

Mawson Lakes Model Yacht Club
RC Laser Summer Handicap Series 2024/25
Sailing Instructions

1. The Series

- 1.1 The RC Laser Summer Handicap Series aims to provide an enjoyable competitive sailing opportunity for members.
- 1.2 The Series will be run over 6 rounds from October to March.
- 1.3 There will be a Race Officer nominated for each round and that person will be responsible for monitoring starts and recording finishing positions for the whole of that round.
- 1.4 Schedule:
 - 29 Oct 24 Round 1 (payment and entry form required prior to this race)
 - 19 Nov 24 Round 2
 - 17 Dec 24 Round 3
 - 21 Jan 25 Round 4
 - 18 Feb 25 Round 5
 - 18 Mar 25 Round 6

2. The Rules

- 2.1 The Series will be governed by the World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS) as changed by Appendix E of the RRS – Radio Sailing Racing Rules and these Sailing Instructions.
- 2.2 RRS Rule 31 (hitting the mark) will apply.
- 2.3 Performing a penalty turn for a breach of the Rules will apply. No protest hearings will be conducted and there will be no disqualifications. This changes applicable Rules of the RRS.
- 2.4 All competitors must comply with the MLMYC's Code of Conduct.

3. Eligibility of Competitors

- 3.1 The Series is open to any financial member of the MLMYC sailing an RC Laser who has paid their \$10 Series entry fee. Visiting competitors may sail but will not record any result for races which form part of this series.

4. Racing Times and Schedule

- 4.1 The Series shall consist of 6 Rounds all of which will be sailed at Mawson Lakes commencing at 10.30am.
- 4.2 Rounds of the Series shall be conducted as indicated on the MLMYC Calendar 2024/25.
- 4.3 Breaks between races will be permitted for a change of batteries or repairs, etc or by consensus of competitors.
- 4.4 Each round will involve approximately two hours of racing with eight races.

5. Handicapping System

- 5.1 The Lightsview handicapping system with 20 second starting intervals will be used.
- 5.2 The series will begin using the existing club handicaps and after each race the first and second finishers will increase their handicaps by 20 seconds, and the last and second last finishers will decrease their handicaps by 20 seconds.

- 5.3 If 15 or more boats are entered in the series, then the first 3 finishers and the last 3 finishers shall adjust their handicaps accordingly.
- 5.4 No sailor can have a handicap less than 20 seconds (White Start) or a handicap greater than 120 seconds (Blue Start). ie if a sailor on White Start finishes last then they will remain on White Start.
- 5.5 This will produce a more dynamic handicapping system with the aim of it being to make racing more equal and thus more fun.

6. Race starts

- 6.1 Race starts will utilise a one-minute countdown and this recording may also be used for re-starts.
- 6.2 In the event the recording malfunctions or is not available a suitable verbal countdown by one of the attendees may be utilised.
- 6.3 Dip starts are permitted for a re-start, but the returning boat(s) must keep clear of other boats on the pre-start side of the line.

7. Scoring and Discards

- 7.1 Rounds shall be scored in accordance with the Low Point system of Appendix A of the RRS.
- 7.2 Discards for a Round shall be one after 4 races, 2 after 8 races and 3 after 16 races.
- 7.4 The finishing place in a Round will determine the points of the competitor for that Round.
- 7.4 The Series shall be scored using the points of each Round for a competitor.
- 7.5 A competitor who is unable to compete in a Round will be awarded points equal to the total number of competitors in the Series plus one.
- 7.6 The best five results of all Rounds for each competitor will be used to determine the result of the Series and the competitor with the lowest total score will be awarded first position, second lowest score awarded second position, etc. If only five rounds or less are sailed, then all rounds will count.
- 7.7 In the event the final points score of the Series results in a tie between two or more competitors, RRS Appendix A, Rule A8 – Series Tie will be used to resolve the tie(s). For this purpose, the word “Round” shall replace the word “Race” in Rules A8.1 and A8.2.
- 7.8 The Race Officer of a particular Round shall receive points for that Round equal to the average of their points attained in the remaining four Rounds.

8. Courses

- 8.1 The course location will be determined on the day by the Race Officer and subject to wind strength and direction.
- 8.2 Courses will utilise the existing placed buoys but may be supplemented by Additional buoys as required.
- 8.3 Length of the course will be set to give a race time of approximately 10 to 15 minutes.
- 8.4 Courses may be changed during a Round, at the discretion of the RO.
- 8.5 When possible, a course board will be located adjacent to the start area.