



Optimist Spring Regatta Harken Challenge #1

Saturday and Sunday, February 21-22, 2026
Marina del Rey, California USA



NOTICE OF RACE

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Organizing Authority is California Yacht Club (CYC), located at 4469 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292.

Phone: 310.823.4567 | Web: www.calyachtclub.com

Event Chair Brent Hamilton | See NoR 17 for contact information

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the "rules" as defined in [The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028](#) (RRS), by the current [International Optimist Class Rules](#), and by the [2026 Harken Challenge Series Notice of Series](#).
- 1.2 [DP] RRS 40, Personal Flotation Devices, is replaced with the following: A condition of entry and participation in this event is the wearing of a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) or, for international sailors only, a PFD approved by their country's corresponding authority, properly secured at all times while on the water, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. All PFDs must be suitable for the competitor's weight. Wet suits, dry suits, and inflatable lifejackets do not constitute adequate PFDs. The Preamble to Part 4 does not apply to RRS 40.
- 1.3 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: (2) If it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in and did not see the incident or
- 1.4 US Sailing Prescription RRS 81, Indemnification or Hold Harmless Agreements, does not apply.
- 1.5 RRS 90.3(e) (Scoring) applies to the Harken Challenge #1.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be posted by 1200 Wednesday, February 18, 2026 on the [Official Notice Board](#). Course Charts will be available at Check-in.

3. COMMUNICATION

The Official Notice Board is the [Harken #1 Optimist Spring Regatta](#) webpage.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 This event is open to International Optimist Dinghy class boats.
- 4.2 Eligible competitors may enter their boat by having their parent or guardian complete online registration at the [Official Notice Board](#) and paying all fees by the entry deadline of 1800 on Friday, February 20, 2026. Entries submitted after that time may be accepted only with the approval of the Event Chair and will be charged a \$10 late fee.
- 4.3 The parent or guardian of each competitor must complete a CYC Parental Consent Form and Waiver; entrants will be prompted to complete this form during the online registration process.
- 4.4 Only entries that have completed Check-in by 1000 on Saturday, February 21, 2026 are eligible to race. Late Check-in may be allowed only with the approval of the Event Chair.

5. CHECK-IN

- 5.1 Check-in is between 0830 and 1000 on Saturday, February 21, 2026 on the patio adjacent to the pool.
- 5.2 To complete Check-in, each entrant shall have met all eligibility and entry requirements, paid all fees and submitted a completed CYC Parental Consent Form and Waiver per NoR 4.3.

6. FEES

The entry fee is \$75 for entries received by Sunday, February 15, 2026. Thereafter, until the entry deadline, the fee is \$100.

7. EVENT FORMAT

Fleet divisions and starts will be in accordance with the [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships Conditions 6.2 and 6.3](#). There will be a Green Fleet, which may be split to accommodate more coaching.

8. SCHEDULE

Sunday	Feb 15		Discounted entry fee deadline
Friday	Feb 20	1800	Entry deadline
Saturday	Feb 21	0830 – 1000	Check-in and Support Person Vessel (SPV) registration
		1000	Competitors' briefing
		1015	Coaches' briefing
		1030	Competitors' briefing for Green Fleet
		1200	First warning signal - subsequent races to start ASAP
Sunday	Feb 22	1000	Competitors' briefing
		1015	Coaches' briefing
		1030	Competitors' briefing for Green Fleet
		1200	First warning signal - subsequent races to start ASAP
		1530	No initial warning signal after this time
		After Racing	Awards presentation at CYC

Eight (8) races are scheduled. The RC, at its discretion, may run fewer races. The location of Check-in, SPV registration, and all briefings is the patio area adjacent to the pool.

9. VENUE

Red, Blue, and White Fleets: The starting area is on Santa Monica Bay approximately one-half (1/2) nautical mile northwest of the Marina del Rey breakwater.

Green Fleet: Racing will be conducted inside Marina del Rey Harbor; racing area to be assigned.

10. THE COURSES

The courses will be a windward-leeward format and described in the SIs.

11. SCORING

11.1 One (1) race must be completed to constitute a series.

11.2 When four (4) or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores; when five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

11.3 The Harken Challenge Series will be scored per the [Notice of Series](#).

12. SAFETY

12.1 Each competitor shall have a whistle attached to their PFD at all times while on the water.

12.2 Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of its bow line.

12.3 [DP] Each skipper who launches their boat from CYC must sign-out prior to leaving the dock and sign-in upon return. Each skipper not launching from CYC shall notify the Event Chair before leaving their dock and, following the final race of the day, shall notify the Event Chair as soon as practical to confirm they have returned to their dock. (See NoR 17 for Event Chair contact information).

13. DESIGNATED ADULT

13.1 An adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of each competitor. It is solely the responsibility of this adult to decide if the competitor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the event. The adult supervising the competitor is ultimately responsible for the risks. Additionally, this designated adult shall accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes on-shore activities before, during, and after the event.

13.2 [DP] The parent or guardian of each competitor must complete the CYC Parental Consent Form and Waiver, indicating the name and contact information for the adult who shall be on-site, and who is authorized and designated to be responsible for that competitor during this event per NoR 4.3 and 13.1. Parents or guardians will be prompted to complete this form during the online registration process.

14. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

14.1 [DP] Competitors who wish to keep SPVs at CYC must make prior arrangements with the CYC Waterfront Director for use of the hoist, trailer storage and in-the-water berthing. See NoR 17 for Waterfront Director contact information.

14.2 [DP] All SPVs shall carry and monitor a VHF radio capable of communicating on normal domestic and international channels.

14.3 The conduct of SPVs and support persons is governed by the SIs.

15. PRIZES

15.1 The awards ceremony will be held at CYC after racing on Sunday.

15.2 Awards will be presented to the top finishers in the Red, Blue and White Fleets, plus Overall awards.

15.3 Green Fleet competitors will receive participation awards.

16. RISK STATEMENT

By having their child participate in this event, the parent or guardian of a competitor agrees that the competitor is participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The parent or guardian of each competitor agrees to release the race organizers (organizing authority, host yacht club, race committee, protest committee, sponsors, and any others acting in an official capacity for this event) from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION

Event Chair: Brent Hamilton: brentonleehamilton@gmail.com or 323.309.1387

CYC Waterfront Director: Chase Young: chase@calyachtclub.com or 310.823.4567

Hospitality: Complimentary refreshments will be provided after racing.

Boat Launching: Competitors are invited to use the dry storage, hoists and dinghy dock at CYC during the event, subject to applicable CYC guidelines and protocols. For information and arrangements regarding boat storage immediately preceding and following the event contact the CYC Dockmaster.

Harken Challenge Series information. Contact Abby Featherstone, Series Chair at youth@sfyc.org.