



**THE BUZZARDS YACHT CLUB  
2024 LASER REGATTA  
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **1. Rules**

All races will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024, these sailing instructions and the Laser Class Rules.

### **2. Changes in the Sailing Instructions**

Committee Boat will note any changes to the sailing instructions on the course board at least 10 minutes prior to the first signal for the start of first race. The content of the change will be available from the committee boat either written or by hail depending upon the change.

### **3. Schedule of Races**

The starting time for Laser Class will be 10:00AM. We will run as many races as the race committee sees fit but hopefully at least 8 races. A minimum of two boats in a class will be required for a race to be started.

### **4. Racing Area**

The racing area will be in the general vicinity between Wings and Scraggy Necks on South side of Bassett's Island.

### **5. Courses & Marks**

- Courses will be posted on a whiteboard on the Committee Boat and will be chosen from the course sheet below unless notified otherwise. The course will be followed the number of times to be sailed around.

**WL – Windward, leeward, finish windward**

**T – Triangle (windward, jibe and leeward marks), finish to windward**

**W – Windward, finish downwind**

- The starting line and finish line will be open and not be restricted to boats just starting or finishing. Marks will be either orange inflatables and/or red rubber balls. All marks will be left to **Port** unless noted otherwise by Committee Boat

- The Race Committee does have the option to hail the course before the race to the racers if the number of boats and conditions permit it.

**6. The Start The starting line will be between the inflatable mark on the port side of the committee boat and the RC flag on the Committee Boat**

- Races shall be started using three minute dingy starts: Three minutes (Three long), Two minutes (Two long), One and a half minutes (One long Three short), One minute (one long), Thirty seconds (three short), Twenty seconds (two short), Ten seconds (one short), Five, Four, Three, Two, One, Go (Five short, One long) starts using horn blasts. A boat failing to start 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing.

**7. Change of Course after the Start & Shortening a Course Any change of course** after the start will be signaled by a race committee boat stationed near the

mark beginning the first leg. Change of course shall be noted on the course board and a horn sounded periodically. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not yet be in position.

Subsequent legs may be changed w/o further signaling to maintain the shape of the course.

**For a shortened course** , Shortened course will be noted on the white board and accompanied by two sounds. The finish line will be between the committee boat and a nearby mark.

## **8. The Finish**

The finish line will be the same as the start line.

## **9. Time Limit**

Will be 45 minutes. If no boat finishes within that time the race will be abandoned. Boats finishing more than 15 minutes after the first yacht finishes will be scored "Did not finish."

## **10. Retiring**

A boat that starts a race and retires from the race before finishing should make an effort to notify the race committee.

## **11. Penalty**

Rule 44.1 will apply.

## **12. Protests**

All protests must be made in accordance with Part 5, Section A of RRS. Written protests must be filed in person or by e-mail with the Race Committee Chairperson (see below) after the last race is sailed.

## **13. Scoring, Series & Re-sails**

13.1 A Low-Point Scoring System will be used in scoring all series. DNC will be

scored two more points than the number of boats starting that *race*. DNS, OCS, RET, and DSQ will be scored one more point than the number of boats starting that *race*. Every five races raced will allow for a throw-out race.

## **14. Cancellations & Delays**

Racing will be canceled or delayed if there are sustained winds over 25 mph and/or any other conditions deemed unsuitable for racing. An automated email, text message or phone call will be sent to registered competitors detailing the cancellation, change or other instructions.

## **15. Numbers**

Numbers and class legal sails are not required but you will need some way for the race committee to identify your boat.

## **16. Life-saving Equipment**

Each skipper shall have appropriate Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) for their safety conforming to government regulations. It is the responsibility of each sailor/racer to be as safe as possible when racing.

## **Regatta Chairman**

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## **Race Committee Chairperson**

Dede Plessner

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