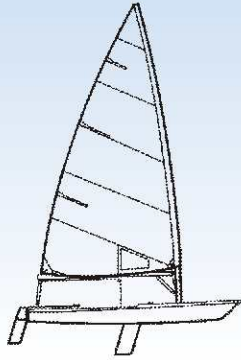


Attention Sailors 35 Years Old and Over

- Do you miss racing and going to regattas?

- Do you have a Laser that is not being used?



- Are you twiddling your thumbs for 2 days watching your junior sailor race in a regatta?

- Are you having trouble finding crew to race your keel boat?

Masters Laser racing is the answer for you!!!

Masters Laser racing?? Never heard of it!!! What the heck is it all about!!!

Masters Laser racing is for sailors 35 years and older who wish to get out on the water and race in a full rig Laser or in a Radial rig Laser against sailors in their own age group.

Well you might say, I am 60 years old and that is a long ways from being 35 years old!!

True. That is why there are age categories within Masters Laser racing.

- 35 to 44 years and you are an Apprentice Master
- 45 to 54 you are a Master
- 55 to 64 you are a Grand Master
- 65 and above you are a Great Grand Master.

How do these age categories work?

In a Masters Laser regatta all racers start together and finish as in a regular Laser regatta. However when it comes time to score the race, the younger age groups have additional points added to their regular placing points. For example, Apprentice Masters have three additional points added to their regular placing points while a Great Grand Master does not have any additional points added to their score. After that adjustment the standings are calculated in the regular way.

The overall regatta winner is the sailor with the fewest points. However, there is a winner declared in each age category as well as second and third places.

I find the full rig Laser difficult to handle in heavy air!!

No problem! Masters Laser racing rules allow competitors to switch between full rig Lasers and Radials at any time as long as the sail numbers are the same and the change is done ashore.

I found the sail controls on my old Laser hard to adjust and now that I am older it will be even harder

Again, no problem! The Laser class rules now allows for upgraded vang, cunningham and outhaul controls which make all adjustments a breeze. Upgrading an existing Laser is extremely easy once you have purchased all the necessary parts from a dealer.

Are there any Masters regattas in the Atlantic Provinces at the present time??

Currently there are no dedicated Masters Laser regattas in the Atlantic Provinces. Probably due to a lack of competitors!

However, one yacht club in New Brunswick has agreed to host the first annual Atlantic Canada Masters Laser Championship in the summer of 2008 in conjunction with its regular Laser regatta.

There would be a separate start for Masters if there are 5 or more Master racers. Otherwise, there would be a mass start and the Masters would be scored as part of the regular regatta. However, there would be a separate Masters scoring as well.

Where would I practice racing to get ready for a Masters regatta??

Most Laser regattas do not have any age restrictions. You can participate in them in preparation for a dedicated Masters regatta.

Where do I find out more information about Masters Laser racing and Masters Regattas??

Go the North American Laser Class Association's website at www.ilcana.org and look under Masters Sailing and Districts/Fleets, Canada, District 1. This website will answer most of your questions regarding the Laser class and its activities.

The Laser manufacturer is Vanguard Boats and their website can be found at www.teamvanguard.com. This site will provide you with a tremendous amount of information including an insight into today's Laser and its new rigging options.

The International Laser Class Association's website can be found at www.laserinternational.org

In addition, you can contact Brian Mills, who is also the District 1 Laser Class Secretary and a Masters Laser sailor.

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