

**Laser Gulf Coast Championship**  
**Organizing Authority: St. Petersburg Yacht Club**  
**March 31-April 1 2018**  
**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**1. RULES**

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017–2020.

1.2 Racing rule 61 will be changed to require a competitor to inform the race committee finish boat of their intention to protest, including the sail number of the protested boat immediately after finishing.

1.3 Appendix P, Immediate Penalties for Breaking Rule 42, will apply.

**2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at [www.yachtscoring.com](http://www.yachtscoring.com).

**3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 90 minutes before the launch signal on the day it will take effect, except any change to the schedule of races will be posted by the end of protest time on the day before it will take effect.

**4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SPSC flagstaff.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signal AP.

4.3 When a visual signal is displayed over a class flag, the signal applies only to that class.

**5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Friday March 30	1600-1800	Check-in
Saturday March 31	0800– 0900	Check-in
	0900	Competitors' Meeting
	1015	First warning of the day
Sunday April 1	0930	First warning of the day
	1430	No warning after this time
	ASAP	Awards at SPSC

**6. CLASS FLAGS**

The class flags for the

Laser: Green Flag  
Laser Radials: Purple Flag  
Laser 4.7's: Yellow Flag

**7. RACING AREA**

The racing area will be in the vicinity of a point 1.5 nm east of the St. Petersburg City front.

## **8. COURSES**

8.1 Addendum A shows the course diagram, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

8.2 No later than the warning signal, the course bearing and approximate distance to the first mark will be displayed on a board on the race committee signal boat.

## **9. MARKS**

9.1 Marks 1 and 2s/2p will be green tetrahedrons. The offset will be a small orange ball.

9.2 Change marks, as provided in SI 11 will be large orange balls.

## **10. STARTS**

10.1 Races will be started using rule 26.

10.2 The starting line will be between the staffs from which orange flags are displayed on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end of the line and the start pin boat on the port end of the line.

10.3 A boat starting later than 3 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes rules 63.1, A4 and A5.

10.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall stay clear of the starting area.

## **11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

11.1 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.

11.2 Changes in direction and length will be signaled according to rule 33 (a), (b) and (c).

11.3 When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced with an original mark.

## **12. FINISHES**

The finish line will be between the finishing mark (yellow cylinder) and a staff bearing an orange flag on the race committee finish boat.

## **13. PENALTY SYSTEM**

13.1 The jury will display code flag J aboard its boats.

13.2 The jury will observe racing for rule infringements in addition to enforcing racing rule 42. When the jury sees an infringement, it may make one sound signal but no sail numbers will be hailed. This signal means that one or more boats should take a penalty under rule 44.1. If no penalty is taken the jury may protest one or more boats.

## **14. TIME LIMITS**

14.1 The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish is 60 minutes.  
14.2 Boats failing to finish 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes rules 35, 63.1, A4 and A5.

## **15. PROTESTS**

15.1 Protest forms will be available in the sailing center office.  
15.2 Protests shall be delivered to the sailing center office no later than 30 minutes after the posted docking time of the race committee finish boat.  
15.3 The protest notices required by RRS 63.2, and the notification of protests by the race committee required by RRS 61.1(b), will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible after a protest has been delivered, but no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit  
15.4 Breaches of SI 4.2, 10.4, and 17 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. Penalties shall be at the discretion of the protest committee. This changes racing rule 60.1(a) and 64.1 (a).  
15.5 On the last day of the regatta, a request for re-opening a hearing or a request for redress from a race committee or protest committee decision shall be delivered:  
(a) Within the protest time limit if the party making the request was informed of the decision before that day; or  
(b) No later than 30 minutes after the party making the request was informed of the decision that day.  
This changes rules 62.2 and 66.

## **16. SCORING**

16.1 The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply, except that no score will be excluded unless five (5) or more races have been completed. This changes rule A2.  
16.2 One race will constitute a regatta.

## **17. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

17.1 Before retiring from a race and leaving the racecourse, the race committee shall be notified by the competitor, the competitor's coach, or a safety person. If this is impossible, the competitor shall go to the safety coordinator's office on the second floor of the Sailing Center immediately upon arriving ashore.  
17.2 If the race committee signal boat displays flag L prior to a warning signal, each boat shall sail past the stern of the race committee signal boat on starboard tack and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the race committee.  
17.3 Each competitor shall wear a properly fastened US Coast Guard Approved personal flotation device from dock to dock, except for brief periods while changing clothing. This replaces RRS 40.  
17.4 Boats that break any part of SI 17 will receive, without a hearing, a 5-place scoring penalty as described in rule 44.3(c). This changes rules 63.1, A4.1 and A5.

## **18 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

18.1 Random equipment and measurement checks may be made throughout the regatta at the direction of the race committee.

18.2 Substitution for damaged equipment requires the approval of the protest committee.

## **19 SUPPORT BOATS**

19.1 All support boats, including coach boats, shall register with the organizing authority.

## **20 PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded as per the Notice Of Race.

## **21 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

21.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

21.2 Parents/guardians of competitors, who are under 18 years of age, must sign a legal liability waiver.

21.3 Competitors 18 years of age and older shall sign a waiver at check-in.

**Appendix A**  
**Windward-Leeward Course Diagram**  
**(NOT TO SCALE)**

Wind



1

New Marks



2s



2p



Finish



Start



**COURSE**  
**WINDWARD/LEEWARD**  
**START -1p-1o-2s/p-1p-1o-2p-- FINISH**

