



Sailing Instructions for Laser Thames Valley Open 24th October 2009

1.0 Rules

1.1 Racing will take place under the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Prescriptions of the RYA, the Notice of Race, and these Sailing Instructions. If there is conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, then the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

2.0 Notices to competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice boards or on the white board located in the wet bar.

3.0 Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 30 minutes before the first race on which it will take effect.

4.0 Signals made ashore

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag staff located at the South end of the clubhouse.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced by not less than '20 minutes'.

5.0 Schedule of races

5.1 4 races are scheduled (races 1 & 2 then break for lunch, then races 3 & 4; this may change at the race officers discretion).

5.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race will be not before 10:55 hrs.

6.0

Spare

7.0 The courses

Attachment 1 describes the courses.

8.0 Marks

8.1 Course marks 1, 2 and 3 will be orange or blue cylindrical buoys as indicated in the course diagrams.

8.2 The outer start and finishing marks will be upright bright orange pillar buoys without a flag.

8.3 The approximate positions of the marks and the start/finishing lines are illustrated in attachment 1.

9.0 Spare

10.0 The start

10.1 Races will be started by using rule 26.

10.2 The starting line will be between a staff bearing a yellow flag on the starting vessel and the outer starting line mark.

10.3 A boat starting later than five minutes after her starting signal shall be scored "Did Not Start" without a hearing. This changes rules A4 & A5.

11.0 Change of the next leg of the course

11.1 To change the legs of the course, the race committee may move the original marks (or the

finishing line) to a new position.

11.2 The race committee may display a rectangular green flag if the direction is changed to starboard or a rectangular red flag if the direction is changed to port. This changes Rule 33.

12.0 The finish

12.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag aboard the finishing vessel and the outer finishing mark.

12.2 The leeward rounding mark shall be a mark of the course on all laps including the last lap before finishing.

12.3 In the event of a shortened course, rounding marks will not be used to form one end of the finishing line. This changes Race Signals S.

12.4 When a race committee boat, that is positioned as one end of the intended full-race finishing line, displays flag S (with two sound signals) as the leading boat is approaching the leeward rounding mark, the course is shortened and boats shall leave the rounding mark on its required side and finish on the intended full-race finish line. This changes rule 32 and flag S in Race Signals.

13.0 Penalty system

As provided in rule 67, the protest committee may, without a hearing, penalize a boat that has broken rule 42.

14.0 Time limits

14.1 If no boat of a start has passed Mark 1 within 30 minutes of its starting signal the race for that start may be abandoned.

14.2 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat in their respective start will be scored Did Not Finish.

15.0 Protests and requests for redress

15.1 Protest forms are available from the race office. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

15.2 For all starts, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress.

15.3 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or names as witnesses.

15.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

15.5 With the agreement of the parties, a mediation hearing may be conducted for all protests lodged in accordance with rule 61 which allege an infringement of a rule of Part 2 or 4. Such hearings will be held after the protest has been lodged and prior to the protest hearing.

16.0 Scoring

16.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

16.2 When fewer than 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

16.3 When 3 or 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

16.4 Points for race ties will not be divided. This changes Appendix A7.

17.0 Safety regulations

17.1 All boats shall give way to patrol boats and race management craft at all times.

17.2 A boat shall not interfere with nor try to pass between a patrol boat and a boat that is capsized or otherwise needing assistance or persons in the water. Sailors racing and contravening this requirement may be disqualified without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1.

17.3 All competitors must wear adequate personal buoyancy at all times while racing. Neither a wetsuit nor a drysuit constitute adequate personal buoyancy. In addition wetsuits or drysuits shall be worn by all competitors while racing between 1st November and 30th April. This changes

Rule 40.

17.4 Competitors shall at all times comply with the safety regulations, which are posted permanently on the club sailing notice board and are deemed to be incorporated herein.

18.0 Prizes

Prizes will be awarded as set out in the Notice of Race.

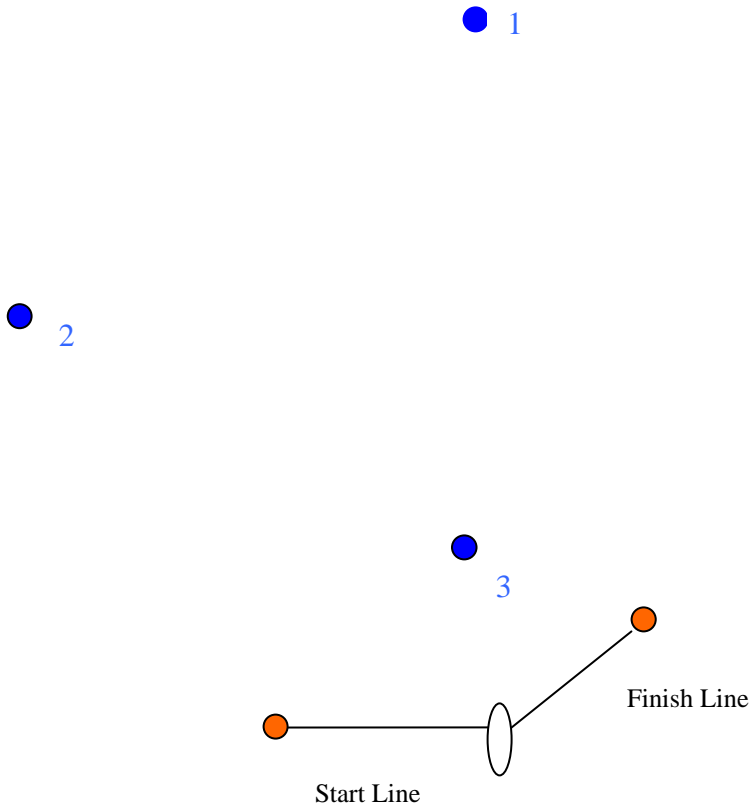
19.0 Responsibility and Disclaimer

- 19.1 A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.
- 19.2 It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going afloat, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.
- 19.3 The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2,000,000.
- 19.4 Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the organising authority, the race committee, the race officer, patrol boats and beachmasters.
- 19.5 The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.
- 19.6 The fact that the race committee conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of the boat set out in this paragraph.

Sailing Instructions Attachment 1

The Course

Unless indicated on the official notice board, the course configuration and order of rounding marks will be as shown below.



Approximate Positions of Start & Finish Lines

	Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	
Start,	1p,2p,3p,	1p,3p,	1p,2p,3p,	on rounding mark 3 the
				number of times indicated on the committee boat, sail direct to finish line.