

Potomac River Sailing Association

Sailing Instructions for Winter Series for Lasers & Bytes for 2005-2006

RULES

The races will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing*. Inland Rules of the Road will apply. In particular, when racing in the river, channel-bound traffic has right-of-way over racers.

CHANGES TO THESE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any additions or changes to these sailing instructions will be posted on the PRSA Laser website (www.potomacriversailing.org/lasers) before noon on the Friday prior to the event and announced by an email to the PRSALasers@yahoogroups.com email list.

NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the notice board in the grassy rigging area.

SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 Please refer to the PRSA Laser calendar at www.potomacriversailing.org/lasers for the schedule of race dates.
- 5.2 **Skipper's meeting at 12:00 noon** and the **first warning signal @ 12:30 pm**. The start may not be delayed for latecomers.
- 5.3 The RC will attempt to run 4 or more races each day. The 5th or subsequent race of the day shall not be started after **3:30 p.m.**

RACING AREA

It'll either be in the cove or out on the river in the vicinity of the power plant. The choice will depend on the tide and wind. The choice will be announced at the skipper's meeting.

THE COURSES

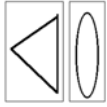
- 7.1 All **starts** will be **to windward**.
- 7.2 Boats shall leave **marks to port** (with the exception of the port end of a gate).

The course will be designated by a series of symbols described below:

- 7.3 A **triangle symbol** indicates that boats shall round the windward, gybe, and leeward marks, and, if it is the last leg, **finish to windward**.
- 7.4 A **sausage symbol** indicates that boats shall round the windward and leeward marks, and, if it is the last leg, finish to windward.
- 7.5 The **number 2** or **3** indicates the number of repetitions of the legs indicated by the **preceding triangle** or **sausage symbol**.
- 7.6 The **letter G** following a sausage symbol indicates the leeward mark is a **gate** or two marks set approximately 5 to 8 boat lengths apart. Sailors must sail between the two marks and round the starboard side of the gate to port or the port side of the gate to starboard.
- 7.7 An **arrow** following a sausage symbol indicates a downwind finish. Note this

shortens the last sausage by removing the requirement to round the leeward mark and finish upwind.

Sample Course Boards:



Start-W-R-L-W-L-Finish



Start-W-L-W-L-Finish

8 MARKS

Marks will be **orange balls**.

9 START & FINISH LINE

The starting line and finish line will be between an **orange ball and the vertical oar at the bow of the race committee boat**.

10 START SIGNALS

10.1 A series of **5 short sound signals** will be made before the starting sequence begins to **call attention** to the impending starting sequence. The starting sequence begins 5 seconds after the end of the attention signals and shall consist of the following sound signals made at the indicated times:

- 5 blasts to warn racers the sequence is about to begin
- 2 minutes to the start---two long blasts
- 1 minute and 30 seconds -- one long and 3 short blasts
- 1 minute, one long blast
- 30 seconds---3 short blasts
- 20 seconds---2 short blasts
- 10 seconds--1 short blast
- 5-4-3-2-1-start---one blast each.

10.2 Individual recalls shall be signalled with one sound signal and an attempt to hail the sail number or sailors name (or some other clearly distinguishing feature) of each recalled boat.

10.3 General recalls shall be signalled with two sound signals and the hail of "general recall".

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

The 720-degree turns penalty, rule 44.2 of The Racing Rules of Sailing, shall apply with the modification that it is **one full turn (one tack and one jibe)** instead of two or **360 degrees** instead of 720.

12 TIME LIMITS

The time limit will be 45 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes of the first boat that sails the course and finishes will be finished in place. This changes rules 35 and A4.1.

13 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 13.1 Protests shall be delivered to the race committee within the protest time limit.
- 13.2 The protest time limit is 20 minutes after the race committee boat docks.
- 13.3 Notices will be posted within 10 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses and where these hearings will be held.

14 SCORING

- 14.1 The series will consist of the races on the 16 Sundays starting November 20 through March 19 with the exception of December 25 and January 1. To qualify for awards, the skipper must be scored in a minimum of 50 percent (rounded up) of the races.
- 14.2 Each skipper finishing a race and not thereafter retiring or being disqualified (including OCS) will be scored as follow: 1st place – 1, 2nd place – 2, ... up to the number of qualified finishers.
- 14.3 OCS and DNF will be scored the number of qualified finishers + 1
- 14.4 DNS, DSQ, RAF will be scored the number of qualified finishers + 2.
- 14.5 Skippers who arrive late or leave early will be scored DNS provided they are scored for at least one race that day.
- 14.6 Skippers who are on RC will not be scored.
- 14.7 A skipper's score will be the sum of their best scores needed to meet the 50 percent qualification requirement.