

2021 RC Laser Winter Racing Series

January 10th thru April 11th

Sponsored by Raritan Yacht Club RC Laser Fleet - AMYA Club #375

Raritan Yacht Club | 160 Water Street | Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. This series will be governed by any Federal or State orders, The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024, as amended by Appendix E for RC sailing, prescriptions of US Sailing, class rules of the RC Laser class, these sailing instructions, and any amendments to these Sailing Instructions as announced by the PRO during the series.
- 1.2. Changes to the racing rules or class rules are noted in the specific instructions where they apply.
- 1.3. Each skipper that participates in a day's racing is obligated to serve as Race Committee for at least two sequential heats throughout the day. The skippers are responsible for running their heats in accordance to the NOR's and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4. The Race Committee is not the PRO and is subject to the direction of the PRO.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the RYC website at:
<http://www.ryc.org/Default.aspx?p=dynamicmodule&pageid=90&ssid=100117&vnf=1>

3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. See E1.3(d). Any change that will affect future sailing dates shall be posted before 9:30am on the following days racing on the RYC calendar at:
<http://www.ryc.org/Default.aspx?p=v35Calendar&title=calendar&view=l3&ssid=100114&vnf=1>.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1. 2021 Race Dates (Sundays): January 10th, January 17th, January 24th, January 31st, February 7th, February 14th, February 21st, February 28th, March 7th, March 21st, March 28th, April 4th, April 11th. The RYC RC Laser St. Patrick's Day Regatta (Saturday, March 13th) will not be counted as part of this series and there will be no series racing on Sunday, March 14th.
- 4.2. Daily Schedule:
 - 4.2.1. On-site Registration & Set-up 9:00AM – 9:30AM
 - 4.2.2. Skippers meeting begins at 9:30AM
 - 4.2.3. Racing begins at 10:00AM sharp.
- 4.3. The total number of heats planned for one day of racing is no more than 10. The race committee will determine the number of heats for each day after considering weather, course and equipment conditions. No heat shall start after 12:30PM.
- 4.4. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first heat each day is 10:00am.
- 4.5. After a postponement, to alert boats that a heat or sequence of heats will begin soon, an audible signal will be sounded at least five minutes before the warning signal for the first heat following the postponement.

5. RACING FORMAT

- 5.1. Depending on the number of boats for a day's race, random divisions may be created at the discretion of the PRO/Fleet Captain for races held that day. As a guideline, a division should not contain more than ~14 boats.

6. STARTING CONDITIONS

- 6.1. To start a heat, there shall be sufficient wind to make way against the current and to have maneuverability.
- 6.2. We will not sail if the wind is over 30 knots or the temperature is below 10° F.

- 6.3. We will not sail if the launching area is dangerous due to ice and/or snow.
- 6.4. Races may be cancelled in advance by email no later than 8:00AM on the day of scheduled racing.

7. LAUNCHING AREA

- 7.1. The launching area will be Dock B.

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1. The racing area will be on the water surrounding and off the RYC main pier and floating docks.

9. THE COURSES

- 9.1. The courses will generally be a windward/leeward course consisting of multiple legs.
- 9.2. The RC for the heat will verbally announce the order of the marks and number of laps before the warning signal of each heat.
- 9.3. If an offset mark is being used as part of the windward mark its buoy number will be included in the mark sequence in 9.2.
- 9.4. If leeward gates are being used this shall be part of course description in 9.2
- 9.5. All marks are to be left to port unless the course provided in 9.2 specifically changes that.
- 9.6. See appendix A of these instructions for sample course diagrams.

10. MARKS

- 10.1. Marks 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 will be round yellow buoys and be used as the windward, offset and leeward marks.
- 10.2. The starting and finishing pins will be pickup sticks.
- 10.3. The PRO, Fleet Captain or Race Committee may change the definition of marks as necessary.
- 10.4. Rule 31 is changed to read "While racing, a boat shall not touch a starting mark before starting or a finishing mark after finishing. A boat may touch a mark that begins, bounds or ends the leg of the course on which she is sailing."

11. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1. The following areas are designated as obstructions: All RYC floating docks, the main RYC pier and any boats moored in the RYC morning field.

12. RESTRICTED & NON-RESTRICTED AREAS

- 12.1. To maintain fair competition, competitors are to only use A dock to sail their boat while racing. In the event A dock is not accessible, the pier under the copula is to be used.
- 12.2. The copula (inside & outside) are for spectators only and are not to be used by competitors while racing their boat.

13. THE START

- 13.1. Races will be started as required by rule E3.4 with the warning signal sounded two minutes before the starting signal. This changes rule E3.4(a). The warning signal will also be considered the preparatory signal.
- 13.2. Races will be started using the AMYA two-minute starting sequence. The Race Committee may utilize another 2-minute audible starting sequence that complies with rule E3.4(a) in the event the AMYA two-minute sequence is unavailable.
- 13.3. The starting line will be between the two starting pins.
- 13.4. Boats whose warning signal has not sounded shall stay clear of the starting area in the event of multiple sailing divisions.
- 13.5. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS).

- 13.6. All starts will be under rule 30.1 – I Flag rule even though no I flag is displayed. There is no dipping on the start line within one minute of the race start. If any part of a boat's hull or equipment is on the course side of the starting line within 1 minute of the start signal, the line judge will attempt to hail that boat. Failure of the line judge to make a hail or a skipper to hear such a hail will not be grounds for a request for a redress hearing.

14. HOLDS

- 14.1. Prior to the warning signal, a boat may request the Race Committee to delay the starting sequence for five minutes for the repair of a technical problem or breakdown.
- 14.1.1. When such a delay is granted, it will be announced, and the warning signal will not be sounded until the expiration of five minutes from the commencement of the delay.
- 14.1.2. Each boat may be granted 2 such delays for that day's racing. Delays for tuning, adjusting sails or for changing rigs due to weather will not be granted.
- 14.2. Holds will be announced periodically by the PRO, at their discretion, for restroom and other breaks such as for changes in weather conditions, and for scheduled lunch breaks etc.
- 14.3. Competitors may make tuning or other adjustments to their boat during hold periods.

15. THE FINISH

- 15.1. The finishing line will be between the finishing pins.

16. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 16.1. Rule E4.3 applies.

17. TIME LIMITS

- 17.1. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 10 minutes, the race will be abandoned.
- 17.2. If no boat has finished within 20 minutes, the race will be abandoned.
- 17.3. Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat finishes, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes rules 35.

18. PROTESTS

- 18.1. A boat protesting another boat, while sailing, shall hail the other boat, as required by rule E6.3.
- 18.2. Boats filing a protest shall inform the race committee per E6.4 modified with a 5-minute time limit after the race or heat is complete.
- 18.3. Time Limits – Rule E6.5 is changed to 20 minutes after the last race or heat is sailed for the day.
- 18.4. Protests will be heard immediately following the last race of the day.

19. SCORING

- 19.1. The High Point Percentage Scoring system shall be used. Scores from all races will be counted - no scores will be excluded. This replaces rules A2 and A4. See <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/rules-officiating/racing-rules/scoring-a-long-series/> for more details.
- 19.2. At least 1 boat scored in a heat is required to constitute a completed heat

19.3. RACES TO COUNT AND MINIMUM REQUIRED

- 19.3.1. The series will consist of the total number of races sailed on the scheduled days or racing. To qualify for inclusion in the final series results a boat shall compete in (i.e., come to the starting area for) at least 50 percent of the heats completed.
- 19.3.2. Competitors serving as Race Committee for a heat shall be scored RC for those heats. The total count of RC scores will reduce the total number of heats by that count in the overall series for that competitor for

the purpose of calculating a competitor's percentage of heats sailed (i.e. heats you do Race Committee for will not have a negative effect on your percent of heats sailed).

19.4. HEAT SCORES

19.4.1. Define 'N' to be the number of boats that compete in a particular heat. Each boat finishing that heat will be scored as follows:

<u>Finishing Place</u>	<u>Score</u>
First	N
Second	N-1
Third	N-2
Fourth	N-3

Each place thereafter Subtract 1 point

19.4.2. All other boats that compete in that heat, including any that finish and thereafter retire or are disqualified, will score 0 points. Boats that do not compete in that heat (DNC) will not be scored. Boats in the starting area at the warning signal that do not start will be scored DNS and will be scored a 0.

19.5. SERIES SCORES

19.5.1. The series score for each boat will be a percentage calculated as follows: divide the sum of her heat scores by the sum of the points she would have scored if she had placed first in every heat in which she competed; multiply the result by 100. The qualified boat with the highest series score is the winner, and others are ranked accordingly.

19.6. TIES AND OTHER RULES

19.6.1. Heat ties will be handled using rule A7. Series ties will be broken using rule A8.1.

19.6.2. Rules A1, A3, A5, A6, A10 and A11 also apply.

20. EQUIPMENT & MEASUREMENT CHECKS

20.1. This is a one design RC Laser class series – only RC Laser boats can participate.

20.2. A boat and her equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with class rules and sailing instructions.

20.3. Boats must have a unique and visible numbers on their sail as described in the RC Laser Class Rules.

21. RACE COMMITTEE

21.1. Each skipper that participates in a day's racing is obligated to serve as Race Committee for at least two sequential heats throughout the day (One to call and record the line and the other to operate the crash boat). The skippers are encouraged to review RRS Section 2 and are responsible for running their heats to the best of their ability and in accordance to the NORs and Sailing Instructions.

21.2. Assignment of Race Committee will be determined day of and announced during the skipper's meeting.

22. PRIZES

22.1. Prizes will be awarded to the overall top 3 competitors across the series. To qualify for inclusion in the final series results, a boat shall compete and be scored in at least **50 percent** of the race heats completed. The top finisher will also be awarded the RC Laser Winter series Perpetual Award.

22.2. The awards ceremony for this series will be held as part of the annual RYC Race Awards Ceremony, typically in December. Please check the RYC calendar for the date.

23. SPORTSMANSHIP and CORINTHIAN SPIRIT

23.1. Remember that we are always in Friendly Competition.

- 23.2. In the event of any protested behavior which is deemed to be a breach of good manners or sportsmanship, or which may bring the sport into disrepute, the Race Director, any designated race officials, or competitor may protest the party or parties in accordance with RRS #2.
- 23.3. Penalties available to the RD and/or Protest Committee, include exclusion from the Race in question, or expulsion from the series as per RRS #69.2 and #69.3.
- 23.4. In the event a skipper is penalized under RRS #2 at an AMYA event, a report of the incident shall be sent to the AMYA Class Secretary of the Class being sailed and the AMYA Executive Board for review.

24. COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

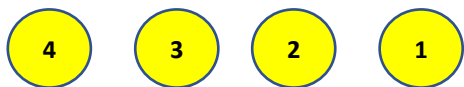
- 24.1. All participants (Competitors, Race Committee, and guests) must comply with the following COVID-19 Protocols. If any participant chooses to disregard these protocols, they will not be allowed to participate in the event and must leave the racing area.
 - 24.1.1. Maintain Social Distancing of six feet
 - 24.1.2. Wear face coverings at all times
 - 24.1.3. Do not touch any boat or tools but your own
 - 24.1.4. Use hand sanitizers frequently
 - 24.1.5. Hold each other accountable to follow these protocols
- 24.2. Rescue Boat
 - 24.2.1.1. No more than 2 people in the boat at a time
 - 24.2.1.2. Face coverings to be worn.

25. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 25.1. Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS rule 4. Raritan Yacht Club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the event.

Appendix A – Course Diagrams

Mid Line Start



Course Options:

S/F-1-2-5-S/F

S/F-2-3-5-S/F

S/F-3-4-5-S/F

S/F-1-2-5-1-2-S/F

S/F-2-3-5-2-3-5-S/F

S/F-3-4-5-3-4-5-S/F

S/F line is open

Mark 5 maybe a gate

There may be 1 windward mark with no offset



Appendix A – Course Diagrams

Mid Line Start



Course Options:

S/F-1-2-Gate 4&5-S/F

S/F-2-3-Gate 4&5-S/F

S/F-3-Gate 4&5-S/F

S/F-1-2-Gate 4&5-1-2-Gate 4&5-S/F

S/F-2-3-Gate 4&5-2-3-Gate 4&5-S/F

S/F-3-Gate 4&5-3-Gate 4&5-S/F

S/F line is open

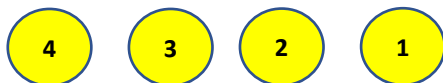
Mark 4 & 5 is a gate

There may be 1 windward mark with no offset



Appendix A – Course Diagrams

Leeward Start



Course Options:

S/F-1-2-S/F

S/F-2-3-S/F

S/F-3-4-S/F

S/F-1-2-5-1-2-S/F

S/F-2-3-5-2-3-S/F

S/F-3-4-5-3-S/F

Mark 5 maybe a gate

There may be 1 windward mark with no offset



Appendix A – Course Diagrams

Leeward Start



Course Options:

S/F-1-2-S/F

S/F-2-3-S/F

S/F-3-S/F

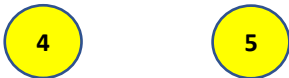
S/F-1-2-Gate 4&5-1-2-S/F

S/F-2-3-Gate 4&5-2-3-S/F

S/F-3-Gate 4&5-3-S/F

Mark 4 & 5 is a gate

There may be 1 windward mark with no offset



Appendix B – RYC Area Diagram



Appendix C – RC Laser Class Rules

1. **All boats and parts** shall be manufactured by Out There Technologies and distributed through their distribution system. All design changes to boat hull, sails, and rigging shall be made by Out There Technologies.
2. **Out of box (bag)**
 - a. Sailed out of the box with no changes to hull, sails, spars, and rigging.
Including sanding or painting of hull, rudder, and keel
3. **Replacement parts**
 - a. The following parts may be replaced due to wear or owners discretion.
Radio transmitter, receiver, batteries, servos, running rigging and sails
 1. Batteries: the boat shall be powered by either 4 over the counter AA cells 1.5 volt, or 5 NiCad or Nickel Metal Hydride rechargeable AA cells 1.2 volt. Battery packs must remain on cockpit floor.
 2. Servos must meet manufacture's original equipment specifications.
 - a. sail servo: in and out speed of no less than 3.9 seconds.
 - b. steering servo: side to side speed of no more than 0.15 seconds.
 3. Sails: all sails shall be manufactured by Out There Technologies and purchased through its distribution system.
 4. Running rigging may be of any material that replicates its original function.
4. **Hull & Deck**
 - A. Self-adhesive letters, tape, or decals may be fitted to deck and hull.
Felt tip markers may also be used for decoration. Hull decoration shall not extend more than 3" below the gunwale.
5. **Underwater Appendages**
 - A. Lead ballasts must be completely covered in original soft plastic dip, or the newer hard plastic cover.
6. **Sails**
 - A. Four sail sizes, A, B, C, and D are authorized for racing.
 1. Sails may be decorated using decals, tape or markers. Decorations shall not interfere with easy identification of sail numbers, Laser logo, or manufacturer's logo.
 - B. Sail damage may be repaired as long as the repair does not stiffen or alter the size or shape of the sail.
 - C. A standard boom may be shortened to no less than 17" (inches) in length for use with the C and D sail.
 - D. All boats shall display two digit class assigned sail numbers on sail. These numbers shall be 4" Arial Rounded MT bold in Black. Optional country designator shall be 2 ½" with same font as sail numbers. See attached sail plan for placement.
7. **Anything not specifically permitted by these rules is prohibited.**

Source: https://www.theamya.org/boats/rcclaser/RCLaser_Rules.pdf