



US LASER NATIONALS

St. Francis Yacht Club

July 31 – August 3, 2014

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Organizing Authority: St. Francis Yacht Club (Organizer) and the International Laser Class Association (ILCA)

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association (US Sailing), and the rules of the International Laser Class Association (ILCA).
- 1.2 Prescriptions to RRS 60, 63.2, and 63.4 will not apply.
- 1.3 Appendix P will apply as amended in SI 15.
- 1.4 The Regatta is designated Category C in accordance with ISAF regulation 20.
- 1.5 RRS 40 is changed as follows: Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices while racing.

2 REGISTRATION / MEASUREMENT / INSPECTION / IDENTIFICATION

- 2.1 Competitors shall complete registration, measurement and inspections before racing.
- 2.2 Sail measurement will be required at this regatta. Please ensure your sail numbers are applied in accordance with ILCA class rules. Sails may be measured prior to racing, and may also be spot checked at any time during the regatta. Note that numbers and letters drawn on the sail with permanent ink pens are not legal. Refer to <http://www.laserinternational.org/info/sailnumbersandletters> for detailed instructions.
- 2.3 While racing, each boat shall display a colored band corresponding to the fleet which she has been assigned. Bands can be picked up at the Official Regatta Notice Board. The band shall be placed on her bottom section between the vang fitting and the boom.

3 COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 A Competitors' Meeting will be held at StFYC on Thursday, July 31st at 1000 hours.
- 3.2 Official Notices will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board located in the hallway adjacent to the side (Regatta) entrance of StFYC.
- 3.3 Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 0930 hours on the day they are to take effect, except any changes to Sailing Instruction 4, Number and Schedule of Races, will be posted by 1900 hours on the day before they take effect.
- 3.4 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located on the StFYC Race Deck.
- 3.5 When Flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in Race Signal AP.
- 3.6 Flag AP (which may be flown over a fleet flag) means the warning signal will be made not less than 45 minutes after flag AP is lowered. Boats shall not go afloat until this signal is struck.
- 3.7 Questions regarding the Sailing Instructions may be submitted in writing to the Race Committee. Questions and written responses will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board.

4 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1 Racing is scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, July 30th

1200-1800 Registration & Sail Measurement

Thursday, July 31st

0830-1000 Late Registration & Sail Measurement

1000 Competitors Meeting

1200 First warning signal

Friday, August 1st

1200 First warning signal

Saturday, August 2nd

1200 First warning signal

Sunday, August 3rd

1200 First warning signal

1600 No warning signal will be made after this time

4.2 Attachment A outlines the number and format of races scheduled for the event.

5 RACING AREA

Races will be conducted on the San Francisco City Front.

6 COURSES AND MARKS

6.1 The courses and marks are described in Attachment B – Official Description of Marks and Courses.

6.2 No later than the Warning Signal, a placard designating the course will be displayed from the Signal Boat.

7 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

7.1 For safety reasons, each of the lines bounded by the following two points is an obstruction:

(a) The northern end of the SF Marina entrance Wave Attenuator and the closest point ashore.

(b) The southern end of the SF Marina entrance Wave Attenuator and the closest point ashore.

(c) The “H” Beam piling (located approximately 200 yards west of the St. Francis YC) and the closest point ashore.

7.2 Boats are prohibited from sailing across any of these lines while racing.

8 THE START

8.1 The Starting Line will be between a staff displaying an orange and yellow striped flag on the Starting Line Signal Boat and a staff displaying an orange and yellow striped flag on the pin boat.

8.2 A boat shall not start later than 4 minutes after her starting signal. A boat that starts later than 4 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS. This changes RRS 35.

8.3 (a) Class Flags are as follows:

Laser Standard – red Laser insignia on a white rectangular background

Laser Radial – red Laser insignia on a green rectangular background

(b) For split fleets, the colored flag corresponding to the fleet being started, will be flown under the class flag as follows: Yellow Fleet – yellow, Blue Fleet – blue, Gold Fleet – yellow, Silver Fleet – blue.

8.4 The intended starting order for the first race of each day shall be Laser Standard, Laser Radial Yellow/Gold, Radial Blue/Silver. Subsequent races may be started in any order.

9 RECALLS

The Race Committee may hail the sail number(s) of the boat(s) identified on the course side of the starting line at the starting signal. The failure of a hail, the failure of a boat hearing the hail or the order of the hails shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

10 CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

A change of course after the start will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark, identified by a black band, may not then be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated to maintain the original course configuration. When in a subsequent change of course a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced with an original mark. This changes RRS 33.

11 THE FINISH

11.1 For Course 1, the Finishing Line will be between a staff displaying an orange and yellow striped flag on a Race Committee boat and an orange buoy located approximately 200 yards to leeward of the Starting Line.

11.2 For Courses 2 & 3, the Finishing Line will be between a staff displaying an orange and yellow striped flag on a Race Committee boat and an orange buoy located approximately 200 yards to windward of Mark 1.

12 TIME LIMIT

12.1 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

12.2 The time limit for each race is 75 minutes.

13 COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, SAFETY

- 13.1** As stated in the RRS preamble to the Part 2 rules, when a boat sailing under these rules meets a vessel that is not, she shall comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) or government right-of-way rules. This supplements, but does not replace the rules of Part 2.
- 13.2** If a commercial vessel has sounded five blasts, and/or the vessel or the Coast Guard identifies an offending boat, the Race Committee shall protest the boat, in which case the Protest Committee shall assume that the identified boat has impeded passage or violated the U.S. Inland Navigation Rules, and the identified boat shall have the burden of proving otherwise. In the case of a complaint by a 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 60.2(a) and 61.3.
- 13.3** A Race Committee boat may signal a boat to alter course to avoid impeding the passage of commercial vessels by making a sound signal (horn or whistle) and pointing Code Flag V at the boat. The signaled boat shall promptly comply with the signal unless compliance would create an unsafe condition. If a boat fails to comply with such a signal, the Race Committee shall protest the boat, in which case the Protest Committee shall assume that the course alteration would not have created an unsafe condition, and the protested boat shall have the burden of proving otherwise.
- 13.4** Boats may not take a penalty under rule 44 for breaking any part of this SI, and a resulting disqualification shall not be excludable under rule A2. The StFYC shall cooperate with and provide relevant information to the Coast Guard or other governmental authority regarding investigations of boats impeding ship traffic or violating U.S. Inland Navigation Rules (33 CFR 83).

14 PROTESTS

- 14.1** Protests and requests for redress shall be written on Standard US SAILING Protest Forms. Protest Forms are available at the St. Francis Yacht Club Jury Desk. Protests and requests for redress shall be lodged with the Race Committee Representative at the Jury Desk within 60 minutes after the last finisher in the last race of the day, in her respective Class. The protest filing times will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board.
- 14.2** The time, place, and parties to all protest and redress hearing(s) will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board within 30 minutes after the close of filing time in 14.1 above. This shall serve as notification as per RRS 63.2.
- 14.3** A request to reopen a hearing on the last day of racing must be delivered to the Front Desk of the St. Francis Yacht Club within 60 minutes of the announcement of the Protest Committee's decision (oral or written). If no racing has taken place on that day, the request must be delivered no later than 30 minutes after 'AP over A' is displayed ashore. This changes RRS 66.
- 14.4** To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat shall complete a Scoring Inquiry form available at the Jury Desk.
- 14.5** A list of boats that have been penalized for breaking RRS 42 will be posted after racing each day.
- 14.6** Measurement protests will only be accepted from either the race committee or jury. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

15 PENALTY SYSTEM FOR RRS 42 INFRINGEMENTS

- 15.1** Appendix P will apply with the following changes:
- (a) If a first penalty is signalled after she has finished, a boat will be given a scoring penalty of 8 points without a hearing.
 - (b) Appendix P4 is replaced with "An action by the jury under Appendix P shall not be grounds for a request for redress by a boat. The jury may initiate a redress hearing and may give redress for an action by a member of the jury or its designated observer under rule P1". This changes RRS 60.1(b).
 - (c) In P2.1 Penalty, delete the word "first"
 - (d) P2.2 and P2.3 are deleted
- 15.2** The Jury boats will be identified by a white JURY flag with black lettering.

16 ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

Arbitration of protests according to Appendix T5 for alleged breach of a rule of Part 2 will be done if all parties to the protest agree.

17 WHISTLE SYSTEM

To encourage boats to take penalties afloat, jury members may blow a whistle when they see what they believe to be a breach of a rule.

18 SCORING

18.1 Four races must be completed to constitute a regatta.

18.2 When four or more races are completed one race score will be excluded; when ten or more races are completed, two races scores will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.

18.3 If a points scoring penalty for a breach of RRS 42 or under Appendix T would result in a score worse than DSQ, the penalty will be that corresponding to DSQ. The scores of other boats will not be changed.

19 COACH/SUPPORT BOATS AND COACHES MEETING

19.1 All coach/support boat drivers shall register their boat at Registration and shall display a numbered flag issued by StFYC at all times during racing

19.2 There will be mandatory coach/support boat meetings the following dates/times for team leaders, coaches, parents, and other support personnel that will be on the water:

-immediately following the Competitors Meeting on Thursday, July 31st in the Starting Line Room

-at the close of protest filing time on Thursday, July 31st, Friday, August 1st, and Saturday, August 2nd at the StFYC Regatta Entrance

At least one representative from each registered coach/support boat shall attend.

19.3 Each coach/support boat is recommended to carry a VHF radio and monitor VHF channel 69.

19.4 Except when participating in rescue operations, coach/support boats shall stay more than 100 yards from any point where a boat might sail during normal racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first fleet to start until all boats have finished or the Race Committee signals a postponement or abandonment of all fleets. When boats are starting, all coach/support shall be below the starting line. When boats are finishing, coach/support boats shall stay more than 100 yards outside and to windward of the starboard end of the finish line until all boats in all fleets have finished.

19.5 If a coach/support boat does not comply with instructions 19.1, 19.2, or 19.4, a discretionary penalty may be applied by the jury to some or all associated competitors and may include restrictions on the movement of their coach/support boat.

20 DISPOSAL OF WASTE OR TRASH

Boats observed breaking RRS 55 are subject to protest only by the Race Committee or Protest Committee. The penalty for a breach of this rule, which may include disqualification from a race, is at the discretion of the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 55, 60.1(a) and 64.1.

21 PHOTOGRAPHY CONSENT

By entering the championship competitors accept that they may be photographed and/or videotaped participating in the race and/or using the championship facilities and they consent to the taking of such images and to the use, reuse, publication and republication of such images in any media, in conjunction with the competitors name or not, without compensation and without the competitors approval of such images or any use thereof.

22 PRIZES

Trophies will be awarded based upon class participation.

Additional regatta information

BERTHING, HAUL OUT & TRAILER STORAGE

- Competitors' Boats may be stored, free of charge on the lawn east of the StFYC clubhouse from Monday, July 28th through Sunday, August 3rd at the direction of the Dockmaster.
- If you plan on leaving a trailer in the City parking lot, an overnight parking permit must be obtained from the Race Office.

ATTACHMENT A - REGATTA FORMAT

1 GENERAL

Two Championships are organized, one for Laser Standard and one for Laser Radial. Each Championship will consist of a qualifying series and final series for each category, provided there are at least 70 entries in that category. If there are less than 70 entries in a category the fleet will not be split and there will be no qualifying series.

2 QUALIFYING SERIES

- 2.1** When a qualifying series and final series are necessary, boats will be assigned to 2 groups of, as nearly as possible, equal size.
- 2.2** Racing in the qualifying series will take place in groups of, as nearly as possible, equal ability.
- 2.3** Initial assignments into groups will be made by the Organizing Authority and will be based on the current ISAF rankings, followed by the current North American Grand Prix standings, with the remaining being assigned randomly. They will be posted at least two hours before the first scheduled warning signal of the first racing day. The initial assignments made by the Organizing Authority will be final and shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes Racing Rule 62.1(a).
- 2.4 (a)** Boats will be reassigned to groups after each day of racing, as soon as more than one qualifying race has been validated for each group. If all groups have completed the same number of races, boats will be reassigned on the basis of their series scores. If all groups have not completed the same number of races the series scores for reassignment will be calculated in order of scores, completed by all groups.

Reassignments will be made as follows:

Place in series score	New group assignments
First	Yellow
Second	Blue
Third	Blue
Fourth	Yellow
Fifth	Yellow
Sixth	Blue
Seventh	Blue
Eighth	Yellow
and so on	...

- (b)** Reassignments will be based on the scores available at 1900 hours that day regardless of protests or requests for redress not yet decided. They will be posted at least two hours before the first scheduled warning signal of the racing day they apply.
- (c)** If all groups have not completed the same number of races by the end of a day, the groups with fewer races will continue racing the following day until all groups have completed the same number of races. All boats will thereafter race in the new groups.
- 2.5** A maximum of six qualifying races will be sailed per group within two days according to the schedule of races.
- 2.6** The qualifying series will end normally at the end of the second day provided three or more races are completed for each group. If fewer than three races are completed for one or several group(s) at the end of the second day, the qualifying series will be extended for the concerned group(s) as long as necessary in order to complete at least three races per group.
- ### 3 FINAL SERIES
- 3.1 (a)** Except when 1.1 of this attachment "A" applies, boats will be assigned to final-series groups Gold and Silver, on the basis of their qualifying-series scores. There will be the same number of groups in the final series as there were in the qualifying series. The final-series groups will have, as nearly as possible, equal size so that the Silver group is not larger than the Gold group, etc. Boats with the best qualifying-series scores will race all final-series races in the Gold group; boats with the next-best qualifying-series scores will race in the Silver group. Assignments to final groups will be posted at least two hours before the first scheduled warning signal of the first final-racing day.
- (b)** Any recalculation of qualifying-series scores after boats have been assigned to final-series groups will not affect the assignments except that a redress decision may promote a boat to a higher group.
- 3.2** The final races will be sailed from the third day when the qualifying series has normally ended, or from the racing day after the qualifying series has ended when it has been extended. A maximum of five races will be sailed per group over two days (or eleven races over four days when 1.3 applies), according to the schedule of races, or within the remaining time when the qualifying series has been extended.
- 3.3** SI 18, Scoring will apply separately to each final-series group. Different final-series groups need not have completed the same number of final races.

ATTACHMENT B - OFFICIAL DESCRIPTION OF MARKS AND COURSES

MARK	DESCRIPTION
1	Inflatable yellow buoy set as a Windward Mark
1A	Inflatable red buoy set as an offset
3	Inflatable yellow buoy set as a wing mark below the Starting Line
4S/4P	Inflatable yellow buoys set as a Leeward Gate (located approximately 200 yards upwind of the Starting Line)
5	Inflatable yellow buoy set as a turning mark below the Finish Line

