



2016 Laser North American Championship

July 21-24, 2016

Cascade Locks, Oregon

Organizing Authority: Columbia Gorge Racing Association

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and the rules of the International Laser Class Association. If there is a conflict between the Sailing Instructions and any other document governing the event, the Sailing Instructions take precedence. This changes rule 63.7.
- 1.2. The US Sailing prescriptions to rules 60, 63.2 and 63.4 are deleted.
- 1.3. Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, will apply except that Rule P2.3 will not apply and rule P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the notice board located on the south side of the CGRA Race Office.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flagpole located on the point behind the CGRA Race Office. When a signal is displayed over a class flag, it applies to that fleet only.
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 30 minutes" in the race signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. Dates of racing:

Wednesday, July 20	0900-1600	Sail Inspection & Check-in
Thursday, July 21	0900-1000 1030 1200	Sail Inspection & Check-in Competitors Meeting First Race Warning
Friday, July 22	1100	First Race Warning
Saturday, July 23	1100	First Race Warning
Sunday, July 24	1100 ASAP after racing	First Race Warning Awards presentation

- 5.2. A maximum of 12 races is scheduled. Three races are planned each day for each class.
- 5.3. Flag A displayed with no sound while boats are finishing means "No more racing for today."
- 5.4. No warning signal shall be made after 1500 on Sunday.

6. RACE FORMAT

Depending on the number of registrations, the Laser and/or Laser Radial classes may have split fleets. If so the following will apply:

- 6.1. Boats will sail a qualifying round and will be assigned to either the yellow or blue fleet. Fleets will be as close to equal size as possible.
- 6.2. Initial assignments will be made by a seeding committee appointed by the organizing authority and will be posted by 2000 on Wednesday, July 20.
- 6.3. The qualifying round will last 2 days, provided at least 4 races have been completed for each fleet of a class at that time.
- 6.4. If 4 races have not been completed, the qualifying round for that class will last 3 days and results will be based on the scores earned in the races then completed by both fleets.
- 6.5. During the qualifying series, after each day in which more than one race is completed, boats will be reassigned to fleets based on series scores to date, as follows:

Rank in Series	Fleet Assignment
1 st	Yellow
2 nd	Blue
3 rd	Blue
4 th	Yellow
5 th	Yellow
And so forth	

- 6.6. If both fleets for a split class have not completed the same number of races, the series scores for assignments will be calculated for those races (numbered in order of completion) completed by both fleets. These assignments will be based on the ranking available at 2000 that day regardless of protest or requests for redress not yet decided.
- 6.7. At the conclusion of the qualifying series, boats will be assigned to Gold or Silver final series fleets based on their series scores to date. The two fleets will be of as nearly equal size as possible and the Silver fleet will not be larger than the Gold fleet. In the event that one fleet has completed fewer races in the qualifying series than the other, the assignment will be calculated using those races (numbered in order of completion) completed by both fleets. Any extra race(s) completed by one fleet to that point will not be included in the final series scores for either the Gold or Silver fleet.
- 6.8. Each boat shall display, while racing, a colored band corresponding to the fleet to which she has been assigned. The colored band shall be securely taped to the mast below the gooseneck, where it is clearly visible. Yellow and blue bands will be distributed during registration to classes that may be split.

7. CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1. Class flags will be as follows:

Laser Standard	White Flag with Red Laser Burst
Laser Radial	Green Flag with Red Laser Burst
Laser 4.7	Yellow Flag with Red Laser Burst

- 7.2. For split fleets, the color corresponding to the fleet being started will be flown with the class flag as follows: Yellow/Gold Fleet – yellow flag; Blue/Silver Fleet – blue flag.

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1. The racing area will be the Columbia River northeast of the Cascade Locks Marine Park beach.

9. COURSES

- 9.1. The diagrams in Attachment A show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.2. The course shall be signaled by a placard displayed on the signal boat at the warning signal for that class.

10. MARKS

- 10.1. Marks 1, 2S, 2P, 3, and 4 will be yellow inflatable shapes.
- 10.2. Mark 1A will be a red ball.
- 10.3. Mark 5 will be an orange inflatable shape.
- 10.4. The starting and finishing marks will be orange inflatable cylinders.

11. THE START

- 11.1. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.
- 11.2. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 11.3. When flag 'U' is used as the preparatory signal, no part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the last minute before her starting signal. If a boat breaks this rule and is identified, she shall be disqualified without a hearing, but not if the race is restarted or re-sailed or postponed before the starting signal or that race is abandoned. This changes rule 26 and Appendix A5. When flag U is used as the preparatory signal rule 29.1 Individual Recall does not apply. The scoring abbreviation for a flag U penalty is UFD. This changes rule A11 Scoring Abbreviations.
- 11.4. Any boat not starting within 4 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

13. THE FINISH

- 13.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat at the port end and the course side of the starboard end finishing mark.

14. TIME LIMITS & TARGET TIMES

- 14.1. Target time for all classes will be 45 minutes.
- 14.2. Time limit for all classes will be 90 minutes.
- 14.3. Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

15. PROTESTS & REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1. Protest forms are available at the CGRA Race Office. Protests and requests for redress must be filed at the Race Office within 45 minutes after the race committee boat docks. Docking time will be posted on the notice board.
- 15.2. The time and place of protest hearings will be posted on the notice board within 30 minutes of the protest filing deadline. This posting constitutes the notification required in rules 61.1(b) and 63.2. It is the responsibility of each participant to check the posted list of protest hearings.

- 15.3. Breaches of instructions 7, 17, 20, 21, and 22 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.
- 15.4. Rule 66 is changed on the last day of the qualifying series and the last scheduled day of racing as follows: A request for redress or for reopening a hearing, based upon a protest committee's decision or a scoring error, shall be delivered within the protest filing time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day OR no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.

16. SCORING

- 16.1. The minimum number of races required to constitute a regatta is 3.
- 16.2. When fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 5-9 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When 10 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her 2 worst scores.
- 16.3. For split fleets:
 - a) Scores from races in both rounds will be used to determine a boat's final series score.
 - b) The boats assigned to Gold fleet will be ranked higher in the regatta than boats assigned to Silver fleet.
 - c) Rule A4.2 is changed so that the scores are based on the number of boats assigned to the largest fleet.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1. Boats shall not impede the passage of commercial vessels and shall comply with the [U.S. Inland Navigation Rules Act of 1980](#). Boats that fail to comply promptly with signals from a committee boat to alter course, or that receive a 5-blast warning (5 short sounds) from a commercial vessel, will be subject to protest and possible disqualification.
- 17.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 17.3. Competitors shall wear a personal flotation device at all times while afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment (code flag Y need not be displayed). Such device shall verifiably meet the requirements of either the sailor's national authority or the government regulations that apply in the racing area. This changes Rule 40.

18. EQUIPMENT & MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 18.1. Boats or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee official to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

19. SUPPORT BOATS

- 19.1. Support and coach boats must register at the Race Office during the check-in period.
- 19.2. Support boats will be issued an identification flag at registration. This flag must be clearly displayed at all times while in the racing area. A deposit of \$25 is required for the flag, to be refunded when flag is returned to CGRA at the end of the event.
- 19.3. Support boats shall berth at the public dock in the Cascade Locks Marine Park Marina.
- 19.4. During racing, support boats shall monitor the race committee VHF channel and remain more than 50 yards from the course area, except when asked to assist by the race committee.

20. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 20.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

21. REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

- 21.1. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee. The competitor may request an Inquiry Form from the Race Office. The completed form will be given to the appropriate parties for consideration.

22. TRASH DISPOSAL

- 22.1. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

23. PRIZES

- 23.1. Prizes will be given to the top 3 finishers in each fleet.
23.2. The number of prizes may be adjusted to suit the number of competitors pre-registered in each fleet. Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the organizing authority.

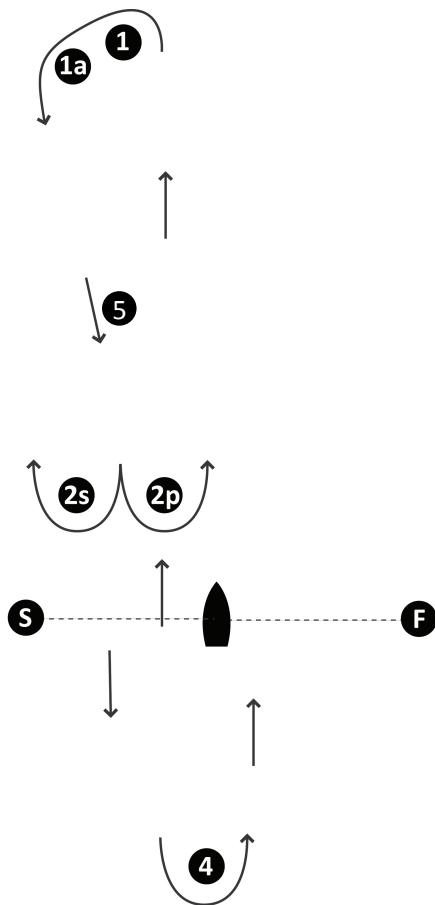
24. RISK, DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY, & PERSONAL CONDUCT

- 24.1. Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. See Rule 4 (Decision to Race). The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
24.2. Competitors will accept full responsibility for all their actions during any activity related to this event. This includes on-shore activities before, during, and after the regatta.
24.3. Competitors are expected to abide by the Marine Park Rules as stated in NOR, Attachment C.

Attachment A: Course Diagrams

W

Standard & Radial: Start-1-1a-2-1-1a-4-Finish
4.7: Start-1-1a-5-1-1a-4-Finish



D

Standard & Radial: Start-1-1a-2-1-1a-2-3-4-Finish
4.7: Start-1-1a-5-1-1a-2-3-4-Finish

