

Sailing Instructions

Elton Sailing Club

Laser Open Meeting

Northern ILCA (Laser) Grand Prix series

Saturday 30th September 2023

Version 2

Updated 14th Sep 2023

The Organising Authority is Elton Sailing Club (ESC)

These instructions should be read in conjunction with the Notice of Race (NoR).

The notation [DP] in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1 RULES

1.1 In all rules governing this event:

- a. A boat may not protest another boat or request redress for any breach of a rule marked [NP]. This changes RRS 60.1.
- b. For breaches of rules marked [SP] the race committee may apply a standard penalty without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
- c. For rules marked [DP] the penalty for each breach is at the discretion of the protest committee and may be less than disqualification. This changes RRS 64.1.

1.2 In case of conflict with the Notice of Race these Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 A briefing for competitors will be held outside the Race Office 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the first race.

3 COMMUNICATION

3.1 The Official Notice Board will be in the Race Office.

3.2 A club Tanoy will be used to communicate to competitors when required.

3.3 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make electronic voice or data transmissions and shall not receive electronic voice or data communications not available to all boats.

4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start time of the first race.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals ashore will be displayed using the club light and sound starting system located on the club house exterior wall. Flags will not be used. This changes RRS 25.2.
- 5.2 Details of the signals used are given in Appendix B.

6 RACING AREA

- 6.1 The racing will take place on Elton Reservoir as shown in Appendix A.

7 THE COURSES

- 7.1 The course for each race will be displayed in front of the race office no less than 10 minutes before its warning signal. It shall display the order in which all marks are to be rounded and the side on which they are to be left.
- 7.2 The course will NOT include the side on which the F-Finishing mark is to be rounded.
- 7.3 The number of laps to be sailed will be displayed.

8 MARKS

- 8.1 Course marks are spherical buoys and are displayed on the reservoir map near the race office. A copy is also contained in Appendix A.
- 8.2 Odd numbered marks are painted white and even numbered marks are coloured red.
- 8.3 Mark X is considered even and mark B is considered odd.

9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1 Shallow areas may be found near the field side bank during periods of low water. These will be marked with a blue buoy. All boats must not pass between any blue buoys and the shoreline.
- 9.2 A vessel in close attendance to a boat, vessel or person in difficulty is an obstruction.

10 THE START

- 10.1 The starting line will be displayed as part of the course prior to the start of each race and will normally be between the mast of the committee boat and an OUTER marker.
- 10.2 An INNER marker may be placed adjacent to the committee boat. No boat shall pass between the INNER marker and the committee boat after the preparatory signal. The penalty shall be disqualification without protest. This change RRS 30.
- 10.3 The race committee may position a vessel outside the port end of the starting line. When that vessel is in position or manoeuvring to hold position, a boat that touches it shall take a one-turn penalty as described in RRS 44.2.

11 RECALLS

- 11.1 The procedure and accompanying sound and light signals for single and general recalls are given in Appendix B.

12 SHORTENING OR ABANDONING AFTER THE START

- 12.1 The procedure and accompanying sound and light signals for shortening or abandoning after the start are given in Appendix B.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line will be indicated on the course board, and will generally be a fixed line between the Race Office and Mark 'F'; or between the flag on the committee vessel and a specified finishing mark.
- 13.2 After finishing and clearing the finishing line, boats shall keep clear of the finishing area and of all boats not yet finished. [NP][DP].

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 RRS Appendix P applies.
- 14.2 RRS P2.3 does not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it applies to any penalty after the first one.

15 TARGET TIMES & TIME LIMITS [NP]

- 15.1 The time limit for any race shall be 90 minutes for the leading boat.
- 15.2 If no boats finish within the 90-minute time limit the race will be abandoned and the result shall not count.
- 15.3 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes on corrected time after the leading boat has sailed and finished the course shall be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

16 PROTESTS, RULE DISPUTES AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 The Post Race Penalty and the RYA Arbitration Procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures are available on the RYA website (www.rya.org.uk/go/rulesdisputes). A summary is also contained in Appendix C. Arbitration decisions can be referred to the protest committee but cannot be reopened or appealed.
- 16.2 Hearing Request forms are available at the race office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 16.3 The protest time limit will be 30 minutes after the last competitor comes ashore promptly after the last race of the day. This time limit is extended by 15 minutes for a protest by the race committee or protest committee concerning an incident they observed in the racing area.
- 16.4 A notice will be posted no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. This is the notification required by RRS 61.1(b) and 63.2. Advisory hearings, arbitration hearings and protest hearings may begin without a notice and within protest time when the parties are available.
- 16.5 A request for re-opening a hearing shall be delivered no later than 15 minutes after the party requesting re-opening was informed of the decision. This changes RRS 66.2.
- 16.6 A request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 15 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.

17 SCORING

- 17.1 Scoring will be in accordance with RRS Appendix A4 – Low Point Scoring System.
- 17.2 Rule A5.3 will apply.
- 17.3 For any series the number of races to count will be one half the total number in the series (rounded down), plus one.
- 17.4 The discards will be applied at the end of that racing series. All qualifiers will discard the worst result(s).
- 17.5 Final results will be “subject to change” until the prize giving. All results disputes must be put in writing to the results officer by no later than 30 minutes after the last race of the series.

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS [NP][SP][DP]

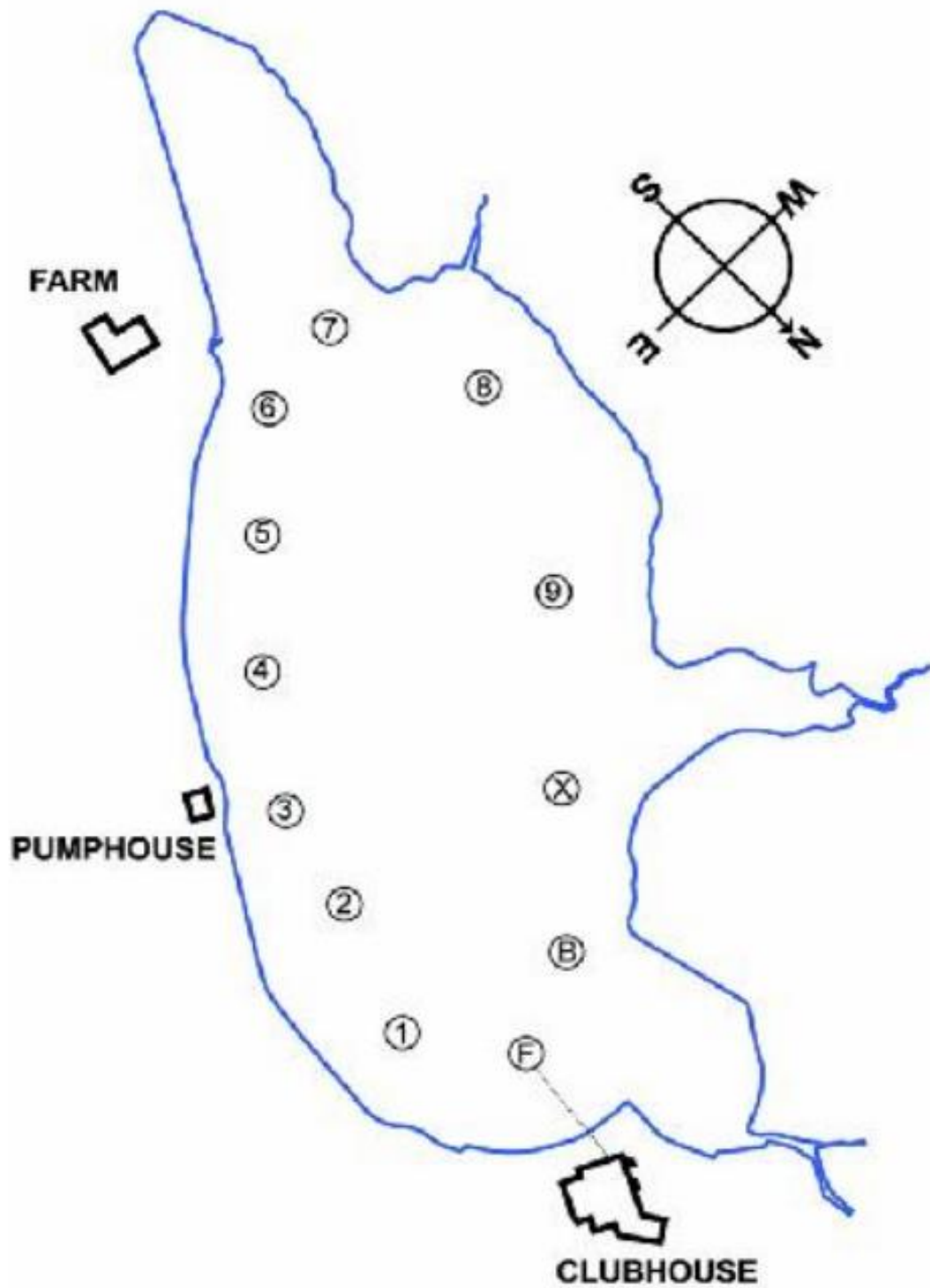
- 18.1 Rule 40.1 applies at all times while afloat.
- 18.2 When a member of the race committee or its designated official considers that a boat, its equipment or a competitor may not be adequate for the current or expected conditions, or for any other reason associated with safety, he or she may stop the boat launching, or require it to return ashore, or go to a designated location.
- 18.3 Boats and competitors shall comply with all reasonable race committee instructions.
- 18.4 A boat that retires from racing shall notify a support vessel before leaving the race area, or if that is not possible, shall notify the race office as soon as possible after returning ashore.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 19.1 For further information please contact:
John O'Brien (ESC Laser Class Captain)
Mob: 07451083313

END OF SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Appendix A – MAP OF MARKS ON ELTON RESERVOIR



Appendix B – SOUND AND LIGHT SIGNALS

STARTING – SINGLE FLEET START

Races shall be started using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the light signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

Signal	Top Light	Bottom Light (blue)	Sound Signal
5 Minute Warning	On	Off	1
4 Minute Preparatory	On	On	1
1 Minute	On	Off	1 x 'long'
Start	Off	Off	1

RECALLS – SINGLE FLEET

In the event of a recall the following light and sound sequences will occur:

Signal	Top Light	Bottom Light (blue)	Sound Signal
Individual Recall	Flashing for 4 minutes or until cleared by the Race Office	Off	1
General Recall	Flashing for 30 secs	Flashing for 30 secs	2

Individual Recall Procedure

The class light will flash until all boats on course side have exonerated themselves, up to a maximum of 4 minutes. This changes RRS 29.1

General Recall Procedure

30 seconds after a general recall signal both lights will be extinguished. The new start sequence is to be initiated by the Race Office. This changes RRS 29.2

SHORTENING AFTER THE START

The race officer may shorten course for any reason.

The race officer shall signal a shorten course:

- (a) As the leading boat of the relevant class approaches the last mark of the course, the finish line shall be the club fixed line;

OR

- (b) In the middle of a lap, the shorten course signal shall sound as the leading boat of the relevant class approaches what now becomes the last rounding mark. The finish line shall be between the mast of the committee boat and the adjacent mark. The following shows the lights and sounds sequence that indicates a shorten course:

Signal	Top Light	Bottom Light (blue)	Sound Signal
Shorten Course	Flashing	Off	2

Average lap time may be given at the discretion of the race officer to any boat taking part in a handicap race that completes less laps than the leading boat.

She will be given a finish time based on Average lap time * the number of laps completed by the lead boat + time from the last mark of the course to the finish line.

ABANDONING AND CLEARING THE WATER AFTER THE START

Should the race officer feel the circumstances demand the abandonment of racing the following light and sound signals will be made for that class:

Signal	Top Light	Bottom Light (blue)	Sound Signal
Abandonment	Flashing	Flashing	3

Should the race officer feel that conditions demand that the water be immediately cleared of sailing activities the following light and sound signals will be made:

Signal	Top Light	Bottom Light (blue)	Sound Signal
Clear the water	Flashing	Flashing	Two tone signal for 30 seconds

Relevant racing flags may be flown from the committee boat. These are indicative and for information to competitors only. Lights and sound signals are the primary indicator. This changes RRS 32.

Appendix C – RYA RULES DISPUTES

