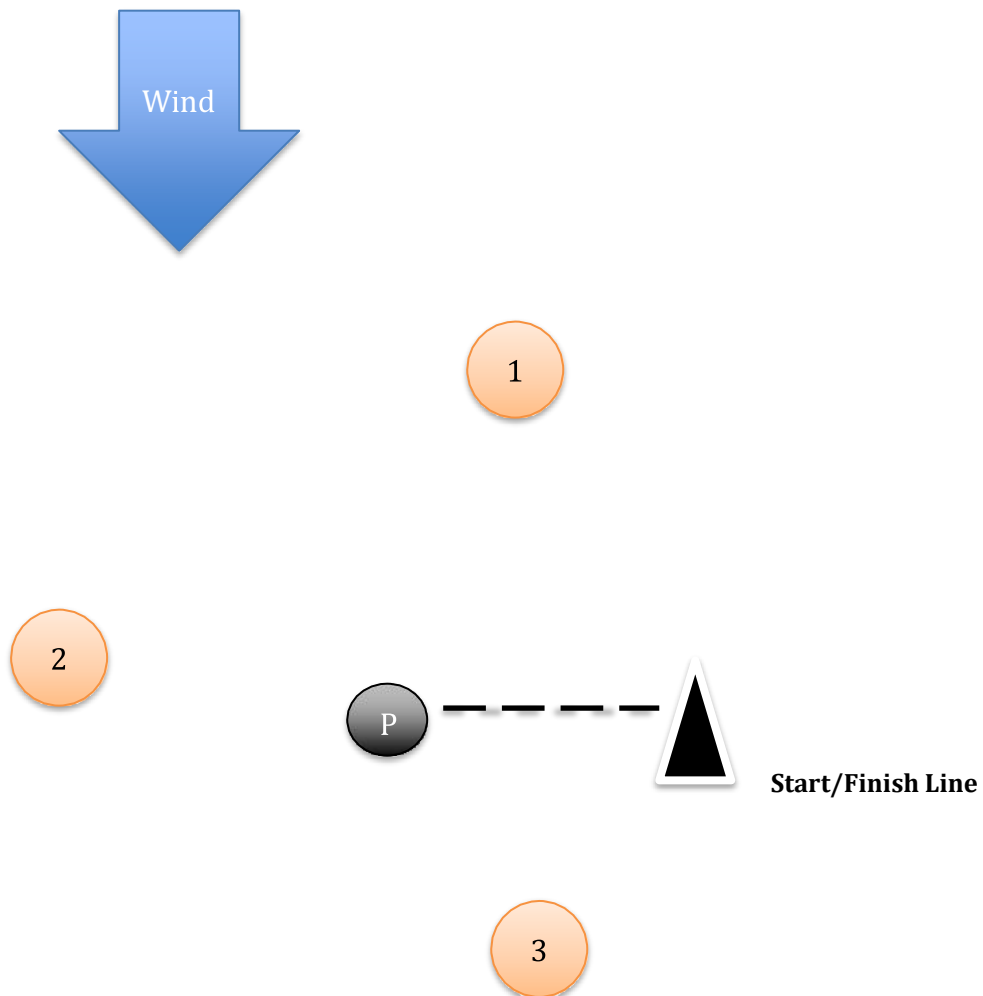
13. Race Course

13.1 The Regatta Fun Fleet race course shall consist of a triangle course.

13.2 All races shall consist of 1 lap.

It is at the discretion of the Head Coach to lengthen any race as he/she may deem suitable.

13.3 The following illustrates the layout of the race course for the Regatta Fun Fleet:



14. Race Course Marks

14.1 Marks 1, 2 and 3 shall be orange inflatable marks.

14.2 Mark P shall be different in colour to the above marks.

15. Penalties

- 15.1** If a boat is deemed to have violated Rule 31 of the ISAF Racing Rules 2017- 2020, having touched a course mark while racing, then any coach upon witnessing this violation may instruct the offending boat to complete a penalty of 1 tack and 1 gybe (a 360 turn) in compliance with Rule 44.1 of the ISAF Racing Rules.
- 15.2** If a boat is deemed to have violated one or more rules of Part 2 of the ISAF Racing Rules 2017- 2020 while racing (e.g. having collided with a fellow competing boat), then any coach upon witnessing this violation may instruct the offending boat to complete a penalty of 2 tacks and 2 gybes (a 720 turn).
- 15.3** A boat shall complete its penalty turn(s) as soon after the incident as possible, making sure to avoid all other boats.

16. Protests

- 16.1** There is no protest in the Regatta Fun Fleet.
- 16.2** The Head Coach is to be immediately notified if any issue arises as to a sailor's conduct on or off the water.
- 16.3** It is at the discretion of the Head Coach and Regatta Fun Fleet Coordinator to hold an investigatory and/or conciliatory meeting with any or all parties involved in an on or off the water dispute relating to Regatta Fleet sailor(s).
- 16.4** The Head Coach and Regatta Fun Fleet Coordinator shall be the appropriate decision makers regarding the suspension or expulsion of a sailor from the Regatta Fleet.
- 16.5** The decision to suspend or expel a sailor for bad conduct or non-compliance with the Regatta Fleet Commitment to Sportsmanship may be appealed to the Committee of IODAI.

17. Scoring

- 17.1** 4 races shall constitute a series.
- 17.2** When 4 or less races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 17.3** When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 17.4** There is no maximum number of races to be sailed in the Regatta FunFleet.
- 17.5** Ideally 3 races will be raced each day in the Regatta Fleet.

17.6 The number of races sailed shall be decided by the Head Coach of the Regatta Fun Fleet.

18. Pathfinder Boat

18.1 The Regatta Fun Fleet may be led around the race course by a "Pathfinder" boat.

18.2 The purpose of the Pathfinder boat is to guide the Regatta Fun Fleet around the race course set.

18.3 This boat shall keep her distance of approximately 8-10 boat lengths from the fleet.

19. Retiring from a race

19.1 Where a sailor chooses or is requested by the Head or Deputy Head Coach to retire from a race, where possible, this shall be communicated to the Race Committee Boat at the earliest possible time in order to notify the Race Office of the boat's retirement.

19.2 No boat shall leave the race area without the permission of the Head Coach.

20. Event Advertisement

20.1 Boats shall display any/all relevant advertisement as agreed by IODAI, the Host Club and sponsors.

21. Support boats

At present, it is expected that no support boats will be permitted due to COVID-19 restrictions. In the event this changes, the following will apply:

21.1 All support boats shall register at the Race Office prior to their launch.

21.2 All support boats must ensure they have a fully working VHF radio onboard.

21.3 There will be a separate briefing for all support boats. All support boat drivers and crew assisting the Regatta Fun Fleet are welcome to attend the Regatta Fleet briefing.

21.4 Support boats may be called upon by the Head Coach to assist with rescue operations.

21.5 All other support boats shall stay outside the race area from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or retired or the Race Committee signals an abandonment.

21.6 Regatta Fun Fleet Coaches, save where a support boat is specifically invited by the Head Coach of the Regatta Fun Fleet onto the race course, shall be the only boats permitted to operate within the race area of the Regatta Fun Fleet.

21.7 Any support boat deemed by the Head Coach and/or Race Committee to be infringing upon the Sailing Instructions relating to Support Boats shall be asked to leave the race area of the Regatta Fun Fleet.

21.8 All support boats shall be familiar and competent at towing Optimist boats in a Daisy-Chain tow.

21.9 No other system of towing shall be undertaken.

22.Prizes

22.1 The Regatta Fun Fleet prize giving may be held separately and before the Main Fleet prize giving on the final day of an IODAI event.

22.2 Prizes for the Regatta Fun Fleet are awarded as follows:

- 1st overall;
- 2nd overall;
- 3rd overall;
- Further prizes may be awarded.

23.Insurance

23.1 The owner of a competing boat shall ensure that they are adequately insured against loss, damage or injury to persons, boats or equipment at all times. Insurance cover must be maintained for all associated racing risks as aforementioned and foreseeable. All owners/competitors who sign the entry and registration form are deemed to have made a declaration that they hold such cover.

23.2 Each participating boat shall be insured with a valid third-party liability insurance.

24.Disclaimer of Liability

24.1 All competitors in the Regatta Fun Fleet participate in IODAI events entirely at their own risk. No responsibility shall be accepted by IODAI or any sailing club hosting an IODAI event, any of their directors, officers, members, servants or agents, or any sponsor, or those officials connected with the event for any such loss or damage or claim of whatever nature sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the event.

24.2 All Regatta Fun Fleet sailors are responsible for their own safety, their boat and their property, whether afloat or ashore.