



# 2016 Laser Masters North American Championship

August 5-7, 2016

Richmond Yacht Club

Point Richmond, California

Organizing Authority: Richmond Yacht Club

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the Rules as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2013-2016, the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association (US SAILING), the rules of the International Laser Class Association (ILCA) and the Notice Of Race, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions or any attachments to these Sailing Instructions. If there is a conflict between these Sailing Instructions and any other document governing the event, the Sailing Instructions take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.2. The U. S. Sailing prescriptions to RRS 60, 63.2 and 63.4 are deleted.
- 1.3. RRS 40 is changed as follows: Competitors shall wear a personal flotation device while on the water, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Such device shall verifiably meet the requirements of either the sailor's national authority or the government regulations that apply in the racing area. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. Code flag Y will not be displayed.
- 1.4. More than 15 entries in each fleet having been received prior to the deadline stated in the NOR, there will be two fleets, "Standards" and "Radials". Each fleet will have its own start and will be scored separately. No rig-swapping is allowed between Radial and Standard rigs. However, rig-swapping between Radials and 4.7s shall always be in effect and competitors in the Radial fleet may choose Radial or 4.7 rigs at their discretion, provided that all rig changes are made on shore and all sails have the same number.

This changes ILCA Class Rule 28(d) by permission of the International Laser Class Association of North America.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. All competitors must meet the eligibility requirements as stated in the Notice of Race and have filed valid entries in accordance with the Notice of Race.

**3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board which will be located in the main lobby of Richmond Yacht Club (RYC). Changes may also be posted on the RYC website.

**4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 4.1. Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

**5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the yardarm of the mast on the upper deck of the RYC clubhouse.
- 5.2. When Flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in Race Signal AP. This changes Race Signals, AP.

**6. SCHEDULE**

- 6.1. Racing is scheduled as follow:

Friday, August 5	830-1030 1030 1200 1730-2030	Check-in & Measurement Competitors Meeting First Race Warning Regular RYC Friday night dinner. Low cost and casual atmosphere (sailing attire is welcome). Competitors are invited to join in.
Saturday, August 6	1130 1800	First Race Warning Sailor's Dinner at RYC
Sunday, August 7	1130 1459 ASAP after racing	First Race Warning Latest time for any Warning Signal Awards presentation

- 6.2. After the first race each day, the warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable after the finish of the preceding race. To alert boats that another race will begin soon, a series of short sound signals may be made.
- 6.3. Ten races are scheduled for this event.
- 6.4. On the final day of the regatta, no warning signal will be made after 1459 hours.

**7. RACING AREA**

- 7.1. The racing will be on the east side of central San Francisco Bay within the area bordered by the Potrero channel breakwater, the east edge of the Main and Southampton Shoal shipping channels and the Berkeley Pier, as generally depicted by Attachment A to the Notice of Race.

**8. THE COURSES**

- 8.1. The attached Course Diagram sheet shows the courses and course designations, including the approximate mark locations, 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.
- 8.2. The course length will be adjusted to target a race time of 45-60 minutes.
- 8.3. No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee signal boat will display the numeral pennant designating the course to be sailed, and the approximate compass bearing to the first mark.

**9. RESTRICTED AREAS**

- 9.1. **The finish line is restricted.** A boat shall not cross the finish line except when finishing or during the boat's starting sequence. This changes rule 28.

**10. MARKS**

- 10.1. Marks 1, 1a (if present), 2S, 2P, 3 and 4 will be yellow inflatable marks.
- 10.2. The port end of the start line and the starboard end of the finish line will be inflatable marks. These marks may be yellow, red or orange.
- 10.3. There may be an offset mark, "1a", set 6-10 boat lengths from the weather mark. If present, the offset mark is to be passed in the sequence as designated in the course descriptions on Course Diagram.
- 10.4. Marks "2S" and "2P" are a gate. If one of the gate marks is missing, boats shall round the remaining mark to port.

**11. CHECK-IN**

- 11.1. Boats are requested to check in with the Race Committee by sailing by the Race Committee signal boat on starboard tack prior to the first warning signal of the day.

**12. THE START**

- 12.1. The races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 12.2. The Fleet Flags will be:
- 12.2.1. Standard Rig Fleet: Red Laser Class insignia on a white background;
  - 12.2.2. Radial Rig Fleet: White Laser Class insignia on a red background.
- 12.3. The start order for the first race on Friday will be: Standard Rig Fleet; Radial Rig Fleet. Thereafter, pursuant to RRS 90.2(c), the order of start for any subsequent race may be changed on the water through the display of the Fleet flag at the warning signal.
- 12.4. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of an inflatable mark at the port end.
- 12.5. 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 RRS 26 and A5. When flag U is used as the preparatory signal, RRS 29.1, Individual Recall, does not apply. The scoring abbreviation for a flag U penalty is UFD. This changes RRS A11, Scoring Abbreviations.
- 12.6. No race shall be started unless there is a minimum consistent wind speed of 3 knots throughout the racing area.
- 12.7. Boats in the Fleet whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for the other Fleet.
- 12.8. Any boat not starting within 4 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

**13. CHANGE OF COURSE**

- 13.1. A change of course will be signaled in accordance with RRS 33, and the Race Committee will move the original mark to the new location.

**14. THE FINISH**

- 14.1. The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat at the port end and the course side of an inflatable mark at the starboard end.

14.2. The display of Flag “H” (white and red vertical bars) at the finish of any race means “Racing has ended for the day.”

#### **15. ABANDONMENT AND TIME LIMITS**

15.1. The time limit for a race will be 90 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat finishes, or within the time limit, whichever occurs earlier, will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

15.2. The Race Committee will abandon any race it judges not to be a fair test of sailing skill.

15.3. Races not started by 1459 on Sunday shall be abandoned, the regatta terminated and scored on the basis of the races sailed.

#### **16. MEASUREMENT AND EQUIPMENT**

16.1. Each competitor is responsible for ensuring his or her equipment is in compliance with the ILCA rules. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from the regatta. Section 8 of the NOR will be enforced and other measurement and equipment checks may be done at any time during the regatta.

#### **17. RRS 42 (PROPULSION) AND OTHER INFRINGEMENTS**

17.1. RRS Appendix P, Special Procedures for RRS 42, will be in effect except that P2.3 will not apply and P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one.

17.2. For other than Rule 42 infringements, the Jury will observe racing. When the Jury sees an infringement, the Jury will make one sound signal. No sail number will be hailed. This means that the Jury has seen a protestable situation and one or more competitors should do penalty turns. If no penalty turns are done, the Jury may protest one or more boats.

17.3. Action or no action by the Jury under this SI shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.

17.4. The jury boat(s) will display an identifying flag.

#### **18. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

18.1. Competitors intending to protest shall inform the Race Committee immediately after finishing and before communicating with coaches or spectators. Boats should first sail to the non-course side of the Race Committee signal boat and report to the Race Committee. Boats that do not finish shall report their intent to protest to any Race Committee boat at the first possible opportunity. This adds to RRS 61.1(a).

18.2. Protest forms will be available near the official notice board.

18.3. Protests shall be delivered to the protest committee representative within one hour of the time the Race Committee signal boat docks. The Race Committee will post the docking (beginning of protest) time on the official notice board as soon as practical after docking.

18.4. Protests will be heard in the approximate order of receipt. 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 by RRS 61.1(b) and 63.2. It is the responsibility of each participant to check the posted list of protest hearings.

18.5. RRS 66 is changed on 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.

#### **19. SCORING**

19.1. The Low Point Scoring System (Appendix A2) shall be used, as modified below.

- 19.2. The number of races scheduled is 10. The minimum number of races required to constitute a regatta is 3.
- 19.3. When fewer than 6 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 6 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst excludable score.
- 19.4. The ILCA-NA Masters handicap system will be used to determine the overall series winner in each Fleet. For each race counted in the competitor's final score, the following points will be added: Apprentices, 3 points; Masters, 2 points; Grand Masters, 1 point; Great Grand Masters, 0 points. The competitor's overall score will be the sum of his or her included finishes plus his or her total handicap points.
- 19.5. Divisional positions are determined by extraction from the overall results without re-scoring.
- 19.6. When two or more competitors are tied on points, the tie shall be broken as follows:
- Within an age division, a tie will be broken as described in Appendix A, Section A8.
  - Across the age divisions, a tie will be broken in favor of the sailor from the older division.

## 20. SUPPORT BOATS

- 20.1. Private support and coach boats must register at the Race Office during the check-in period on August 5, at which time registration/documentation and proof of insurance for the boat shall be presented to the Organizing Authority.
- 20.2. During racing, private support and coach boats shall display a colored flag provided by the Race Committee and shall monitor the Race Committee VHF channel.
- 20.3. From the time of the first warning of any race until all boats have finished that race or the Race Committee signals an abandonment of that race, all private support and coach boats shall leave the racing area, shall (unless requested by the Race Committee to go to the assistance of a boat in distress), shall remain at least 50 yards away from the racing area and any competing boat, and shall not communicate in any way with the competitors. The racing area is defined as the area inside the course and out to 50 yards outside of any mark, lay line, starting line, finishing line or any area where any boat that is racing is sailing or may sail.
- 20.4. In the case of a general recall or postponement, private support and coach boats may re-enter the course but shall recommence observing 20.3 at the time of the next warning signal.
- 20.5. Any private support or coach boat which infringes this instruction will be warned by a member of the Race Committee. Failure to comply may result in the protest and disqualification of any racing boat associated with the offending boat. This changes RRS 60.2.

## 21. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 21.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make nor receive radio transmissions while racing. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

## 22. TRASH DISPOSAL

- 22.1. Boats should not put trash in the water. Trash may be placed aboard Race Committee boats.

## 23. SAFETY

- 23.1. Boats leaving the racing area prior to the conclusion of racing are strongly urged to notify the Race Committee before leaving the course area. If that is not possible, the competitor should notify a shore side member of the Race Committee or the RYC Harbormaster immediately after arriving ashore.
- 23.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.
- 23.3. 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 will be subject to protest and possible disqualification. If a commercial vessel has

sounded five blasts and the vessel or the Coast Guard identifies the boat by sail number, the Race Committee shall protest the boat, in which case the Protest Committee shall assume that the identified boat has impeded passage or violated USCG Navigation Rules, and the identified boat shall have the burden of proving otherwise. In the case of a complaint by Vessel Traffic or the Coast Guard, the protest time limit shall be extended up to two days after the conclusion of the regatta. This changes RRS 61.3. Compliance with RRS 60.2(a) shall not be required.

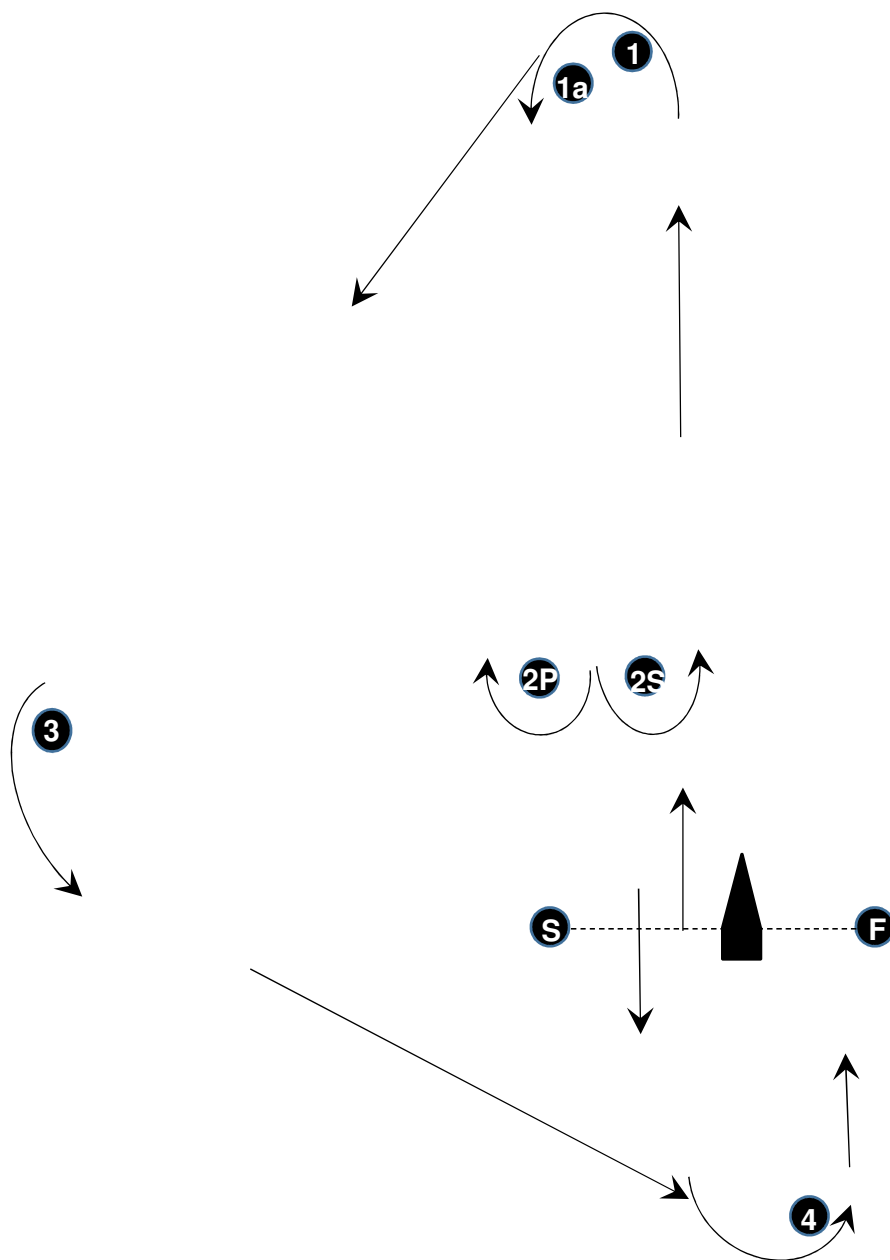
**24. PRIZES**

24.1. Prizes will be awarded per the Notice of Race.



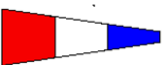
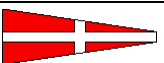
**25. RISK, DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY, & PERSONAL CONDUCT**

- 25.1. 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.
- 25.2. 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.

# 2016 Laser Masters North American Championship Course Diagram



## COURSES:

1		Start - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - 1 - 1a - 4 - finish
2		Start - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - 1 - 1a - 3 - 4 - finish
3		Start - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - 1 - 1a - 4 - finish
4		Start - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - 1 - 1a - 3 - 4 - finish