

# St. Patrick's Day RC Laser Regatta

Saturday, March 13, 2021

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 event 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/Race Committee during the event.
- 1.2. Changes to the racing rules or class rules are noted in the specific instructions where they apply.

### 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. **ELIGIBILITY:** This event is open to anyone who has an RC Laser boat. This is a one design RC Laser class regatta – only RC Laser boats can participate. The event is limited to 30 boats.

### 4. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1. Any change to the schedule or sailing instructions prior to the event date will be posted before 8:00AM, on the day before the event on the RYC website noted in the NOTICE TO COMPETITORS section of these instructions.
- 4.2. Verbal changes to these Sailing Instructions may be made at any time. All competitors shall be notified. This changes rule 89.2(c). See E1.3(d).

### 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Saturday, March 13, 2021:

8:30AM	Registration & Boat Inspection
9:30AM	Skipper's Meeting
10:00AM	Racing Begins (Depending on number of participants, Seeding Races, then Gold and Silver)
Mid-Day	Lunch Break
	Racing continues
3:30PM	Racing complete. No race will start. Results will follow as soon as final scores are tabulated

- 5.1. The PRO will determine the number of races for the day after considering weather, course, remaining daylight and equipment conditions. No race shall start after 3:30PM.
- 5.2. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first Race is 10:00am.
- 5.3. After a postponement, to alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an audible signal will be sounded at least five minutes before the warning signal for the first race following the postponement.

### 6. RACING FORMAT

- 6.1. The racing format will be a single fleet. If 16 or more boats compete, seeding races will determine Gold and Silver divisions.
- 6.2. Seeding races to determine Gold and Silver Fleets are as follows:
  - 6.2.1. All registered boats will be listed and randomly split into two groups. The number of boats in each group will be evenly split unless there are an odd number of boats registered in which one group will have one more boat in their group.
  - 6.2.2. Group 1 will complete one race. All finish positions will be recorded.
  - 6.2.3. Group 2 will complete one race. All Finish positions will be recorded.
  - 6.2.4. All who finished 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th from both Group 1 and Group 2 will be combined into a group called ODDS.

- 6.2.5. All who finished 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, and 10th from both Group 1 and Group 2 will be combined into a group called EVENS.
- 6.2.6. ODDS group will complete two consecutive races. All finish positions will be recorded.
- 6.2.7. EVENS group will complete two consecutive races. All finish positions will be recorded.
- 6.2.8. The best two scores from all 3 races for each boat will be tabulated to determine rank. Finishes will be used as a tie breaker. Boats will be ranked in ascending order and split in half to form GOLD and SILVER fleets. If an odd number of boats are sailing, the largest fleet will be the Gold Fleet.

## **7. STARTING CONDITIONS**

- 7.1. To start a race, there shall be sufficient wind to make way against the current and to have maneuverability.
- 7.2. We will not sail if the wind is over 30 knots.
- 7.3. Racing may be cancelled in advance no later than 4:00PM on the day before the race and will be posted on the official notice board as described in section 2 of these sailing instructions.

## **8. LAUNCHING AREA**

- 8.1. The launching area will be Dock A and may be changed at the discretion of the PRO. Any changes will be announced during the skippers' meeting.

## **9. RACING AREA**

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

## **10. THE COURSES**

- 10.1. The courses will generally be a windward/leeward course consisting of multiple legs.
- 10.2. The PRO or Race Committee will verbally announce the order of the marks and number of laps before the warning signal of each race.
- 10.3. If an offset mark is being used as part of the windward mark its buoy number will be included in the mark sequence in 10.2.
- 10.4. If leeward gates are being used this shall be part of course description in 10.2
- 10.5. All marks are to be left to port unless the course provided in 10.2 specifically changes that.
- 10.6. See appendix A of these instructions for sample course diagrams.

## **11. MARKS**

- 11.1. Marks 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 will be round yellow buoys and be used as the windward, offset and leeward marks.
- 11.2. The starting and finishing pins will be pickup sticks.
- 11.3. The PRO or Race Committee may change the definition of marks as necessary.
- 11.4. 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."

## **12. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

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

## **13. RESTRICTED & NON-RESTRICTED AREAS**

- 13.1. To maintain fair competition, competitors are to only use A dock to sail their boat while racing.
- 13.2. The pier and copula are for spectators only and are not to be used by competitors while racing their boat.
- 13.3. Changes may be made at the discretion of the PRO. Any changes will be announced during the skippers' meeting or during the race.

## **14. THE START**

- 14.1. 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.
- 14.2. 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.
- 14.3. The starting line will be between the two starting pins.

- 14.4. Boats whose warning signal has not sounded shall stay clear of the starting area in the event of multiple sailing divisions.
- 14.5. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS).
- 14.6. 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.

## **15. HOLDS**

- 15.1. 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.
  - 15.1.1. 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.
  - 15.1.2. Each boat may be granted 1 such delay. Delays for tuning, adjusting sails or for changing rigs due to weather will not be granted.
- 15.2. Holds will be announced periodically by the PRO, at their discretion, for restroom and other breaks such as for changes in weather conditions, etc.
- 15.3. Competitors may make tuning or other adjustments to their boat during hold periods.

## **16. THE FINISH**

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

## **17. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 17.1. Rule E4.3 applies. Keeping sportsmanship and the Corinthian Spirit in mind, when a rule is broken, the skipper of the infringed upon boat shall hail the skipper of the offending boat via verbally announcing the sail number twice and stating the rule broken. The skipper of the hailed boat shall verbally acknowledge the infringement and act accordingly.

## **18. TIME LIMITS**

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

## **19. PROTESTS**

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

## **20. SCORING**

- 20.1. The Low Point System described in RRS Appendix A shall be used. If 5 races are completed, a boat's worst score will be excluded for the day (1 throw out), otherwise all races will be counted, and no scores will be excluded. This replaces rules A2. One race will constitute a regatta.
- 20.2. At least 1 boat scored in a race is required to constitute a completed race.
- 20.3. Results from all 3 seeding races will count in a boat's overall regatta score.

## **21. TIES AND OTHER RULES**

- 21.1.1. Race ties will be handled using rule A7. Series ties will be broken using rule A8.1.
- 21.1.2. Rules A1, A3, A5, A6, A10 and A11 also apply.

## **22. EQUIPMENT & MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

- 22.1. This is a one design RC Laser class race – only RC Laser boats can participate.
- 22.2. A boat and her equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with class rules and sailing instructions.
- 22.3. Boats must have unique and visible numbers on their sail as described in the RC Laser Class Rules.

## **23. PRIZES**

- 23.1. Prizes will be awarded based upon the number of participants. If two fleets, the top 3 skippers in each fleet will receive a prize, otherwise only the top 3 participants will receive a prize.
- 23.2. Award ceremony will be held shortly after final scores are tabulated.

## **24. SPORTSMANSHIP and CORINTHIAN SPIRIT**

- 24.1. Remember that we are always in Friendly Competition.
- 24.2. 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 PRO/Race Director, any designated race officials, or competitor may protest the party or parties in accordance with RRS #2.
- 24.3. Penalties available to the PRO and/or Protest Committee, include exclusion from the Race in question, or expulsion from the series as per RRS #69.2 and #69.3.
- 24.4. 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.

## **25. COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

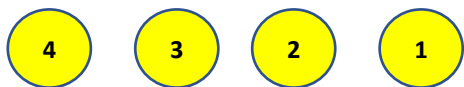
- 25.1. All participants (Competitors, Race Committee, and guests) must comply with the following COVID-19 Protocols. If any participant chooses to disregard these protocols, they will not be allowed to participate in the event and must leave the racing area.
  - 25.1.1. Maintain Social Distancing of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

## **26. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 26.1. 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.
- 26.2. To minimize the spread of COVID-19, participants should adhere to CDC and NJ guidelines, including protocols outlined in these Sailing Instructions.

## 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

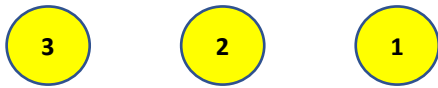
Mark 5 maybe a gate

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

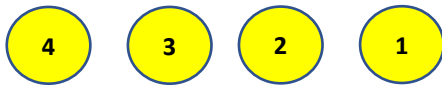
Mark 4 & 5 is a gate

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](https://www.theamya.org/boats/rcclaser/RCLaser_Rules.pdf)