



O'Pen BIC North American Champs 2018

Buffalo Canoe Club, August 9-11, 2018
Ridgeway, Ontario, CANADA

NOTICE OF RACE

DATE, VENUE, ORGANIZING AUTHORITY, and O'PEN BIC ATTITUDE

The 2018 O'Pen BIC North American Championships will be held in Ridgeway, Ontario, just over the border from Buffalo, New York, hosted by the prestigious Buffalo Canoe Club, August 9-11, 2018. The Organising Authority for this regatta is Buffalo Canoe Club in association with the North American O'Pen BIC Class. The Buffalo Canoe Club is an easy drive from airports in Buffalo NY or Toronto, Ontario, and has hosted many national and world sailing championships. BCC has more than 25 O'pen BICs in their own Junior Sailing Program, and the local sailors are keen to share their O'pen BIC hospitality, including visiting the incredible Niagara Falls nearby.

Important Event Introduction: The purpose of this event is to run a fun event for youth sailors in a more loosely competitive style in dynamic junior boats. Results are not nearly as important as everyone having a good time sailing. It is our goal that the sailors improve their skills, make new friends, exhibit first-class sportsmanship, and have a ton of fun. This event will be a combination of "conventional" style race formats with unorthodox "Un-Regatta" style courses and events. Don't expect conventional round the buoys racing or upwind starts for all races. Capsizes, freestyle, speed and fun will be required. If you are a hard-core racer with rule book in hand, this event may not be for you. If you want to have fun, challenge your limits, and pioneer the new chapter in Youth Sailing, we invite you to come join the fun.

ELEGIBILITY

The fleet is comprised of two Divisions. This modifies Class Rule C.2.3

- U13 Division: Competitors born after Dec 31st, 2005
- Open Division (all ages welcome)

SCHEDULE – August 7th – 11th

Tuesday Aug, 7th – Wed, Aug 8th	Charter boats available	
Thursday, August 9th	Skipper's meeting	9:30 am
	First race	11:00 am
	Bus trip to Niagara Falls	5:00 pm
Friday, August 10th	Skipper's meeting	9:30 am
	Social Party	6:00 pm
Saturday, August 11th	Skipper's meeting	9:00 am
	Last possible warning signal	2:00 pm
	Awards Party	3:00 pm

The number of races each day will be determined by the Race Committee.

Any changes to the start time will be posted on the BCC Notice Board by 7:00 pm of the preceding day. No warning signal will be given after 2:00 pm on Saturday, August 11th.

RULES

The regatta rules will be outlined in the Sailing Instructions which may modify standard World Sailing rules, and the OBCA's Class Rules where applicable.

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organizing Authority.

HELMETS

Protective helmets are required.

Forward WIP, cool O'pen BIC sponsor, makes excellent sailing specific helmets.

<https://www.murrays.com/category/g-sh/> You can contact their distributor, Murrays Marine, directly at 805 684-8393 or info@murrays.com Tell them you're going to the North Americans and that may have some extra benefit.

ENTRY

Go to <https://www.buffalocanoeclub.com> for registration.

ENTRY FEES

The entry fee is \$125 (USD) per sailor, and includes regatta shirt, Thursday bus trip to Niagara Falls, Friday social party, and Awards party. **Entry Fee will increase to \$175 (USD) on July 19th 2018.**

CHARTER BOATS

A limited number of Charter boats are available from O'Pen BIC North America on first come/first serve basis. Please contact Nevin Sayre at nsayre@aol.com as soon as possible if you think you may need a charter boat and we'll get you on the list. The charter boat fee is \$190 plus damage deposit. Charter boat **deadline is June 21st, 2018 but we will likely run out well before then.** All Charter boats come complete and ready to sail and have fun. Charter boats are available for sale at substantial discount following the event.

MEASUREMENTS AND CHECKS

Boats and sails must be in conformity with the O'Pen BIC Class Rules.

The Race Committee may check boats and crews before, during and after the races.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available at <https://www.buffalocanoeclub.com> prior to the event.

RACING FORMAT

The number of races for all the Divisions will be at the discretion of the Race Committee.

Three valid races are required to constitute the championship.

There will be separate rankings for each age group division. At the discretion of the Race Committee, age groups may or may not be raced together as one fleet.

SCORING SYSTEM

The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

There will be a discard race for every 4 races completed, i.e. one discard for 4 races, two discards for 8, 3 discards for 12, etc.

JURY

On the water umpires may be appointed by the regatta organizers. Their decisions will be final.

ADVERTISING

Advertising is permitted as per O'Pen BIC Class Rules.

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the first 3 boats per division, and the top female in U13 & Open divisions.

ACCOMMODATIONS

A list of accommodation recommendations is available at <https://www.buffalocanoeclub.com>. This is high season so please book very early.

LIABILITIES

It is the competitor's decision to enter the regatta or to start and continue in any race. Competitors shall accept that their participation in the regatta is at their exclusive risk in every respect.

World Sailing RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race, will apply. The Organising Authority, the respective Host Sailing Club, their officers, members, servants and agents, BIC Sport and the Race Management team accept no responsibility with respect to loss of life, personal injury or loss or damage to property which may be sustained by reason of their participation or intended participation in the regatta or arising in connection with the regatta.

Special Travel Grants will be awarded to North American O'pen BIC Sailors headed to the World Championships in New Zealand :

All North American sailors are welcome to join the O'pen BIC World Championships. From the North Americans, four very fortunate age-eligible boys and girls will receive special travel grants to the 2019 O'pen BIC World Championships in New Zealand, hosted by Sir Russell Coutts, 30 Dec 2018 to 5 Jan 2019. Two boys will be randomly selected from the top ten age-eligible boys overall, and two girls will be randomly selected from the top six age-eligible girls overall to receive these grants. To be age eligible, you must be U17 Class eligible for the New Zealand 2019 Worlds (i.e. you must be born after Dec 31, 2002).

CONTACTS

O'Pen BIC North Americans Regatta Organizer:

Kevin Robinson

Buffalo Canoe Club

kbjrobi@roadrunner.com

716 912-6422 (U.S.)

O'Pen BIC North America Class Representative who is in charge of O'Pen BIC charters:

Nevin Sayre

nsayre@aol.com

617 584-5874 (U.S.)



