



**Athlete Selection System and Requirements  
for  
2020 U.S. Youth Championship  
Pensacola, FL  
June 20-24, 2020  
Pensacola Yacht Club  
Amended September 16, 2019**

**Eligibility**

- Competitors (skippers and crews) shall not reach their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday in the 2020 calendar year.
- Competitors must be individual or family members, all in good standing, of US Sailing and not otherwise ineligible to compete under the laws, regulations, policies and rules of USOC or its affiliated organizations.
- Competitors must be US Citizens or eligible permanent residents with written authorization from World Sailing for an exemption under World Sailing Regulation 24.5.4, unless the Organizing Authority grants an exception to this requirement based upon a written request to do so.

**Equipment**

The 2020 U.S. Youth Championship will be conducted with the equipment (sailboat classes) listed below:

- One Person Dinghy – Laser
- One Person Dinghy – Laser Radial
- Two Person Dinghy – i420
- Two Person Multihull – Nacra 15
- One Person Windsurfer – RS:X
- **One Person Windsurfer – Techno 293**
- Two Person Skiff – 29er

**Selection**

Up to 200 prospective athletes will be selected for entry in the 2020 U.S. Youth Championship. Up to 109 of these will be provided invitations based on performance at an Early Acceptance regatta, with the remaining athletes selected based on resume. The resume application process will be described in the Notice of Race which will be available on the U.S. Youth Championship website.

## Early Acceptance Regattas

**Laser (open):** Up to 8 Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

- Top 1: San Diego OCR | San Diego, CA | September 7-8, 2019
- Top 1\*: Laser Pacific Coasts | Bellingham, WA | September 21-22, 2019
- Top 1\*: Laser Gulf Coasts | Pass Christian, MS | September 21-22, 2019
- Top 1\*: Orange Bowl International Youth Regatta | Coconut Grove, FL | December 27-30, 2019
- Top 2\*: Midwinters East | Clearwater, FL | February 20-23, 2020
- Top 2\*: Midwinters West | California | March 20-22, 2020

**Laser Radial (open):** Up to 3 Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

- Top 3\*: Chubb US JR Championship (Smythe) | Redwood City, CA | August 7-11, 2019

**Laser Radial Boy:** Up to 11 Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

- Top 1\*: San Diego OCR | San Diego, CA | September 7-8, 2019
- Top 1\*: Laser Pacific Coasts | Bellingham, WA | September 21-22, 2019
- Top 1\*: Laser Gulf Coasts | Pass Christian, MS | September 21-22, 2019
- Top 2\*: Orange Bowl International Youth Regatta | Coconut Grove, FL | December 27-30, 2019
- Top 3\*: Midwinters East | Clearwater, FL | February 20-23, 2020
- Top 3\*: Midwinters West | California | March 20-22, 2020

**Laser Radial Girl:** Up to 11 Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

- Top 2: US JR Women's Singlehanded Champs | Richmond, CA | July 8-13, 2019
- Top 1\*: San Diego OCR | San Diego, CA | September 7-8, 2019
- Top 1\*: Laser Pacific Coasts | Bellingham, WA | September 21-22, 2019
- Top 1\*: Laser Gulf Coasts | Pass Christian, MS | September 21-22, 2019
- Top 2\*: Orange Bowl International Youth Regatta | Coconut Grove, FL | December 27-30, 2019
- Top 2\*: Midwinters East | Clearwater, FL | February 20-23, 2020
- Top 2\*: Midwinters West | California | March 20-22, 2020

**i-420 Boy or Mixed:** Up to 8 Teams of Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

- Top 1: San Diego OCR | San Diego, CA | September 7-8, 2019
- Top 1\*: i-420 Atlantic Coast Championship | Greenwich, CT | October 26-27, 2019
- Top 2\*: Open Orange Bowl | Coconut Grove, FL | December 27-30, 2019
- Top 2\*: North American Championship | Miami, FL | January 18-20, 2020
- Top 2\*: Midwinter Championship | Miami, FL | February 15-17, 2020

**i-420 Girl:** Up to 8 Teams of Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

- Top 1: San Diego OCR | San Diego, CA | September 7-8, 2019
- Top 1\*: i-420 Atlantic Coast Championship | Greenwich, CT | October 26-27, 2019
- Top 2\*: Open Orange Bowl | Coconut Grove, FL | December 27-30, 2019
- Top 2\*: North American Championship | Miami, FL | January 18-20, 2020
- Top 2\*: Midwinter Championship | Miami, FL | February 15-17, 2020

**Nacra 15 (open):** Up to 7 Teams of Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

- Top 1: San Diego OCR | San Diego, CA | September 7-8, 2019
- Top 2\*: Nacra15 North Americans | Sarasota, FL | November 9-10, 2019
- Top 2\*: Nacra15 Midwinters East | TBD | TBD



Top 2\*: Nacra15 Midwinter's West | California | April 2020

**RS:X Boy:** Up to 3 Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

Top 1: Orange Bowl Youth Windsurf Regatta | Miami, FL | December 28-30, 2019

Top 1\*: RS:X North Americans | Miami, FL | January 2020

Top 1\*: Clearwater Midwinters | Clearwater, FL | March 13-15, 2020

**RS:X Girl:** Up to 3 Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

Top 1: Orange Bowl Youth Windsurf Regatta | Miami, FL | December 28-30, 2019

Top 1\*: RS:X North Americans | Miami, FL | January 2020

Top 1\*: Clearwater Midwinters | Clearwater, FL | March 13-15, 2020

**Techno 293 Boy:** Up to 2 Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

Top 1: Orange Bowl Youth Windsurf Regatta | Miami, FL | December 28-30, 2019

Top 1\*: Clearwater Midwinters | Clearwater, FL | March 13-15, 2020

**Techno 293 Girl:** Up to 2 Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

Top 1: Orange Bowl Youth Windsurf Regatta | Miami, FL | December 28-30, 2019

Top 1\*: Clearwater Midwinters | Clearwater, FL | March 13-15, 2020

**29er Boy or Mixed:** Up to 5 Teams of Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

Top 1: San Diego OCR | San Diego, CA | September 7-8, 2019

Top 1\*: High Performance Regatta | Rye, NY | October 12-13, 2019

Top 1\*: Midwinters East | Miami, FL | February, 2020

Top 2\*: Midwinters West | Coronado, CA | March 27-29, 2020

**29er Girl:** Up to 5 Teams of Prospective Athletes selected by Early Acceptance:

Top 1: US JR Women's Doublehanded Championship | San Diego, CA | July 19-24, 2019

Top 1\*: San Diego OCR | San Diego, CA | September 7-8, 2019

Top 1\*: High Performance Regatta | Rye, NY | October 12-13, 2019

Top 1\*: Midwinters East | Miami, FL | February, 2020

Top 1\*: Midwinters West | Coronado, CA | March 27-29, 2020

***\*Prospective Athlete (singlehanded classes) or Team of Prospective Athletes (doublehanded classes) not already selected in that class.***



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** *Why are there two ways to be selected for the U.S. Youth Championship (selection via early acceptance event and via resume)?*

**A:** The purpose of the Early Acceptance Regattas is to provide opportunities for sailors to be selected for the U.S. Youth Championship based on their performance at a single highly competitive regatta (ie, to "sail-in"). The purpose of the application process is to provide an opportunity for sailors to be selected based on their resume of regatta results and training plan. The overall goal is to make sure that the top sailors in each class have ample opportunity to gain acceptance to the Youth Champs and compete in US Sailing's premier youth regatta.

**Q:** *If I earn an Early Acceptance invitation in the one class (ex: Radial), can I switch to a different class (ex: Laser) and still have Early Acceptance?*

**A:** No. Early Acceptance spots must be used in the class they were earned in. If you intend to sail Youth Champs in a different class, you can apply for selection via resume.

**Q:** *Our team earned an Early Acceptance invitation as a doublehanded team, but we are now sailing with new teammates. Do our Early Acceptance invitations carry over to the new teams?*

**A:** No. The Youth Champs selection process considers each doublehanded team unique, so if you are sailing with new teammates you will need to apply for selection via resume.

**Q:** *Most of the Early Acceptance Regattas are outside of my region. Do I have to travel to these regattas in order to be selected for Youth Champs?*

**A:** No. Sailors who do not attend any Early Acceptance Regattas may be selected for Youth Champs via resume based on their performance at regional and national regattas and their training plan. The circuit of Early Acceptance Regattas is focused on major Class Association and US Sailing events, with the goal of selecting sailors who are performing well at the national level.

**Q:** *The boat classes that I currently sail are not in Youth Champs. Can I still sail in Youth Champs?*

**A:** Yes, but you will need to train and compete in the new class in order to prepare. Trying different boat classes and expanding your skills to new sailing disciplines is key to building a well-rounded skill-set and growing as a sailor. The classes sailed in Youth Champs reflect the international standard for youth high performance racing, offering sailors the opportunity to excel at the national and international levels. If you find a Youth Champs class that is a good fit, the next step is to build your training plan and spend time on the water sailing the boat. When you apply for Youth Champs, the selection committee will take into account your regatta results from other classes and disciplines, as well as your training plan. For sailors transitioning to a new class, a detailed training plan is critical to a successful application.