



2026 Harken Challenge Series

Notice of Series

1. RULES

The series will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, the prescriptions of US SAILING, the USODA Class Rules, this Notice of Series, and the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions issued by each host club.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be issued by each host club prior to each separate regatta.

3. ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY

3.1 Competitors must enter each individual regatta separately. A competitor will be automatically entered in the series by sailing in the first or second scheduled regatta, and sailing in two or more of the four regattas.

3.2 Competitors must be members in good standing of the United States Optimist Dinghy Class. Membership can be obtained on the USODA Class website at www.USODA.org. Class membership information will be verified.

5. FEES

There is no series entry fee, but each host club will charge a regatta entry fee.

6. HOST CLUBS & SCHEDULE

Harken #1 @ Opti Spring Regatta at California YC, February 21-22, 2026

Harken #2 @ San Francisco YC, April 11-12, 2026

Harken #3 @ Eli Rueben Memorial Regatta at Cabrillo Beach YC, May 2-3, 2026

Harken #4 @ Heavy Weather Regatta St Francis YC, June 20-21, 2026

Series results presented at St Francis YC after racing.

7. SCORING

7.1 Harken Series scoring shall be based on the official results of each Regatta tabulated only against other Harken Series participants.

7.2 For the Harken Series a DNC is defined as not registering for a Harken Regatta and shall be scored the number of entries in the Harken Series plus one.

7.3 Ties will be broken using RRS Appendix A. If a tie still exists, the winner shall be the boat that finished ahead in the final race that the two participating boats both finished.

7.4 A High-Point Scoring System will be used for the Series. Each boat's top three Regatta scores will be used. Series scoring shall be based on the official results of each Regatta tabulated only against other Series entrants as follows: number of entries at the Regatta, minus the boat's final position, plus 1.

7.5 Sail number changes must be reported to the Harken Series Chairman, Abby Featherstone by email (youth@sfyc.org) and reported to the host race committee before the first race each day.

8. PRIZES

The Harken Challenge Perpetual trophy will be awarded to the top finisher in the series. Other trophies may be awarded.

9. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an

unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

10. MORE INFORMATION

For more information contact each host club, or Abby Featherstone, Series Chairman via email at youth@sfyc.org. Host clubs can be contacted at: CYC 310-823-4567; SFYC 415-435-9525, CBYC 310 519-1694, StFYC 415-655-7756.