

2027 Australian Optimist Dinghy Championship

2 – 9 January 2027

NOTICE OF RACE

Organising Authority

Australian International Optimist Dinghy Association

In conjunction with Royal Brighton Yacht Club

[NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

[DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the Jury.

[SP] denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the Race Committee without a hearing or a discretionary penalty applied by the Jury with a hearing.

1 RULES

- 1.1** The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2** The current Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing Part 2 will apply.
- 1.3** Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.
- 1.4** Green Fleet racing will be governed by the World Sailing Introductory Rules for Racing v1.01, as amended by the Sailing Instructions.

2 ADVERTISING [NP][DP]

- 2.1** Competitor advertising is permitted in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20.3, as restricted by IODA Class Rule 2.8.
- 2.2** Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority. If required they shall be affixed in accordance with the instructions provided. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies.
- 2.3** The Organising Authority reserves the right to refuse advertising by a boat or competitor which conflicts with the laws of Victoria or Australia.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1** The regatta is open to boats of the Optimist class that fulfil the eligibility requirements stated below:
 - 3.1.1** The regatta is open to competitors who are:
 - a) A financial member of a National Optimist Association affiliated with IODA (All State Optimist Associations satisfy this requirement); and
 - b) A financial member of a Club affiliated with the Member National Authority (MNA eg: Australian Sailing).
 - 3.1.2** Competitors shall have been born in 2012 or later.
- 3.2** Eligible boats may enter online via <http://www.optimist.org.au/nationals> by completing the Entry details including Parent Declaration and Code of Conduct Acceptance by 2359 hrs on Wednesday 2 December 2026.
- 3.3** Late entries, subject to payment of the late entry fee, may be accepted after 2359 hours on Wednesday 2 December 2026 up until the close of registration at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 3.4** Competitors will only be considered “entered” when the online entry, payment and the on-site registration including measurement has been completed.
- 3.5** Volunteers, coaches, and support boats shall register online via the regatta website <http://www.optimist.org.au/nationals> by 1200 hours on Sunday 27 December 2026.
- 3.6** Allocation of any sailor to Open Fleet, Intermediate Fleet or Green Fleet is subject to the approval of the Organising Authority and may only be varied during the event at the sole discretion of the Race Committee.
- 3.7** The ‘Green Fleet’ is open to less experienced Optimist Class sailors who may not be up to the competitiveness and rigours of racing in the Intermediate or Open Fleets. Further information about Green Fleet is contained in Attachment 1.

3.9 If you are unsure which fleet you should be racing in, please refer to the "Which Fleet?" document on the event website - <http://www.optimist.org.au/nationals>.

4 FEES

4.1 The entry fee for all fleets is: **\$ 410.00 AUD****

4.2 Late entry fee for all fleets is: **\$ 100.00 AUD**

** This includes \$9.95 transaction fees

5 REGATTA FORMAT

5.1 The regatta will consist of Open Fleet, Intermediate Fleet and Green Fleet.

5.2 The series for the Open Fleet will consist of up to 12 races and for the Intermediate Fleet will consist of up to 12 races. No more than three races will be sailed per day.

5.3 Depending on the number of entries for each of the Open and Intermediate Fleets they may be broken into flights and sail a Qualifying series followed by a Finals series.

5.4 Where a Qualifying and Finals series is used:

a) The qualifying series shall consist of a maximum of six completed races. If used, the qualifying series will be conducted on 4,5,6 January 2027. If three races have not been completed by the completion of racing on 6 January the qualifying series will continue until three races have been completed.

b) The finals series shall consist of a maximum of six completed races. If used, the final series will be conducted on 7,8,9 January 2027.

5.5 The series for the Green fleet may consist of up to 20 races with a maximum of four races per day. The Race Committee may conduct multiple racing sessions per day.

6 SCHEDULE

6.1

Date	Event	Timing
Sat 2nd January	Pre-Registration Sailors entered in Teams Racing only	1000-1700
Sun 3rd January	Official Arrival Day Registration Teams Racing Championship Briefing Teams Racing First Warning <i>Regatta Briefing & Official Welcome</i>	1000-1700 1030 1200 1830
Mon 4th January	Coach & Support Boat Briefing (compulsory) Championship Racing	1000 1300
Tue 5th January	Coach, Competitors & Jury Meeting Championship Racing <i>Regatta Social Event for Competitors & Families</i>	1030 1300 Post racing
Wed 6th January	Coach, Competitors & Jury Meeting Championship Racing	1030 1300
Thu 7th January	Coach, Competitors & Jury Meeting Championship Racing	1030 1300
Fri 8th January	Coach, Competitors & Jury Meeting Championship Racing	1030 1300
Sat 9th January	Official Departure Day Coach, Competitors & Jury Meeting Championship Racing <i>Closing & Presentation Ceremony</i>	0900 1100 ASAP

*Green Fleet racing may be completed with an earlier start time forecast dependent.

*This schedule may be amended by the Sailing Instructions.

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

7 MEASUREMENT

- 7.1** Each boat in the Open and Intermediate Fleets shall produce a Sail Measurement Certificate and IODA Measurement Book or Australian Sailing Measurement Certificate with the relevant sailor's details duly entered in the Australian Optimist Boat Register. Boats chartered from the official charter supplier are exempt from supplying a measurement book or boat registration.
- 7.2** Green Fleet boats shall comply with Attachment 1 of this NOR.
- 7.3** Competitors are allowed to use only one hull, dagger board, rudder (with tiller and extension), mast, boom, sprit and sail during the Championship. These parts of the equipment may be required to be stickered prior to racing with the stickers supplied by the organisers for that purpose.
- 7.4** Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved in writing by the Technical Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Technical Committee at the first reasonable opportunity. [SP]
- 7.5** Prior to approving a request for substitution of equipment - the Technical Committee may scrutinise both the damaged equipment and the replacement equipment.
- 7.6** If the substitution was made on the water between races, both the damaged and the substituting pieces of equipment shall be presented to the Technical Committee prior to the expiry of protest time at the end of the day's racing. In this case, the substitution is subject to the approval of the Technical Committee given retrospectively. [SP]
- 7.7** Charter boats may carry national letters or sail numbers in contravention of the Class rules as allowed by RRS G3.
- 7.8** The Technical Committee may spot check any boat throughout the regatta and may measure any equipment on or off the water at their discretion. A boat found to not comply with Class rules at the end of any day of racing will be deemed to have not complied for all races completed that day.

8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available on the event website from 1 January 2027.

9 COMMUNICATION

- 9.1** The online official noticeboard is located at <https://www.optimist.org.au/nationals>
- 9.2** Secondary to the Official noticeboard "instant messaging" system WhatsApp may be used to notify skippers of timely information, confirmation of day's course, Protest Time limit etc. If in use a link to join the group can be found on the Official Noticeboard.

9 VENUE

- 9.1** The venue shall be The Royal Brighton Yacht Club. Attachment 3 shows the location of the regatta venue & location information.
- 9.2** Attachment 2 shows the approximate intended racing areas.

10 THE COURSES

- 10.1** The course for Open and Intermediate fleet racing will be the IOD trapezoid.
- 10.2** The course for the Green Fleet will be a modified windward/leeward course as described in the Sailing Instructions.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 RRS Appendix P will apply as amended in the Sailing Instructions.
- 11.2 Permission from Australian Sailing for an International Jury will be applied for. If granted, decisions of the International Jury are final as provided in rule 70.5.
- 11.3 A list of Standard Penalties will be posted on the regatta noticeboard at the start of the regatta.

12 SCORING

- 12.1 For the Open fleet the series will consist of up to twelve (12) races and the Intermediate Fleet will consist of up to twelve (12) races, three (3) of which are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 12.2 **For the Open Fleet**, the series will consist of up to twelve (12) races, three (3) of which are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 12.3 When a qualifying and final series are used:
 - 12.3.1 The Qualifying Series shall consist of a maximum of six (6) completed races.
 - 12.3.2 The Final Series shall consist of a maximum of six (6) completed races.
- 12.4 Open Fleet will be scored as follows:
 - 12.4.1 When fewer than four (4) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - 12.4.2 When from four (4) to ten (10) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.
 - 12.4.3 When eleven (11) or twelve (12) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her races scores, excluding her worst two scores.
- 12.5 The racing for the Australian and Open Championships will be scored as one fleet.
- 12.6 **For the Intermediate Fleet**, the series will consist of up to twelve (12) races, three (3) of which are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 12.7 Intermediate Fleet will be scored as follows:
 - 12.7.1 When fewer than four (4) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her races scores;
 - 12.7.2 When from four (4) to ten (10) races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score;
 - 12.7.3 When eleven (11) or twelve (12) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her two (2) worst scores.
- 12.8 For the Green fleet the series will consist of up to twenty (20) races, two (2) of which are required to be completed to constitute a series.
 - 12.8.1 (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 from six (6) to eleven (11) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
 - (c) When from twelve (12) to fourteen (14) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst two (2) scores.
 - (d) When fifteen (15) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her three (3) worst scores.

13 SUPPORT BOATS [NP][DP]

- 13.1 All Support/Coach boats shall register online with the Organising Authority. This can be done as per NOR 3.5 above.
- 13.2 All registered boats shall display a number available at registration upon completion of a Support/Coach Boat online registration form. This number must be clearly visible at all times whilst afloat.
- 13.3 All Support/Coach boats must carry a working VHF radio and monitor it on the appropriate course frequency at all times whilst afloat.
- 13.4 Support boats may be called upon to provide assistance by the Race Committee.
- 13.5 Except when requested by the Race Committee to participate in rescue operations, team leaders, coaches, parents and other support persons shall stay outside areas where boats are racing, from the time of the preparatory signal for a race to start until all boats have *Finished* or the Race Committee signals a postponement or abandonment. The areas the boats are racing in is defined as the area inside the course and within 100 metres of any mark, lay line, starting line, finishing line or any area where any boat that is racing is sailing or may sail.
- 13.6 When the wind is less than 10 knots all team leaders, coaches, parents and other support persons shall not exceed 5 knots within 200 metres of the area where boats are racing.
- 13.7 When Flag V (with a long sound signal) is displayed on a Committee vessel all support boats are required to remain afloat and assist all sailors until Flag V is lowered. Assistance may include towing boats ashore. Further requirements while Flag V is displayed may be advised in the Sailing Instructions.
- 13.8 The Race Committee or Jury may protest any boat whose support boat is in breach of NOR clause 13. Penalties imposed as a result of a protest under this clause may result in a penalty being imposed on the boat(s) supported by the support boat.

14 BERTHING [NP][DP]

- 14.1 Restrictions will be placed on where competitor boats may be stored or rigged in the boat park.
- 14.2 Boats may only be stored in the boat park for the duration of the regatta & 24hrs before/after the regatta, unless otherwise approved by the OA.
- 14.3 No tie down restraints may penetrate the ground deeper than 300mm due to lawn irrigation systems.

15 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION [NP][DP]

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 Boats may affix cameras so long as they do not protrude from the boat.

16 PRIZES

- 16.1 The Perpetual Trophies for the Australian Optimist Championship will be awarded to competitors who are:
- (a) Australian Citizens or Australian Permanent Residents;
 - (b) Financial members of an AIODA member State Association; and
 - (c) A financial member of a Sailing Club affiliated with Australian Sailing.
- 16.2 For the Australian Championship:
- Age prizes will be based on a sailor's age as at 31 December 2027, and the following prizes will be awarded:
- Australian Championship perpetual trophy will be awarded to the 1st Australian regardless of gender
 - Australian Championship perpetual trophy will be awarded to the 1st Australian Female.
 - OziOpti Club Championship Cup – for the Club with the lowest total of the final regatta places of their best three Open Fleet sailors (only the first club listed on a sailor's entry will be counted).
 - Peter Gilmour Trophy – for the sailor with the greatest improvement in their Open Fleet placing since last year.
 - Bennett Family Club Participation Trophy – for the Club with the largest number of entrants across all fleets (only the first club listed on a sailor's entry will be counted).
 - Notable Sportsmanship
 - Intermediate Fleet perpetual trophy will be awarded to the 1st Australian regardless of gender
 - Natalie O'Brart Green Fleet perpetual trophy will be awarded to the 1st placed sailor.
- 16.3 The following prizes will be awarded to Open Fleet regardless of nationality:
- 1st to 3rd Boy and 1st to 3rd Girl
 - 12-Year-Old – 1st Place
 - 11-Year-Old – 1st Place
 - 10-Year-Old and under – 1st Place
- 16.4 Intermediate Fleet 1st to 3rd Boy and 1st to 3rd Girl
- 16.5 Green Fleet 1st to 3rd Boy and 1st to 3rd Girl.
- 16.6 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

17 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 17.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. 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.
- 17.2 A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility. In this paragraph and the following paragraphs, wherever the context so permits, 'boat' includes the helm and their parents or guardians.
- 17.3 It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going to sea, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and that her helm is competent to sail and compete in them.
- 17.4 Nothing done or omitted to be done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing or other parts of the event. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the events and their associated activities, afloat or ashore and include the Organising Authority, the

- Race committee, the race officers, safety vessels, support boats and beach masters.
- 17.5 The provision of safety vessels does not relieve the boat of its responsibilities.
- 17.6 The Race Committee may hold a boat ashore, or require a boat to go ashore at any time when afloat, whether racing or not, if it considers that:
- (a) The boat, the equipment or the clothing of the helm, or
 - (b) The physical condition of the helm is not adequate for the conditions.
- 18 INSURANCE**
- 18.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of not less than AUD\$5,000,000.00 (recommend AUD\$10,000,000.00) per incident or the equivalent.
- 18.2 All owners/guardians who sign the entry forms are deemed to have made a declaration that they hold such cover. Owners/guardians not holding this cover shall withdraw their entry. The skipper of each boat must be able to display proof of cover if requested to do so.
- 19 RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS**
- 19.1 In participating, a competitor automatically grants to the Organising Authority, the Coordinating Authorities and the sponsors, the right in perpetuity, to make, use and show, from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of him/her during the period of the competition in which the competitor participates and, in all material, related to the said Event without compensation.
- 19.2 Boats may be required to carry cameras, sound equipment or positioning equipment as specified by the Organising Authority. Information from this equipment shall not be used by a boat as evidence in a hearing. This changes RRS 63.6.
- 20 AUSTRALIAN OPTIMIST SAILING TEAM SELECTION**
- This event will be used for selecting the 2027 Australian Optimist Sailing Team. For information regarding qualification and selection please refer to AOST section of the AIODA website <http://www.optimist.org.au/aost>.
- 21 FURTHER INFORMATION**
- Further information, can be found on the championship website via <http://www.optimist.org.au/nationals>.

AIODA Contact

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Host Club Information

Royal Brighton Yacht Club (RBYC)

Location 253 Esplanade, Middle Brighton VIC 3186 – [Google Maps](#)

Contacts RBYC Sailing Office
Phone: +61 9592 3092
Email: boatingmanager@rbyc.org.au

Attachment 1

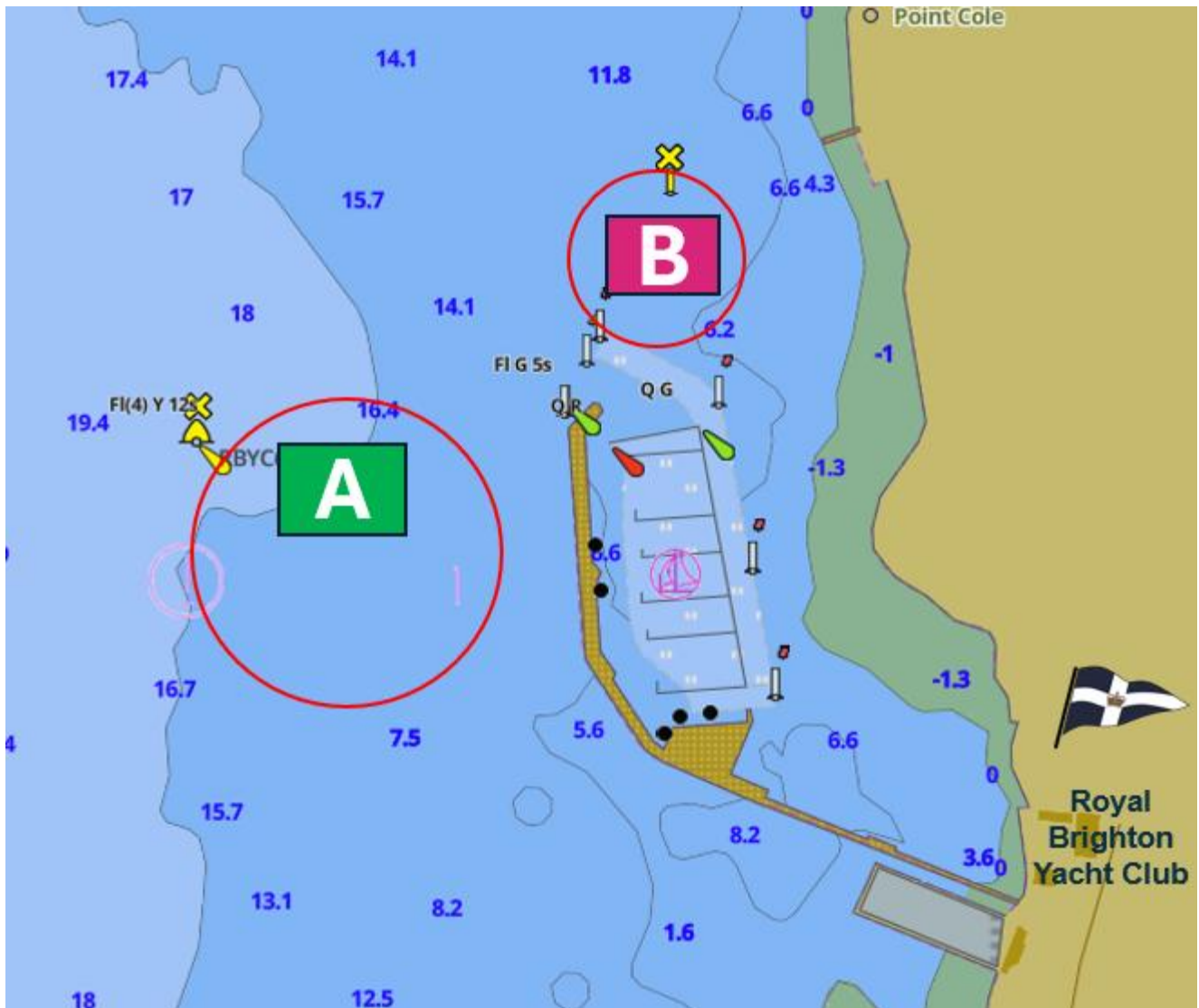
GREEN FLEET

1. In Green Fleet emphasis is on fun and the objective of this regatta is to offer younger and less experienced sailors the opportunity to sail and participate in the National Championship without feeling the need or burden to sail in the more competitive and arduous Open or Intermediate Fleets.
2. Sailors entering the Green Fleet should be competent at racing and have completed at least half a season of Green Fleet or equivalent racing at club level.
3. Green Fleet racing is intended to align with Open and Intermediate Fleets but starting after the Open and Intermediate sailors have launched to head out to their course area. In addition, on/off water activities are planned each morning as described in part 6. If weather forecasts or prevailing winds make it unlikely that Green Fleet will race in the afternoon, then the schedule may be reversed.
4. In the Green Fleet equipment used is not required to hold current measurement certificates (this alters Optimist Class rule 2.4.1) however the following measurement criteria still apply as a minimum:
 - a. **Hull:** the hull to be used shall carry a valid WS/ISAF/IYRU plaque;
 - b. **Sail:** the sail shall carry a properly allocated and registered sail number and an IODA sail button; and
 - c. **Equipment:** shall carry all safety equipment listed in the equipment checklist.
5. The Technical Committee may at their sole discretion refuse the entry of a boat which in their opinion does not satisfy the spirit or intent of a one-design international class regatta.
6. The Green Fleet will consist of a variety of activities, led by appropriately qualified activity leaders/rules advisors (in an approximate ratio of 1:15-20). These activities may include both shore-based and on-water based skills coaching, shore and on-water games and scored racing governed by the WS Introductory Rules for Racing V1.01, as amended by the sailing instructions.
7. Racing for Green Fleet will be conducted on a separate course.

Attachment 2 – Approximate Racing Area

Course Area A- Open & Intermediate Fleets

Course Area B- Green Fleet



Club Information

For more information about RBYC please see the home page: [Royal Brighton Yacht Club](#)

More specific information regarding the AIODA Championship will be found in the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions and emailed to competitors in the weeks prior to the event.



- 1 Boat Storage
- 2 Boat Storage – upper & lower carpark
- 3 Sailing Office

- 4 Cafe
- 5 Passenger drop off
- 6 Boat drop off