

**2008 MAINE STATE
OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIP
July 29 – July 30, 2008
Portland Yacht Club
Falmouth, ME**

NOTICE OF RACE

1. Date and Venue

The 2008 Maine State Optimist Championship will be held on Tuesday, July 29th and July 30th, 2008. The venue will be the Portland Yacht Club, 40 Powerhouse Road, Falmouth, ME 04105.

2. Organization and Rules

2.1 The regatta will be organized by the Portland Yacht Club and will be sailed under the “rules” as defined in the current US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS, 2005-2008).

2.2 Immediate Penalties for Breaking Rule 42, Appendix P, will apply.

3. Eligibility

3.1 All competitors are required to be affiliated with a Maine sailing organization.

3.2 All competitors are required to be current members of the USODA; see www.usoda.org.

3.3 Competitors must have completed all parts of the registration form and submitted it with all fees to – 2008 Maine State Optimist Championship, Portland Yacht Club, 40 Powerhouse Road, Falmouth, ME 04105. The entry fee is US \$70 per competitor if payment is postmarked on or before July 14, 2008. The entry fee is US \$100.00 per competitor if postmarked after July 14, 2008 and by July 21, 2008. The entry fee is US \$125.00 per competitor if postmarked after July 21 and by 5 PM July 28th. No registrations will be accepted after 5 PM July 28th. **On site registration will not be permitted.**

3.3 **There will be a limit of 100 boats in all Optimist divisions combined.**

4. Housing

The Portland Yacht Club will attempt to provide housing for competitors and coaches outside of a 50 mile radius. All requests for housing must be submitted by July 21. Please contact Kelly Ianno at mianno@maine.rr.com, or at 207-781-3498 for details.

5. Format of the Regatta

There will be separate starting lines for the Championship Fleets (Optimist Red, Blue and White) and the Optimist Green Fleet. Depending on the number of competitors, the fleets may be divided into divisions. If the Championship fleet is divided into divisions, the divisions will have rotating starts that will be announced at the Skipper’s Meeting.

6. Schedule

Monday, July 28	1500 – 1930	Check-in and safety review
Tuesday, July 29	0800 – 0830 0900 1030 @1830	Check-in and safety review Skippers' meeting followed by Harbor Start First warning of the day Racing to follow Lunch on the water* Sailor's Dinner at Portland Yacht Club
Wednesday, July 30	0830 1000 1430 After racing	Skippers' meeting followed by Harbor Start First warning of the day Racing to follow Lunch on the water* No warning signal after this time Awards Ceremony ASAP

* or on shore at the Race Committee's discretion

7. Racing

The racing area for the Championship fleet will be the east end of Clapboard Island. The racing area for the Green Fleet will be just outside the Portland Yacht Club harbor.

8. Course

The courses will be identified in the Sailing Instructions provided at check-in.

9. Scoring

9.1 The Low-Point Scoring System, RRS Appendix A, will be used.

9.2 One race is required to complete the regatta.

9.3 A competitor's worst finish shall be discarded when five or more races have been completed.

10. Sailing Instructions

Sailing Instructions will be available at check-in.

11. Protests

Competitors shall inform the Race Committee finish boat of the intention to file a protest immediately after finishing. Protests shall be filed in writing within 30 minutes of when the Race Committee docks. The docking time for the Race Committee shall be posted on the Notice Board. The location of protest forms will be announced at the skippers meeting.

12. Personal buoyancy

Each competitor must wear a US Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD), properly secured at all times, from dock to dock, unless when temporarily adding or removing clothing. Wet suits, dry suits and inflatable PFDs do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. Failure to wear one will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification.

13. Safety

13.1 A whistle must be attached with a lanyard to the PFD. Competitors not complying with this instruction shall be given a penalty of five (5 points for each race in which they have failed to observe this instruction).

13.2 Each competitor shall indicate in writing a parent or adult representative who shall be present at the regatta and responsible for the competitor throughout the event.

13.3 Parents/guardians are responsible for the safety of the sailor. It is the responsibility solely of the parents/guardians of the sailor to decide if the sailor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the event. Parents not personally attending any part of the event must ensure that another adult is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their sailor.

13.4 A morning and evening sailor safety check-in procedure will be required. Failure to comply by the procedure will result in a penalty of (10) points for each race sailed the day of the infraction.

14. Support boats

All coach, parent or other support boats shall register and will be expected to participate in the provision of safety for the event. All such boats must stay outside the course area at all times. All coach, parent or other support boats must be launched prior to Harbor Start. There will be no over-night tie-up at PYC docks. A limited number of moorings will be available with priority given to coach boats. Additional moorings may be available for rent at Handy Boat Services, (207) 781-5110.

15. Liability

Participants compete in the regatta entirely at their own risk. A waiver must be signed by all competitors and their parents/guardian.

16. Trophies

Optimist Champ.	1 st through 5 th	Girls Champ.	1 st through 3 rd all Fleets
Optimist Red.	1 st through 3 rd	Optimist Blue	1 st through 3 rd
Optimist White	1 st through 3 rd	Optimist Green	Participation Awards

17. Parking

On-site parking is limited to one vehicle per club with visitor's pass. Trailer and overflow parking will be available at an off-site location. Parents and coaches should try to car-pool whenever possible. Details will be available at check-in and with the parking attendant.

18. Boat Storage

Optimist storage will be on grass areas requiring dollies for launching. **Each club should plan to bring a sufficient number of dollies to launch their boats.**

Additional information:

For additional information contact: Skip Yale, syale@yalecordage.com, 207-272-2991