



RANKING SYSTEM

The following “rolling” ranking system will be applied, separately, to each of the Standard, Radial and 4.7 rig fleets. The Irish Laser Association (ILA) will be responsible for updating and publishing all three Ranking Ladders.

1. ELIGIBLE EVENTS

This Ranking System will be used for selection for Eligible Events. These are: Laser European and World Championships, events where one of the criteria for entry is that nomination has to be made through a National Authority or for other events where the ILA is required to nominate or rank sailors.

In addition, sailors may be awarded Notional Average Placings (see Section 4) when attending Sailing World Cup Qualification Regattas or ISAF World Cup Regattas.

This Ranking System applies only to those sailors who are members of the ILA and who do not carry National Letters other than IRL or GBR on their sail. They must also be current members of the Irish Sailing Association (ISA) (or their appropriate National Authority) through their Club. Such persons are described hereafter as “Irish Laser Sailors”.

2. DESIGNATED EVENTS

“Designated Events” are defined as being the Irish Laser National and Provincial Championships. Points will be allocated to the top 25 finishers overall in each of the Provincial Championships using a “High Points” scoring system (ie 1st. place = 25 points, 2nd.= 24 points, etc., to 25th. place = 1 point, 26th. and below = 0 points). For a National Championship points will be awarded for the overall placings in that championship using the same system except that the points will be increased by 50%, (ie 1st. place = 37.5 points, etc., to 25th. place = 1.5 points).

Overall placings achieved by boats sailed by persons who are not Irish Laser Sailors will be disregarded for the purposes of awarding points.

3. QUALIFYING SERIES

The “Qualifying Series” is defined as the most recently completed National Championship and the four most recently completed Provincial Championships. Each Irish Laser Sailor’s score shall be the total of their points gained at each of the appropriate five Qualifying Series events excluding their worst two scores. If a sailor has three or more equal worst points scores the two earliest in the Qualifying Series shall be excluded. The sailors are ranked with the sailor having the highest number of points placed first and the others ranked accordingly.

The Ranking List is “rolling” in that the specific championships that constitute the Qualifying Series roll forward each time a new Designated Event is completed.

Except for Masters and ISA events, any ILA nominations for the events described in Eligible Events will be made based on the Ranking List immediately following the most recent Designated Event that took place by the close of initial applications or at least three months before the date of the first day of registration for the international event for which nomination is being made, whichever is the sooner.

When required for Masters events the Ranking List used will, instead, be immediately prior to the date for ranking set by the International Laser Class Association (ILCA) or the ILCA European Region, (EurILCA), as appropriate. Allocation of places will be made in age groups, using the same age groups as are used for categories at Masters events.

For ISA events in Ireland the Ranking Ladder (if used) will be the one immediately prior to the ISA event.

Advice of any variation will be available, on request, from the ILA no later than 1st February in the year it will take effect. It may also be posted on the ILA website (www.laser-ireland.com).

4. NOTIONAL AVERAGE PLACINGS

Laser sailors in all rigs will be eligible for Notional Average Placings in respect of their attendance at any of the events listed in Section 1 (Eligible Events). An Irish Sailor who misses one or more Designated Events (as defined) because they are representing Ireland at any of the events listed in Section 1 will, on written request to the Hon. Secretary (made within one month of that event), be awarded a Notional Average Placing for each event that they missed for this reason.

For the purposes of this Ranking System a sailor who does not compete at an event shall be deemed to be placed 26th. at that event.

Notional Average Placings will be calculated by taking the average of the boat’s best three overall placings obtained at the most recently completed events held when the Irish Sailor was not attending an Eligible Event. The calculation shall be made to one decimal point and results that are not already whole numbers shall be rounded to the nearest whole number, with 5 or more tenths being rounded up. Appropriate points will be awarded as described in Designated Events.

5. TIES

In the event of a tie on total points (using each boat’s best three points scores only) the tie will be broken in favour of the boat which has the most first placings overall at each of the five Designated Events constituting that Qualifying Series, or, if necessary the most seconds, etc.

If this method fails to break the tie it shall be decided in favour of the boat with the better overall placing gained in the most recent Designated Event in which either or both boats competed.

When breaking a tie involving an Irish Sailor who has been awarded one or more Notional Average Placings those placings shall be treated as though they were actual overall placings earned at the event.

6. ACCLIMATISATION

In order to allow some travel and acclimatisation time each of the Eligible Events will be deemed to last from a specific number of days before the start of registration for the event until the same number of days after the scheduled completion of the event. Eligible Irish Sailors will be deemed to be representing Ireland for that entire period.

For events within Europe the period is 5 days and for events outside Europe the period is 8 days,

7. **YOUTHS**

Unless otherwise described in the Notice of Race for an event a Youth is an Irish Sailor who is under 19 years of age on 31st December of the current year. Youths will be awarded points based only on their overall placings within the top 25 of the total ranked fleet at Designated Events.

8. **OLYMPIC GAMES**

Once an Irish Sailor has been selected by the ISA to go to the Olympic Games that person will be automatically placed at the top of the ILA's Ranking List irrespective of their actual points. Immediately following an Olympic Games that sailor will be placed on the ILA's Laser Ranking List according to their points.

9. **UNRANKED SAILORS**

Any Irish Laser Sailor may apply for a place at a World or European event. They do not necessarily have to appear on the ILA's Ranking Ladder, especially if they have been sailing in a different Class or a different Laser fleet during the previous season. In these cases a synopsis of their sailing career should be submitted to the Ranking Panel (by email through "secretary@laser-ireland.com"). This should be done as soon as the Application for a place is made.

10. **INITIAL APPLICATIONS FOR AN EVENT**

Ireland is awarded a specific number of places for each ILCA or EurILCA event and that number is stated on the appropriate event's web-page. If, because of a sailor's ILA ranking, a sailor's application for a place falls within that number then no "Indemnity Certificate" will be required.

There is a further number shown which represents the maximum number of extra places which the ILA may request (over and above the initial allocation). If a sailor's ILA ranking would mean that they exceed the number of places initially allocated to Ireland then an "Indemnity Certificate" will be required before they will be ranked by the Ranking Panel.

These extra places will be requested in the order in which "Indemnity Certificates" are received, or the order of the Ranking Ladder if two or more are received at the same time.

There is nothing to prevent someone from lodging an "Indemnity Certificate" at any time if they believe that one MIGHT be required. Such Certificate would then be considered ahead of others that are received later.

11. **LATE APPLICATIONS**

Anyone making a "Late Application" for an ILCA or EurILCA event is required to forward an "Indemnity Certificate" to the ILA (as explained below) at the time the request is made. Late applicants will rank behind those who have made Applications during the initial period and will normally be ranked based on when their Certificate is received by the ILA.

12. **INDEMNITY CERTIFICATE**

A sailor's "Indemnity Certificate" will be held by the ILA as a Surety. This is in case the sailor fails to complete the full entry process and the ILA becomes financially responsible for the place that was requested specifically for that sailor. If a place offer is made and is either accepted (by paying ILCA or EurILCA, as appropriate) or refused by the sailor the "Indemnity Certificate" will be destroyed.

If a place is not offered there is no financial liability.

The "Indemnity Certificate" should be downloaded from the website, completed, signed, scanned and then sent as an image file to:-

["secretary@laser-ireland.com"](mailto:secretary@laser-ireland.com)

Alternatively, it may be sent by post and the Hon. Secretary should be contacted (at the same email address) in order to supply the postal address.

If, and when, a place becomes available the ILCA or EurILCA (as appropriate) will make the place offer by email direct to the contact email address that was provided when the sailor applied for a place.

If a place is offered it should be paid for by Credit Card through the ILCA or EurILCA website (as appropriate).

Note that a sailor whose ranking exceeds the number initially allocated to the ILA or who is making a Late Application will NOT be ranked (and so will NOT be offered a place at the event) until an "Indemnity Certificate" is received by the ILA.

Amendment made:
February 2017

(Clarification of Section 3)