

March 7, 2018

Greetings Sailors, Families and Friends!

Fairhope Yacht Club welcomes you to Fairhope, Alabama on Mobile Bay for the 2018 Optimist Gulf Coast Championship Regatta. We look forward to providing you a great competition and event. As you make your travel preparations, we want to share the following details about our facilities and the event:

Early Arrivals

Any competitors or groups arriving prior to 3PM on Friday, please unload at the clubhouse and keep your boats and equipment on the lawn north of the clubhouse until Check-In. We are providing trailer parking at the top of the hill, on the SE corner of the intersection of Section and Volanta, next to Fairhope Boat Company.

Arrival

Fairhope Yacht Club Area Map:

[Please click to view our site map](#) indicating parking, launching, and fuel locations.

Vehicle Parking:

Parking at the club will be limited to the first row of parking on the main lot, side lots, and the lot at the Junior Yacht Club. After 3:30-4PM on Friday, we will provide overflow parking for competitors at Fairhope Elementary School on Section Street, with shuttle service back to the club.

Opti Parking:

Follow the signs into the main lot to unload Opti(s). Signs will designate the unloading zone in the parking lot. Please pull as far forward as possible before unloading. Volunteers will be on-hand to assist. [Please refer to the parking map](#) to see the expected flow of traffic at this time. Opti Parking will be in the main lot near the beach. [Please click to view](#) your Opti parking assignment.

Coach/Support Boats:

- **Launching:** The club boat ramp is on the main lot, and may be able to accommodate boat launching on Friday, subject to arrival time and lot density. The club ramp will be closed on Saturday and likely congested on Sunday afternoon. Alternatively, coaches & spectators can launch and retrieve boats at the city ramp at the foot of Pier Street, as indicated on the area map.
- **Trailer Parking:** After launching, please tow your trailer to trailer parking at Section and Volanta. After 4PM on Friday, trailer parking will also be available at Fairhope Elementary School on Section Street.
- **Mooring:** Coaches, please raft up in the harbor's basin adjacent to the Gazebo near the jetties. Spectator/Support boats can utilize the T piers located along the edge of the harbor.
- **Fuel:** Unfortunately, on-water fuel facilities are not available. Marine fuel is available at Rambo's Auto Service on the Corner of Section Street and Fels Avenue or at Bay Shores Market on the corner of Fairhope Avenue and AL 181.
- **Coach/Support Boat Registration:** All coach & spectator boats must register and obtain a numbered flag. These can be obtained in the FYC Ballroom during Check-In with a \$20 deposit which will be refunded upon the flag's return. Feel free to fill out the attached registration form prior to arrival.

Check-In

Check-In will be in the FYC Ballroom upstairs, from **4-7pm on Friday**, and **8-9am on Saturday**. All competitors must fill out a self certification checklist, code of conduct, and confirm their sail number in order to pick up their registration packets during that time.

We have attached the forms required at check-in for parents to fill out ahead of time, if they are so inclined.

Parents should register for a Temporary Membership Card to use at the Club for the weekend by either using the attached form or filling one out upon arrival. We will assign the appropriate number at the time of submission. Please note that Fairhope Yacht Club will not be honoring GYA reciprocity charges during this event, but casual club dining will be available, with lunch, dinner, and bar services.

Schedule

Friday, March 9

1600 – 1900 Competitor Check-in; Support Boat Flag Registration; Guest Card Registration

Saturday, March 10

0800 - 0900	Late Competitor Check-in
0800 - 0930	Continental Breakfast
0915	Coaches Meeting
0930	Competitor', Coaches', and Parents' Meeting (Mandatory)
1000	Harbor Start
1030	First Warning Signal
After Racing	Competitors Dinner

Sunday, March 11

0730 - 0900	Competitors Breakfast
0830	Coaches' Meeting
0900	Harbor Start
0930	First Warning Signal
1400	No Warning Signal shall be given after this time
After Racing	Awards ceremony

Opti Launching/Dolly Retrieval

Optis shall be launched and hauled in the indicated areas on the beach. Volunteers will be available to assist.

Breakfast and Lunches

Breakfast will be available for all competitors in the FYC Clubhouse.

Lunch is also provided to competitors during the regatta. Following the Competitors' Meeting under the FYC Clubhouse, competitors will pick up their lunch there and then proceed to the Gazebo to Check Out.

Safety Check In/Check Out

All competitors will receive a bracelet and life jacket tag with a number on it at registration. The bracelet must be worn for the duration of the regatta. At Check In/Check Out, competitors will be required to show their bracelet and tag to the Safety Officer stationed at the FYC Gazebo and confirm their number.

Drinking Water

All Race Committee and Safety Boats will have bottled water available to competitors.

Saturday Competitors Dinner

The club will provide a deluxe pasta bar for the competitors' dinner Saturday evening. This is free to all competitors (bracelets are their ticket). Family members and coaches are welcome to purchase a dinner bracelet for \$10 apiece.

We are all excited for your arrival and have been hard at work to make this a great event for all!

See you soon! Safe travels!