

Friday Night Series

MSC, OHCC, SJTSC, TISC, WSC

The Friday Night Series is a series of 19 races for Albacores and Lasers, held on Friday nights from May 5 to September 8, 2023

2023 Sailing Instructions

1. RULES:

The Friday Night Series will be governed by the 2021-2024 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the prescriptions of the Canadian Yachting Association. The rules of the Canadian Albacore Association and the International Laser Association will apply to their respective classes. All rules apply unless amended by these sailing instructions.

2. ENTRIES:

- a) Only community club members sailing in club owned Albacores, using club owned equipment and community club members sailing their own or club Lasers are eligible for community club awards. Each community club must use a random draw to select skipper and crew combinations.
- b) Privately owned Albacores are eligible for the private boat owner award. Private boat owners must register their boats in order to participate in the series. This may be done by signing up online or via email. The registration fee is \$25 and can be [purchased online](#) on the Canadian Albacore Association website.

3. SAFETY

- a) Each boat must comply with all Toronto Harbour and Transport Canada regulations.
- b) An approved life-jacket or PFD must be present on board for each competitor and shall be worn if the Race Committee boat displays code flag 'Y'.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES:

- a) The warning signal for the Albacore class shall be made at 7:00 p.m. except for the following dates which will be 6:45pm (due to daylight). May 5, May 12, Aug 18, Aug 25, Sept 1, and Sept 8.
- b) The Laser start will follow the Albacore start (see 'The Start' below).
- c) The racing schedule is published at <http://albacore.ca/caa-events>.
- d) Any cancelled race will not be re-run. This amends R.R.S.-A1.

5. COURSES AND MARKS:

- a) Races are scheduled for the locations as indicated on the schedule. The Race Committee may use the permanent racing marks in the race location as a default, or other marks at its discretion. Substitute marks may be used – the “M” mark or other marks clearly specified by the Race Committee. If races are to be held at a location other than the normal racing area for the host club (for example out on the lake), a Notice of Change must be posted at the CAA web site sufficiently in advance.
- b) The length of the windward leg will be set according to wind strength to meet a target time of 40 minutes from the starting gun to the first finisher. The course and number of legs will be displayed on the RC boat.
- c) The default course is a Triangle course which consists of 10 legs - three triangles and a windward leg (upwind finish) with buoys to port if there is no course indicated on the course board.
- d) An optional 7 leg "Windward-Offset-Leeward" course (three sausages and a windward leg finish), with buoys to port, may be used by displaying Code Flag “W” or "W Course" on a chalkboard. An optional leeward gate may be utilized. If a gate is used there will be two identical leeward marks set comprising the gate approximately 6 to 12 boat lengths apart. Each boat must pass between the two leeward marks (through the gate) from the direction of the previous mark and round either of the marks.
- e) A course may be shortened to meet the target time of 40 minutes.

6. THE START:

Races will be started according to rule 26, with classes starting at 5-minute intervals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the failure of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

6.1 Timing sequence and signals for the start:

Warning Signal: Class Flag and sound 5 Minutes before starting signal.

Preparatory Signal: Black flag; 1 sound 4 Minutes before starting signal.

One-minute Preparatory flag removed; 1 long sound.

Start: Class flag removed; 1 sound.

Continuous timing may be used.

If there is an Albacore general recall and continuous timing is not in use, a new Albacore warning signal will be made (raise class flag with sound signal) 1 minute after the general recall is lowered and the Albacore starting sequence will continue from that point.

The warning signal for Lasers will be the start of the Albacore class. If there is a Laser general recall and continuous timing is not in use, a new Laser warning signal will be made shortly after the general recall is lowered.

6.2 *The starting line:*

- a) The starting line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag or shape on the Race Committee Boat and the leeward mark.
- b) An alternate leeward mark may be used at the discretion of the Race Committee, provided it is clearly indicated by the RC on their course board.

6.3 *Boats not racing:*

Boats whose preparatory signal has not been given, shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made (rule 22.1).

6.4 *Late starters:*

A boat shall not start later than 3 minutes after her starting signal.

6.5 *Black Flag Rule Modification:*

Rule 30.3 is modified as follows: Regardless of whether or not a black flag has been displayed before or with her preparatory signal, and if any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is identified within the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the minute before her starting signal, the boat will be disqualified without a hearing. If the race is restarted or re-sailed the same evening, she is not entitled to compete in it. If a subsequent general recall is signaled, the race committee shall attempt to display her sail number.

At its option, the race committee may employ an official observation boat, considered as part of the race committee, at the opposite end of the starting line, to call premature starters. Premature starters must retire from the race. The race committee, or its designated alternate, will attempt to notify premature starters. If a notified boat fails to retire, after a black flag premature start, that community club skipper will be scored DND and will be counted towards their series score and the club score.

7. THE FINISH:

The finishing line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag or shape on the Race Committee Boat and a nearby mark of the course.

8. TIME LIMIT:

- a) A race shall be abandoned if the leading boat has not cleared the windward mark within 30 minutes of the start of the race.
- b) The time limit for the completion of a race will be 2 hours established by the first boat to finish. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat's finish time will be scored "DNF".

9. PROTESTS:

A "three minute justice" system shall be used to handle protests where no damage has occurred. The regular protest procedure may be used to resolve any incidents where damage has occurred.

The three minute justice system works as follows:

- A protest form is **not** required.
- Each boat shall select another sailor to act as a member of the Protest Jury. Rule 63.4 (Interested Party) will be waived. The sailor should be experienced with the racing rules.
- The sailor protesting has one minute to present their case to the Protest Jury.
- The sailor being protested has one minute to present their case to the Protest Jury.
- The Jury will then have one minute to come to a decision. The Jury is strongly encouraged to make a decision, which is final.
- If the Protest Jury cannot come to a decision then the protest is disallowed.

Protests must be resolved on the night of the race. If a boat was protested on water, a representative for the boat must remain at the club until the protest has been resolved, otherwise she will be disqualified.

Protests involving a TISC or QCYC boat and an Outer Harbour boat shall be resolved on the night of the race over the phone.

For protests involving damage where the three minute justice system was not used, the Host Club's Race Officer will select participants for a protest committee. The protest time limit referred to in rule 61.3 is 9:15pm. A time-limited protest hearing will be used.

10. SCORING:

The Low Point scoring system, rule A4.1, will apply. 19 races are scheduled, of which 8 races shall be completed to constitute a series. If 16 or fewer races occur as scheduled, 7 races shall be completed to constitute a series. If 14 or fewer races occur as scheduled, 6 races shall be completed to constitute a series.

Points scored in each race will be assigned as follows (this modifies rule A4.1):

Position Points 1st place=1 Point 2nd place =2 points 3rd place=3 points 40th place= 40 points DNS last + 3 points OCS last + 3 points DNF last + 3 points RET last + 3 points DSQ last + 6 points DND last + 6 points

11. WEEKLY PRIZES:

Prizes for the Albacore class will be awarded to the top 5 community club boats and to the best finishing private boat.

Prizes for the Laser class will be awarded as follows:

- 1 to 4 boats – 1 mugs will be awarded
- 5 to 9 boats - 2 mugs will be awarded
- A fleet of 10 or more - 3 mugs will be awarded

12. END OF SEASON COMMUNITY CLUB PRIZES:

At the end of the season the perpetual trophies will be awarded to the first place community club Albacore skipper and crew. The awards will be based on the points scored in his/her best 8 (or 7, if 16 or fewer races occur; or 6, if 14 or fewer races occur) races of the season. In the event of a tie, the award will go to the skipper or crew with the most first, seconds, thirds, etc. If this still fails to break a tie, then as many extra races as are necessary will be used to break the tie. The highly coveted Spanish Donkey Award will be presented to the winning club that has the lowest total score of its best 8 placings of Albacores entered each week. If a tie exists the award will go to the club with the most first, seconds, thirds etc.

13. WAIVER OF LIABILITY:

- (a) It shall be the responsibility of each boat to decide whether or not to start or to continue to race (RRS Rule 4).
- (b) By his/her participation in this series, each club member or participant shall be deemed to be knowledgeable of, and to have voluntarily assumed all responsibility for, any and all risks including, but not limited to, loss or damage to property whether personal or otherwise, and for personal injury, and agrees to hold harmless and free of any liability the sponsoring clubs, their officers, members, employees or individuals appointed or volunteering for any activity associated with the racing program, including the class associations, for any loss or damages, material or personal, suffered by the participant during racing or otherwise.