



Final Report: Master's Committee

- **Members:**

Bertie Werley, Chair

Ed Roseberry

Hugh Hutchison

Bob Bush

Bill Cabrall

Joan Hurban

Eva Burpee

Dave Sprague

- **Scope and Objective of the Committee:**

- Articulate the principles that should guide the ILCA Masters regattas with respect to the number of races per day and total series;
- Provide recommendation(s) to the ILCA Executive Committee for inclusion in the ILCA Race Committee Instructions and eventual adoption by the Governing Board to the Documents Governing Sanctioned Events ("Documents Governing") for the North American Masters and International Masters
- As a secondary objective, determine how to integrate with other Masters events (currently Southern Circuit and ACC's)





Principles

Longevity

The purpose of the Masters regattas is to extend the life of competitive Lightning sailing, allowing participants to continue racing into their 70's, 80's and 90's.

Demographic

The primary reason for a Masters competition is to offer something for this specific demographic, and should be reasonably sailable for all ages 55-80; exceptional physical requirements should not be a prerequisite for participation.

Social

The social aspect of the Masters is an important component, and affords the opportunity to spend time with a great group of people and get together with old and new friends.

Participation

Our goal is to maximize participation, and is geared towards competitors being able to sail all races, focusing on the middle-to-higher range of the age demographic.

Marketing

There is an opportunity to enhance our marketing of the Class as a family-friendly competitive boat for all ages to sail, and perhaps even extend our membership. Not many other Classes offer Masters events, and the Lightning allows for a wider range of age/body type/skill level than most other classes.





Masters Survey – received 221 responses!

- As we developed our Recommendations, we wanted to hear from our Class members as well
- Sent to everyone age 50 and older w/ active status as of 2020
- Included all crew who sailed in Masters (2019, 2021 and 2022) regardless of age

What is your primary reason to sail in a Masters regatta?

What is your preference for the number of races per day?

What is your preference for an upper wind range?

What is your preference on target time length of race?

What changes to the regatta would make you MORE or LESS likely to participate?

What would you suggest to increase participation at Masters regattas?

Should we allow co-skippers on the same boat?





Masters Survey Results: Reasons to Sail

What are your primary reasons to sail in a Masters regatta

Age Bracket	Competitive racing Just like NA's	Competitive racing, Age Demographic	Camaraderie, seeing old friends	Tuneup for the NA's/World	Other
Total Responses:	24%	27%	28%	13%	7%
Skippers only:	23%	28%	29%	13%	7%
Age 65+:	22%	28%	29%	12%	8%
Age 70+:	22%	29%	29%	11%	8%

- Comments included:
 - Location; Bucket list destination
 - Lots of friends, lower paced event
 - Sail with past heroes of the Class
 - Competitive sailing against people my own age
 - Have fun sailing w/out beating up boats and bodies
 - Great competitive racing *and* time to spend with long-time friends
 - Intergenerational
 - Keep people sailing
 - Bigger fleet, less pressure
 - Shorter regatta





Recommendation: Schedule of Races

- Overall Schedule of Races: three days, two races per day (with discretion for a third race, next slide)
- Allow a throwout after four races
 - *For example:* If a third race is sailed in a day, a team can decide to forego that third race and potentially use it as their throwout

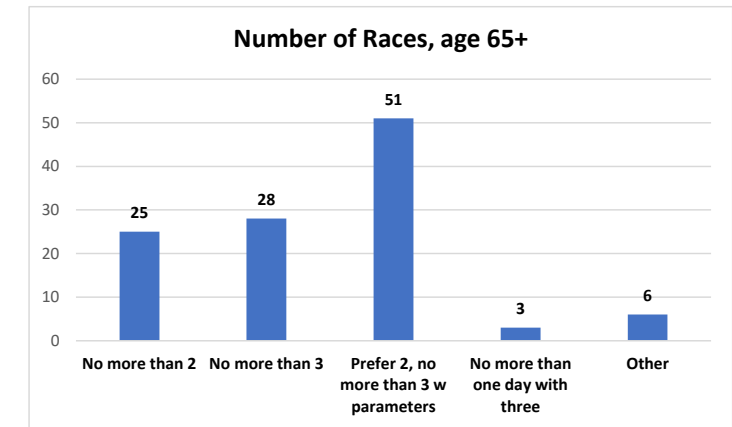
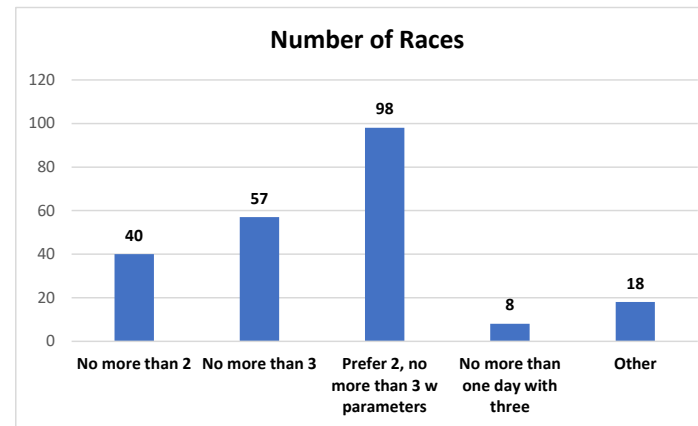




Recommendation: Number of Races per Day

- Prefer two races per day, but allow the discretion for a third race per day based on Guidelines
- Never more than three races per day under any circumstances

What is your preference for the number of races per day?

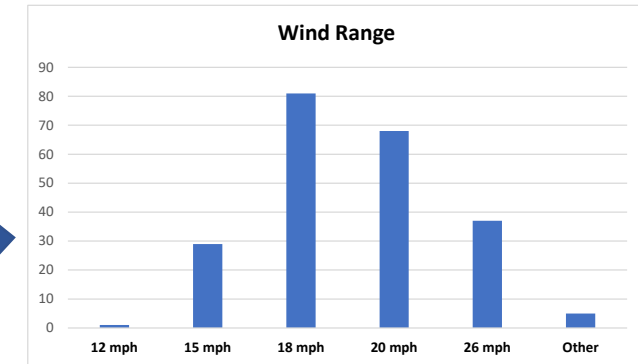




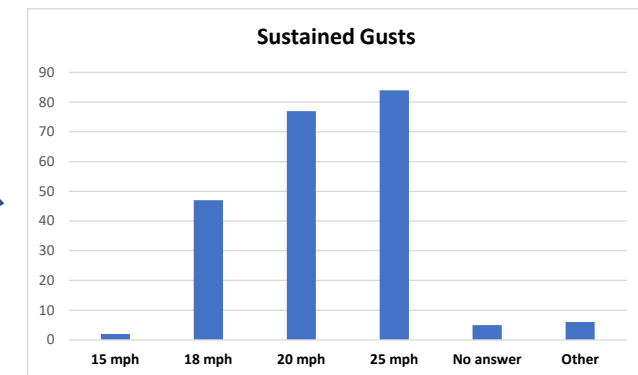
Recommendation: Guidelines

- Guidelines (none of which are protestable):
 - Establish acceptable wind speed of 18 mph average over five minutes, with upper limit for sustained gusts (over 10 sec) of 22 mph (*Changes Race Committee Instructions Section VIII[6] of 26 mph*)**
 - Target time for races: 50 minutes (may change Race Committee Instructions Section VIII[10] of a typical leg between 0.7 and 1.2 nm)
 - Strong preference for no more than one day to sail three races, but PRO discretion (2 perfect days and an impending hurricane)
 - Strong preference to avoid three races on the last day
 - Encourage morning competitor's meeting if a 3rd race is contemplated (changes Race Committee Instructions Section 7)
 - Racecourse:
 - Set starting line well to leeward of the leeward gate (allows for a longer first beat and fleet separation)
 - Encourage downwind finishes if additional races will follow

What is your preference for upper wind range (average over 5 min)



What is your preference for upper limit sustained gusts (over 10 seconds)





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What is your preference for target time per race

Target Time	Votes	Percent
30-45 min	40	18%
45-60 min	152	69%
60-75 min	20	9%
Other	9	4%





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 - b. Target time for races: 50 minutes (may change Race Committee Instructions Section VIII[10] of a typical leg between 0.7 and 1.2 nm)
 - c. **Strong preference for no more than one day to sail three races, but PRO discretion (2 perfect days and an impending hurricane)**
 - d. **Strong preference to avoid three races on the last day**
 - e. **Encourage morning competitor's meeting if a 3rd race is contemplated (changes Race Committee Instructions Section 7)**
 - f. Racecourse:
 - i. Set starting line well to leeward of the leeward gate
 - ii. Encourage downwind finishes if additional races will follow





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 - b. Target time for races: 50 minutes (may change Race Committee Instructions Section VIII[10] of a typical leg between 0.7 and 1.2 nm)
 - c. Strong preference for no more than one day to sail three races, but PRO discretion (2 Goldilocks days and an impending hurricane)
 - d. Strong preference to avoid three races on the last day
 - e. Encourage morning competitor's meeting if a 3rd race is contemplated (changes Race Committee Instructions Section 7)
 - f. **Racecourse:**
 - i. **Set starting line well to leeward of the gate**
 - ii. **Encourage downwind finishes if additional races will follow**





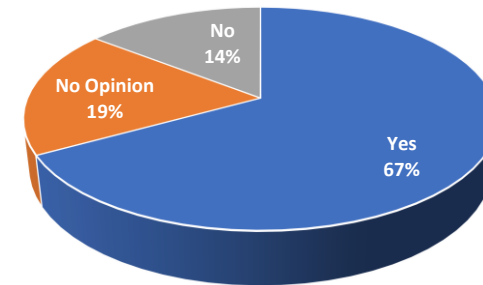
Recommendation: Allow Co-Skippers

- Allow co-skippers within the team of three, so long as each skipper meets age 55
 - As stated, team is restricted to three – cannot swap out additional crew/skippers
- Supported by 67% of survey respondents, with additional 19% No Opinion

Allow co-skippers

Co-Skippers	Votes	Percent
Yes	148	67%
No Opinion	41	19%
No	32	14%

Allow Co-Skippers





Conclusion

- Executive Committee has approved all recommendations, to be included in RC Instructions for Masters regattas and NOR additions
- Reviewing with Daryl Waskow for eventual submission to Governing Board to include in Documents Governing Sanctioned Events
- Inclusion in these documents should insure adoption for all future Masters events



Back-Up





Background

- “Originally conceived as a stand-alone regatta to allow the older generation to compete against their peers and encourage social engagement that might not occur in any other venue” - *Joe Buczkowski*
- Originally one long race per day, evolved to 2(+) races – *Bob Bush*
- Two-race-per-day limit is word-of-mouth – NOT anywhere in the Documents Governing Sanctioned Championships or RC Instructions
 - Age requirements are listed in Article XII(4); Article VIII(1) requires six races for a throw; Article VIII(3) sets time limits.
 - No specific mention of races for Masters
 - ACC Championships: Article III(2) reiterates age requirement; Article IV limits regatta to five races
 - Midwinters: counts only first two races, but not dictated by the Class



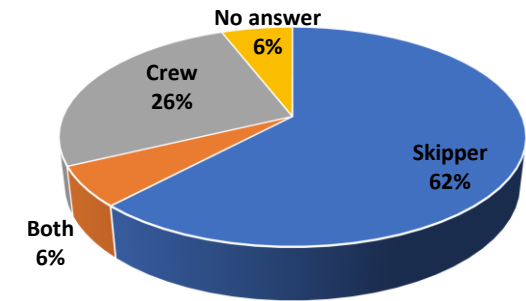


Masters Survey Respondents

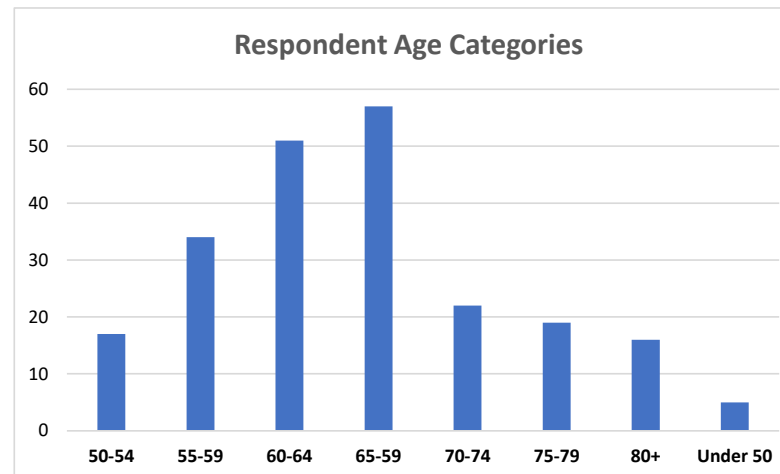
- 221 responses
- 51% (112) provided names
- Vast majority are skippers:

Skipper	137
Both	13
Crew	58
No answer	13

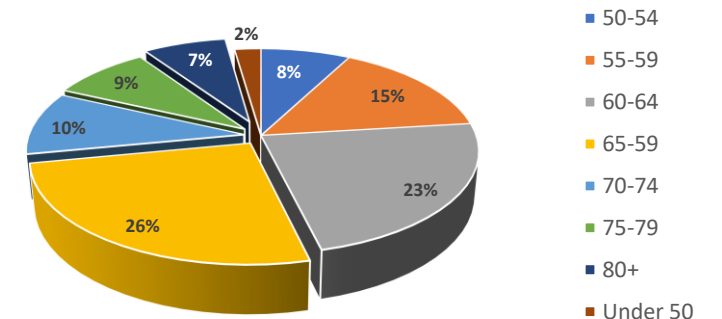
Skipper/Crew Breakdown



- Respondent Age Categories:
52% are age 65+



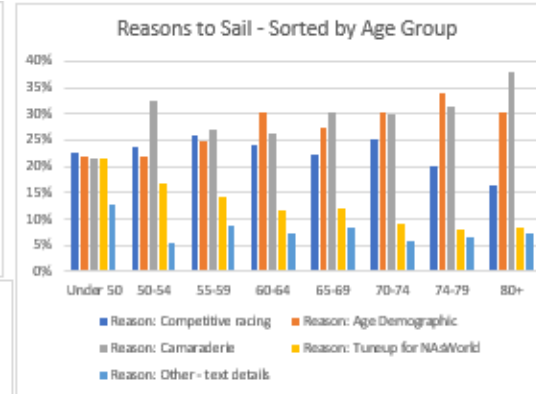
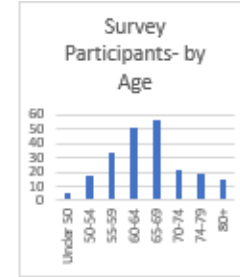
Respondent Age Categories



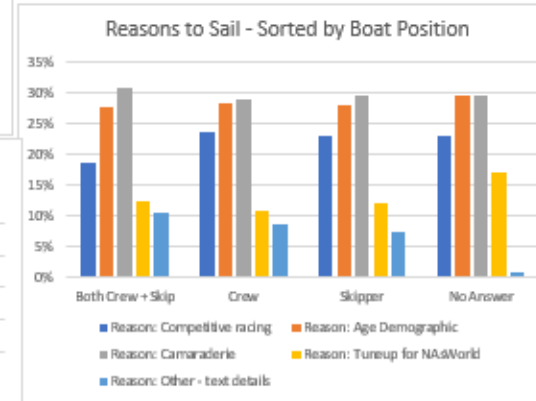


Additional Analysis Result re Number of Reasons to Sail

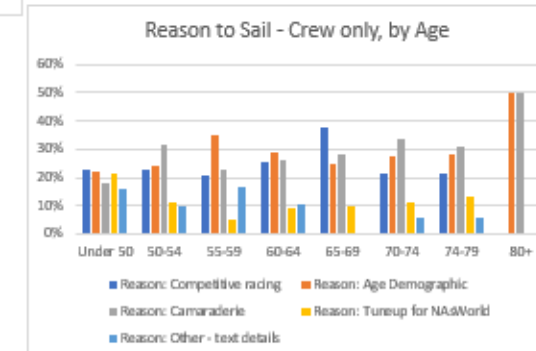
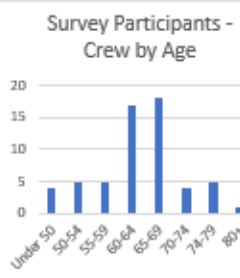
Both Skippers and crew		Reason: Competitive racing	Reason: Age Demographic	Reason: Camaraderie	Reason: Tuneup for NAsWorld	Reason: Other - text details
Under 50	Count 5	23%	22%	22%	21%	13%
50-54	17	24%	22%	33%	17%	5%
55-59	34	26%	25%	27%	14%	9%
60-64	51	24%	30%	26%	12%	7%
65-69	56	22%	28%	30%	12%	8%
70-74	21	25%	30%	30%	9%	6%
74-79	19	20%	34%	31%	8%	6%
80+	15	16%	30%	38%	8%	7%
Total	218					



All Ages		Reason: Competitive racing	Reason: Age Demographic	Reason: Camaraderie	Reason: Tuneup for NAsWorld	Reason: Other - text details
Both Crew + Ski	Count 12	19%	28%	31%	12%	10%
Crew	59	23%	28%	29%	11%	9%
Skipper	136	23%	28%	30%	12%	7%
No Answer	11	23%	30%	29%	17%	1%
Total	218					



Crew Only		Reason: Competitive racing	Reason: Age Demographic	Reason: Camaraderie	Reason: Tuneup for NAsWorld	Reason: Other - text details
Under 50	Count 4	23%	22%	18%	22%	16%
50-54	5	23%	24%	32%	11%	10%
55-59	5	21%	35%	23%	5%	16%
60-64	17	25%	29%	26%	9%	11%
65-69	18	37%	25%	28%	10%	0%
70-74	4	22%	28%	34%	11%	6%
74-79	5	21%	28%	31%	13%	6%
80+	1	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%



* Analysis from Bob Bush



Masters Survey Results: Wind Range by Age

Preference for upper
wind range (average
over 5 min) by age
category (65+)

Wind Range	65-69	Percent	70-74	Percent	75+	Percent
15 mph	8	14%	3	14%	9	26%
18 mph	24	42%	8	36%	20	57%
20 mph	18	32%	6	27%	5	14%
26 mph	6	11%	4	18%	1	3%
Other	1	2%	1	5%	0	0%

