

[Ocean Blue Laser Coastal National Sailing Championship 2011- Day One](#)

On the opening day at the Ocean Blue Laser Coastal National Sailing Championship 2011, Army Yachting Mode (AYN) sailors were once again dominant. Three races were held on 10 May 2011 as scheduled. All the races were held in 8-10 knots of breeze with temperature at 32 deg Celsius and humid, which made racing very challenging for the sailors especially the young Laser 4.7 sailors.



Arjuna Awardee Rajesh Choudhary of AYN

71 boats from 11 Sailing Clubs from across the country took to the start line on day one. In Laser Standard category, Olympic Class for men, the day belonged to Subedar Major Rajesh Choudhary, VSM and Arjuna Awardee of the host club. Commenting on performance today, he said “While the first race was difficult, I managed and used the wind conditions to my advantage. The conditions were physically easy but tactically harder.”

In Laser Radial category, Ramesh Kumar stood the overall winner after the today’s races. Commenting on his win, he said, “The competition was tough today and I am happy that I won two races. I struggled a little in third race but managed to recover to 4th position.”

In the Laser 4.7 category, Master Chintan Chhatbar sits at top of the leader board after three races. Commenting on his winning today’s first two races, “Feels good to win today but the last race was tough. I am looking forward to the next four days of good sailing.”

One sailor who stood out in the sailing today was Master Vishnu Saravanan, the youngest sailor in the championship. He has recently been crowned National Champion in Optimist Class at National Championship held in Kochi. All of 11 years of age, Master Vishnu was looking forward to the challenging races ahead: “While sailing in the championship, I don’t think of who is younger or older. I just concentrate on my racing.”

The closest fight emerged in the Laser 4.7 class, where Chintan Chhatbar and Rufus Patrick were tied for first place. As Chintan won the first two races, he was declared the overall winner in the Laser 4.7 class for the day.



Because of the large No of entries, the Laser Standard, Laser Radial and Laser 4.7 fleets in Mumbai are split into three starts, with each category racing separately. Principal Race Officer, Capt Homi Motivala (Retd) plans to conduct two races tomorrow.

Provisional Results after completion of 3 races on Day One:

Laser Standard:

1. Rajesh Choudhary (AYN, Mumbai) - 4 Points
2. Jasvir Singh (AYN, Mumbai) - 11 Points
3. Gajendar Singh (AYN, Mumbai) – 13 Points

Laser Radial:

1. Ramesh Kumar (AYN, Mumbai) - 6 Points
2. Dharmendar Singh (AYN, Mumbai) - 9 Points
3. Rohini Rau (RMYC, Chennai) - 15 Points

Laser 4.7:

1. Chintan Chhatbar (MYC, Mumbai) - 6 Points
2. Rufus Patrick (TNSA, Chennai) - 6 Points
3. Upamanyu Dutta (RBYC, Mumbai) - 7 Points

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