

# Patterson Lakes Radio Model Yacht Club.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

This welcome booklet is designed to provide our new and existing club members with some relevant information to help get you started and become part of the club environment.

Here's a list of a few of the benefits of being a PLRMYC member;

- Active sailing calendar, with regular Sunday & Tuesday sailing events.
- Wealth and depth of knowledge within the club to help with boat set-up, rules, sailing techniques, model building, repairs, etc.
- Annual Presentation Night and prize giving.
- PRO (Principle Race Officer) organised club events, state and national titles racing.
- VRYA (Victorian Radio Yachting Association) levies are paid by PLRMYC, this includes public liability insurance and is mandatory to enter major events.
- Scratch and handicap racing to accommodate all levels of sailors.
- Tuesday rescue boat and racing courses set to the conditions.
- A regularly updated PLRMYC web site with a wealth of information [www.plrmyc.com](http://www.plrmyc.com)

The club exists not to serve individuals, but to enjoy the sport of RC Sailing. Remember all committee and club members are VOLUNTEER and done out of the goodness of individuals hearts. So remember pitch in whenever you can, if everyone helps out in a small way it makes everyone's day a bit more enjoyable.

Hope you have a great time.

The Committee

# Sailing Calendar:

Check the web site [www.plrmyc.com](http://www.plrmyc.com) for weekly events.

PLRMYC sailing calendar in a nutshell.

- Firstly check the calendar on the website to see what's happening, when & where, to make sure that you have the right boat for the day and that you will be sailing with a large group of similar boats.
- Our SEASON starts each year in FEBRUARY and ends in NOVEMBER, for scored results.
- Annual membership fees are payable by JUNE 30 each year.
- Presentation night is in DECEMBER.

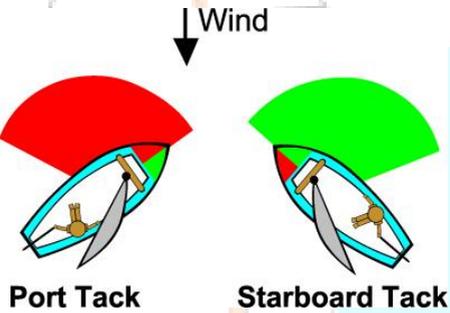
TUESDAY's at the National Water sports Centre (The calendar is set each year to try and get the following series of races in. Each series is scored and trophies given at Presentation Night) -

- IOM x 10 heats Commodores Cup (handicap event)
- IOM x 10 heats Championship (Scratch & Timed handicap event)
- IOM x 5 Heats Match Racing (Scratch Event)
- MM/DF/RG x 10 heats Commodores Cup (handicap event)
- MM/DF/RG x 5 heats Championship (Scratch event)
- General Sailing (All boats types welcome)

SUNDAY's at Waterway's (Each series is scored / trophies given at Presentation Night) -

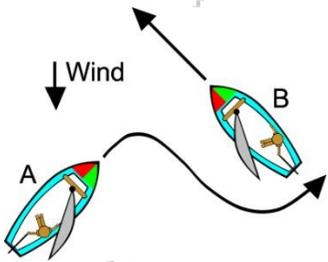
- MM/DF/RG x 10 heats **handicap** Perpetual Cup.
- RC Lasers x 10 heats **handicap**.
- MM/DF/RG x 10 heats **scratch** event.
- Lasers x 5 heats **scratch** + MM/RG/DF General Sailing **scratch** x 5
- Sailing All Classes (All boats types welcome)

## Basic Sailing Rules:

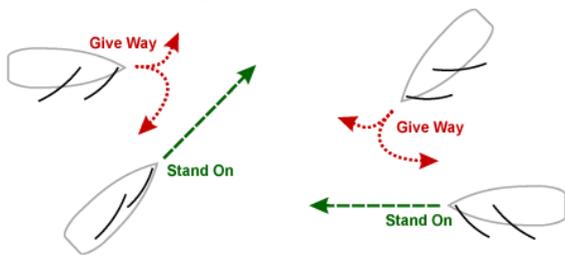


Please take note of the following 10 commandments of sailing

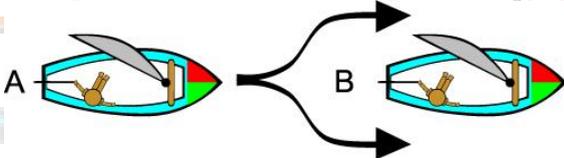
1) Port keeps clear of starboard.



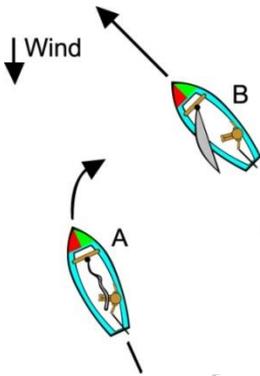
2) Windward keeps clear of leeward when overlapped.



3) When on the same tack a boat astern keeps clear of a boat ahead.



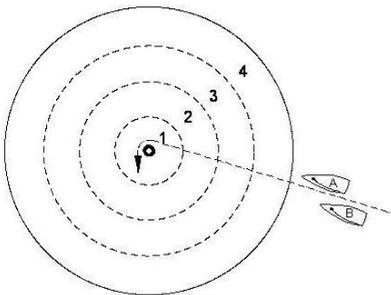
4) A boat Tacking keeps clear of one that is not tacking.



5) Avoid collisions. Racing Rules are defensive to prevent collisions not offensive racing tactics.

6) If you gain right of way or change your course, give the other boat time (room) to keep clear.

7) The inside overlapped boats at four boat lengths from the mark are entitled to room to round the mark.



8) A boat that is backing-up or not racing must keep clear.

9) If you have broken a rule, always get well clear as soon as you can, and then take your penalty turn. You have no rights, whilst doing your penalty turn.

10) It is better to give way, than to spend hours in a protest room.

# 10 Tips of RC Yacht Racing for Beginners

(By A. Beginner)

## **Rule 1. As in dinghy sailing - the boat must be 'bullet proof'.**

Most importantly this means **waterproof**, and that is obviously difficult to achieve. Even the experienced sailors seem to suffer occasionally. The most vulnerable points seem to be the two servo spindles. Take all the advice you can get from the web and the experienced sailors and stock up with Vaseline / fishing reel grease. Check it after every race meeting.

## **Rule 2. Avoid Trouble.**

Rule infringements are much commoner in RC racing than in normal size yacht racing. As a dinghy sailor I doubt whether I was involved in an infringement once a season and only one full-on protest meeting in forty years! In RC Yacht racing I am at fault several times every Sunday!

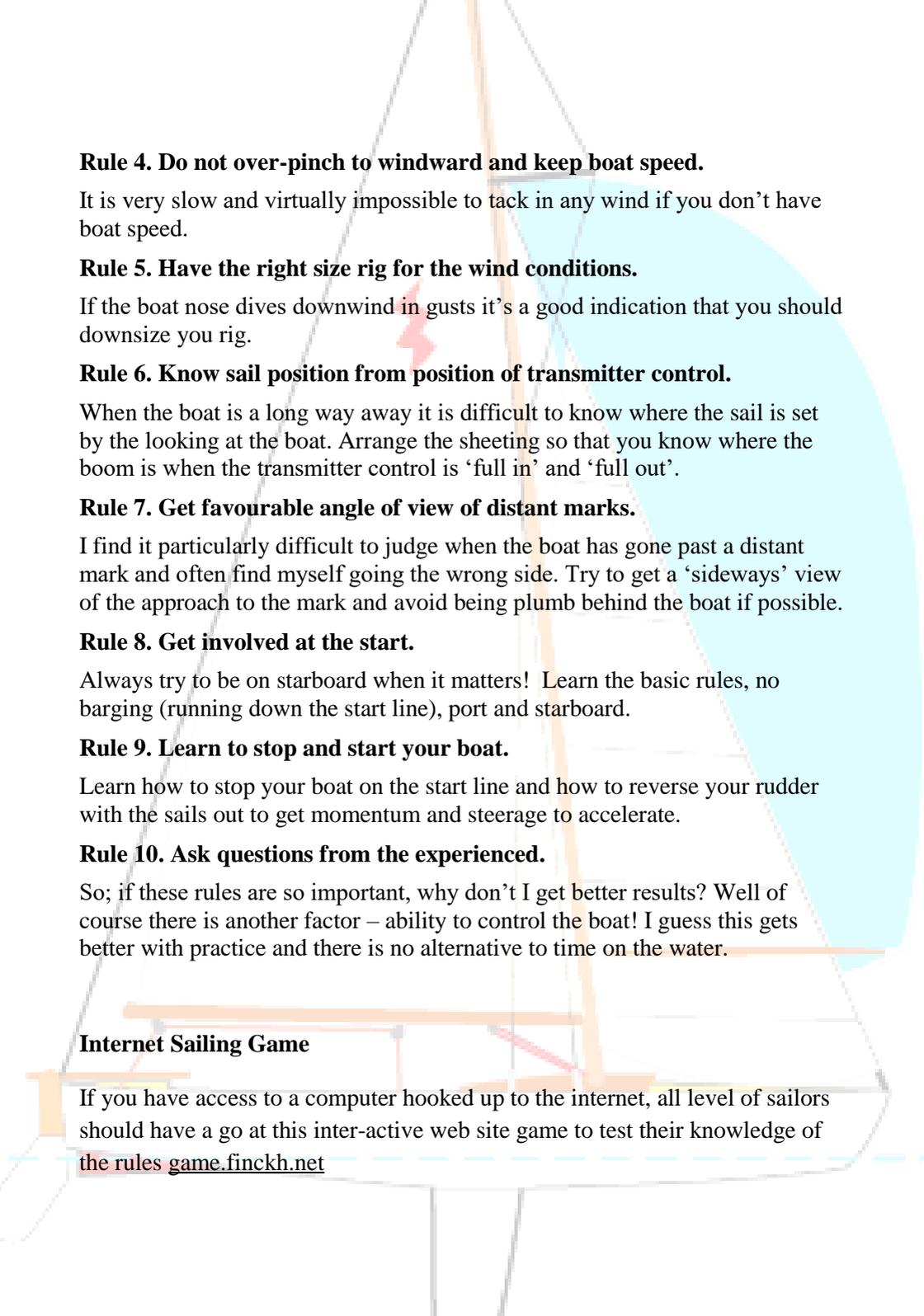
There are three main reasons for this. Firstly, everything seems to happen at about four times normal speed in RC boats. Secondly, the action can be 50 yards away and the viewers have different perspectives. Thirdly, control of the boat can be a real problem for beginners, especially under pressure.

Everyone is amazingly well behaved and understanding about this. 'Turns' are done in good humour and seldom is there any real dispute. This is very fortunate, because otherwise RC sailing would become one long protest meeting.

As a beginner, doing a turn often ends up with the boat in irons, which is definitely best avoided! I find that it pays not to be too aggressive about the rules and try to avoid trouble. This does not mean deliberately tagging along behind the fleet – get involved, but remember that the experienced sailors can out maneuver you in a close contact situation, e.g. rounding the leeward mark!

## **Rule 3. Setting the Sail**

Ask the experienced sailors to have a look at your boat set-up and help with the fine tuning. You will find the boat much more responsive and easy to sail, with better speed. Learn the how and why's when the changes are being made.



**Rule 4. Do not over-pinch to windward and keep boat speed.**

It is very slow and virtually impossible to tack in any wind if you don't have boat speed.

**Rule 5. Have the right size rig for the wind conditions.**

If the boat nose dives downwind in gusts it's a good indication that you should downsize your rig.

**Rule 6. Know sail position from position of transmitter control.**

When the boat is a long way away it is difficult to know where the sail is set by looking at the boat. Arrange the sheeting so that you know where the boom is when the transmitter control is 'full in' and 'full out'.

**Rule 7. Get favourable angle of view of distant marks.**

I find it particularly difficult to judge when the boat has gone past a distant mark and often find myself going the wrong side. Try to get a 'sideways' view of the approach to the mark and avoid being plumb behind the boat if possible.

**Rule 8. Get involved at the start.**

Always try to be on starboard when it matters! Learn the basic rules, no barging (running down the start line), port and starboard.

**Rule 9. Learn to stop and start your boat.**

Learn how to stop your boat on the start line and how to reverse your rudder with the sails out to get momentum and steerage to accelerate.

**Rule 10. Ask questions from the experienced.**

So; if these rules are so important, why don't I get better results? Well of course there is another factor – ability to control the boat! I guess this gets better with practice and there is no alternative to time on the water.

**Internet Sailing Game**

If you have access to a computer hooked up to the internet, all level of sailors should have a go at this inter-active web site game to test their knowledge of the rules [game.finckh.net](http://game.finckh.net)

## Sailing Etiquette

Sailing is a competitive sport. It is not simply a test of boat speed around a course. Rules exist. They have structure. The strategy of the competitive aspect relies on the fine detail of the racing rules. Good sportsmen will compete hard and fair, they will know the rules and exploit them to their advantage, But at no point of being nasty, unfair or unsporting of these rules. It's a fine line which separates the admired winner from the despised oaf of a winner. Your actions project your image of your fellow competitors. So let's sail hard, fast, do our penalties when we muck up (and we all muck up), but most of all have fun.

Let's put sailing etiquette up on top of the list for reasons why RC Sailors want to join PLRMYC. To make our Clubs RC Sailing as enjoyable as possible, for all participants and spectators, please review, be aware of others and sail by the PLRMYC Sailing Etiquette guidelines:

For the club to retain a strong membership base and ensure a good turnout of sailors each week, we **MUST** ensure that sailing rules are obeyed and any personality conflicts are eliminated and are not allowed within the club. This will lead to a much happier and more enjoyable sailing environment.

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### **Common RC yacht designs sailed at our club**

**MM** = Micro Magic

**DF** = Dragon Force

**RG65** = RG design

**IOM** = International One Meter

**RC Lasers**

## INDEMNITY

I agree to abide by the conditions of the PLRMYC events as contained in the Notice of Race, Sailing Calendar, Sailing Instructions, the Racing Rules of Sailing, club sailing etiquette rules and any Notices published by the Sailing Committee.

All members taking part in the club organized events do so entirely at their own risk:

The Australian Radio Yachting Association (Incorporated) the State Radio Sailing Association, organizing club(s) and any other parties involved in the organization of this event disclaim:

Any and every responsibility whatsoever for loss, damage, injury or inconvenience that might occur to persons and goods, both ashore and on the water as a consequence of entering or participating in club events. At all times the responsibility for the safety and themselves plus the decision to participate or continue must rest with the competitor. By paying your annual subscription fee it is deemed that you accept these conditions.

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For further information please go to our website at [www.plrmyc.com](http://www.plrmyc.com) or contact one of our members above.