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RULES



Buffalo Yacht Club Small Boat Fall Series 2024

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SIs)

1.1	The event is governed by the rules as defined in <i>The Racing Rules of Sailing</i> .		
1.2	Lightnings shall comply with Lightning Class rules, excepting that all boats shall sail with a minimum of 2 people. There is no maximum amount for people allowed on board. Lasers shall comply with the International Laser Class Association (ILCA) class rules		
2	CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS		
2.1	Any change to the sailing instructions or notices to competitors will be posted on the unofficial notice board on YachtScoring.com prior to 20;00 on the day before it will take effect		
3	COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS		
3.1	If any questions please contact Tom Lewin TomLewin2020@gmail.com 716-861-3700 or Eric Christensen at AllenBoatCo@gmail.com		
3.2	On the water, the Race Committee (RC) intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 72 and verbally via loud hailer from the signal vessel. Failure to hear a communication is not grounds for appeal or redress.		
3.4	From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.		
4	SIGNALS MADE ASHORE		
4.1	Signals made ashore will be displayed on the signal boat at the BYC and announced on VHF Channel 72. The R/C will text information about any signal made onshore to the Laser class boats. Laser class boats should share that information with the other Lasers.		
4.2	When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.		
5	SCHEDULE OF RACES		
5.1	Sunday, September 8,2024 Sunday, September 15, 2024 Sunday, September 22, 2024 Sunday September 29, 2024 Sunday October 6, 2024 Sunday October 13, 2024 Sunday October 20,2024 Sunday October 7, 2024		
5.2	The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 10:30.		
5.3	No warning signal will be made after 12:30.		

6 CLASS FLAGS

6.1 The Lightning class flag will be white. The Laser class flag will be green

7 RACING AREA

7.1 The racing area is the area in the picture below.



8 COURSES

- 8.1 The courses will be windward/leeward twice around. The leeward mark will be to weather of the start/finish line. The windward mark will be approximately .25 miles to windward of the Start/Finish line
- No later than the warning signal, the RC signal vessel will announce the approximate compass bearing of the first leg on the VHF radio and verbally via loud hailer.

9 MARKS

9.1 Start pin and weather mark will be orange marks. Leeward mark will be green. The change mark will be yellow.

10 THE START

- Races will be started using the 3 minute starting sequence. The warning signal with raising the class flag and 1 short sound signal will be made 3 minute before the start. Preparatory signal with raising of preparatory flag and 1 short sound signal at 2 minutes before the start. Lowering of the preparatory flag and one long sound signal at 1 minute before the start. Lowering of the class flag and 1 short sound signal at the start. This modifies rule RRS 26.
- The starting line is between the weather most part of the staff on the signal boat displaying an orange flag and the weather most part of an orange mark at the other end of the start line.
- If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the RC will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

A boat that does not start within 2 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. Sound signals will be made by the RC with C flag displayed.

12 THE FINISH

12.1 The finishing line is between orange flag on the committee boat and the orange start mark.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

Event will follow The Racing Rules of Sailing (2021-2024) Including Appendix V – Alternative Penalties V1 and V2.

14 TIME LIMITS

14.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit 10	Race Time Limit 30	Finishing Window 10
Minutes	Minutes	Minutes

- 14.2 If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit or no boat has finished within the race time limit, the race will be abandoned.
- The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored using points for the finishing place plus two more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.
- 14.4 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

15 HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the RC signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the on the southern most patio window of the BYC.
- 15.2 Competitors must have their own hearing forms.
- Notices will be posted no later than 10 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the Buffalo Yacht Club, beginning 10 minutes after the last boat is out of the water.
- The right of appeal from a protest committee decision is denied as provided in rule 70.5[(a)][(b)][(c)].

16 SCORING

16.1 Point Scoring Sequence: This changes RRS A5.2.

Adjusted Finish Time Position	Points	
1 st Place Boat	1 pt	
2 nd Place Boat	2 pts	
3 rd Place Boat	3 pts	
X Place Boat	X pts	
DNF – Did Not Finish	Number of boats finishing + 2 points	
RAF – Retired after Finishing	Number of boats that came to the start area + 2 points	
DNS – Did Not Start	Number of boats that came to the start area + 2 points	
OCS – On Course Side	Number of boats started + 2 points	
NSC – Did Not Sail The Course	Number of boats started + 2 points	
DSQ – Disqualification	Number of boats that came to the start area + 2 points	
DNE – DSQ Not Excludable	Number of boats that came to the start area + 2 points	
DNC – Did Not Compete	Number of boats that came to the start area + 5 points	

A boats series score will be the total of all of her race scores (no throw outs). This amends RRS A2.1.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 Check-in each day by sailing past the committee boat on starboard and stating your sail number and confirm the RC has you checked in.
- 17.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC at the first reasonable opportunity.

18 PRIZES

Prizes may be given to the top 3 finishers for the overall series, top under 21 year old skipper, top female skipper.

19 RISK STATEMENT

19.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.

Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

20 INSURANCE

20.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with minimum limits of \$300,000 US currency.