

2023 MASTERS SURVEY: COMMENTS

What are the Primary Reasons you sail in the Masters: "Other" Comments

- 2022 was my first Lightning Masters. I was impressed by the level of competition. Likewise I was impressed by the Womens. In too many classes the Womens and Jrs events are a bit of a joke, going on while everyone else is measuring. I think the Lightning Class has a good recipe by including the Masters with the event and making it completely separate from NAs.
- As a sailor that started out in junior events, it is always fun to sail with the past heroes of the class. The masters give us back-of-the-pack sailors more opportunities to mingle with the pros in a more relaxed venue
- Attracted to the venue - anticipated conditions, location, housing, etc.
- Being able to compete in a sport and a class that I enjoy very much as I age.
- Better way to 'learn the boat' I've had my lightning 2 years.
- Close to home club
- Competitive racing against people my own age.
- Continued learning to improve competitive abilities. Really appreciate the mentoring and advice from our fleet champions.
- Doing something I enjoy with other like-minded people.
- Enjoy a lightning regatta
- Enjoy racing against skippers close to my age
- Finally getting a chance to sail against, and with some of the very best Lightning sailors of my generation!
- Fun regatta with great friends both on and off the water. I also like the intergenerational nature of the event.
- Get out with my dad!
- Great sailing and great people. Always something great going on be it on the water or on land
- Have fun sailing without beating up boats and bodies.
- Maximum 2 races a day
- NEVER EVER MORE THAN 2 DAYS A DAY!
- No long sail out to race course.
- Shorter courses, max winds under 20
- I am continuing to gain racing experience and would like to be able to compete in increasingly expert events. That's still a long way off but I'm enjoying the experience and dream.
- I feel that we should be inclusive with all older Lightning Sailors. Not just the Racing sailors. We have two events for a number of reasons, not just to have another event and give a trophy. People should be able to pick what level of physical effort and sailing level they want to compete at. We want to add/keep people sailing Lightnings, not just add an event to the calendar. I know it is out of the scope of this survey but I think we should even have a separate start in St Pete for some level of master. When we first started holding the masters events the age was higher and we had a separate start with one race a day for the masters. Once we lowered the age and used one start for both it killed the older participation. I do not mean it slowed down - it just stopped! None of the older skippers came back. They did not want to start with a larger fleet, or race more than one race. They did not want to deal with getting out of the water with 40 to 60 boats ahead of them. They did want to hang with all their sailing friends and see/meet the new 'kids' sailing. They enjoyed hanging with the group at the party. They could

afford to go to the event and they supported the class. They added to the history and comradery.

I understand the reasons why they went to the one start. I just think they did not think of all the pros and cons. It is easier on the committee for sure and you got more people to sail the 'masters' because they only had to meet the numbers and fill in the form. They did not have to pick between sailing the Mid-winters and the masters because they could do both. Now we have even added more levels to the event but still do not split the fleets out. Maybe we should think about higher level age and maybe a separate start for them and keep the lower age masters as part of the Mid-winters.

Sorry for going off topic but the point is to show that small changes will affect what happens to each event and our class. I do not think we should bump up the number of races over two a day at the masters. Maybe go to three if they get behind on the schedule just to make some of the others happy. (I would not do that) I would state that never more than three no matter how many races behind they are. There are other ways to keep the Physical effort down. Tie the number of races to a scale based on wind, sea state and temp (water and air). There are other conditions to add in, like how far to the race course or how long have they been out on the water. I know most of those we relied on the race committee to handle. But I also know that a number of PRO's would welcome some guidance from the class on what their wishes are.

In short, anyway we can get more people sailing and being a part of our class, we should. Thanks for sailing Lightnings. (Comment from Tom Allen)

- I find the group of 'young' masters (50's) to be a fun refreshing group of sailors. I grew up with this crowd and have enjoyed competing with them for many years.
- I find the purpose for the masters to be different than other national level races. The purpose is to allow sailors between 55 and 95 or older if they can still get themselves on the boat, the opportunity to sail in a national event, and be competitive. Masters level events should be focused on expanding the fleet, particularly to those who have been the foundation of our class, but are maybe not able to compete in the N/As or other national events. I love the fact that masters generally sail only two races a day to allow those sailors to be competitive. I was somewhat disappointed at masters worlds in Wrightsville that after the first day of racing was canceled, that Masters ended up sailing three races per day in very very challenging conditions. I would like to note, that, for the regular worlds, they sailed the only two races a day. bottom line, there are many ways for people to sail in national level events, as well as international level of events. The masters is unique, in that it allows those who might not otherwise show up at a national event, to show up and be competitive. And I fervently believe we should stay true to the precepts and rationale for holding a masters level regatta for the lightnings, to truly make it available to all sailors, who reached an age, where they might not otherwise be able to sail a national level event.
- I think all of the items posted are compelling reasons to sail. I just hope that I am healthy enough, soon enough to come and play in a master's event.
- I just happen to be 'of that certain age'.
- I only sail competitively with the only other Lightning on my northern New York - Adirondack lake. I win about 1 out of 3 races.
- If the venue is a 'bucket list' destination then that would matter.
- A venue with typically reliable breeze for the month the regatta is scheduled.
- We only get to race July and August at Squam so an event held during any of the other 10 months would be of greater interest to me.

- It gives me the opportunity to sail with my husband in a major regatta, since I would not be able to sail in a full NAs.
- It is another regatta to sail with my friends
- It is close to our home club (Surf City) this year and we are not getting any younger.
- I've crewed once in a Master's Worlds. I really don't have any interest in sailing Masters events at this point. Maybe when I'm in my 80's.
- Just for Fun.
- Just to get out there and do it. Setting a goal and working towards it. Let's try and get one finish in the top 10 at the Master's
- Keep the competitive juices flowing and testing yourself as to logistics, science, boat prep, strategies
- Learn more from experienced sailors and experts.
- Learning and competing in an age-adjusted group of sailors
- Legacy boat - 7170
- Lightning Family
- Location. Some masters/womens/juniors events are held in locations other than the NAs and these have frequently been in locations near where we sail or where we like to sail.
- LOTS OF FUN, ENJOY SEEING OLD FRIENDS, LOWER PACED EVENT, TOO WINDY OR ROUGH, CANCEL
- Love sailing / crewing with other master sailors
- Max of two races per day is really nice.
- New to this class wanted to race a boat with a crew and a spin lighting. I came me from sunfish class and this class is very similar
- One of my regular crew's age qualifies us for Masters
- Opportunity to be in a bigger fleet but with less pressure.
- Opportunity to sail with people I may not normally race with - older siblings and friends
- Proximity to home
- Sailing with friends, learning - as we race against some of the best sailors in the world and supporting the Lightning Class.
- Schedule allows for great competitive racing AND time to see long-time friends. As a master, it allows me to enjoy the races and not be completely beaten up. I can put everything I have into the races without worrying that I'll have to do another race that day when I'm over tired and unsafe. I could pull that off when I was 40 or even 50 but not anymore. That makes it enjoyable and worth attending. I actually prefer it to the NA's .
- Shorter regatta
- Somebody needs a crew
- Sometimes the dates for the Masters work better for me than the dates of the NAs (depending on the year).
- Support the class
- Testing equipment and similar aged crews against one another.
- The ability to be at a well-attended regatta with all the juniors and women as well. This should be one of the go-to regattas of the year - and not be like an NA's.
- The N. American Masters Championship was held at my yacht club.
- To sail a high caliber 2 to 3 day regatta with 25-35 boats

- To sail with the older elites of racing and sailing is an honor in my opinion. I can learn and have a more candid conversation with the older generation without having a lot of younger sailors around.
- There is more of a safety-minded ideals in the race. Corinthian racing. During the starts there is no monkey business of boat handling. At mark roundings, there is a decision-making process beforehand and planning, instead of a barge in there and do it attitude. ETC.
- To test myself and team against the better competition.
- To try to do well and enjoy
- Travel to a venue that I have not sailed before or return to one that I have enjoyed before.
- Venue location, ease of travel to venue
- Venue!
- We are a competitive group despite our age Unfortunately in my case a number of disabilities have kept me off of the starting line. I truly miss it, but have found that over the years no matter how old a Lightning Sailor is, He or She is competitive as Hell. Also the Camaraderie and seeing old Friends is so important.
- Would consider sailing if venue was near my home.

What changes would make you more or less likely to participate?

- 3 day weekend. Makes 5 day commitment with 1 day travel each way. I can't do a week long regatta.
- A venue with excessive motorboat traffic. A venue known to have light wind during the regatta month (e.g. Long Island Sound or Annapolis in July).
- A west coast venue.
- Add Extra Day
- Adding more age groups
- Availability and cost of housing. Logistics in some venues are difficult.
- Covid kept me out of the last one but nothing you can do about that.
- Expand age groups
- Fewer races, less wind
- Fun, Has to be FUN. Fun on the water and fun off the water may even be more important? Frankly, I come to these events as social events / gatherings. And going sailing w' old friends, sailing a couple of races each day, is icing on top. Maybe I have my priorities wrong - but that is my answer.
- Help to arrange crew
- Hold regattas on inland waters.
- I always want to participate but it's usually question of race location and its proximity to where I live.
- I am less likely to compete if sustained winds are over 20mph or gusts exceed 25mph
- I am tired of regatta formats changing year to year. I want to know what to expect, and be able to plan for it.
- I like the current format but think that if conditions and time allows 3 races in a day is a good idea and would help to make an event more enticing.
- I love participating whenever I can - I do like that the Masters is typically not as physically demanding as the NAs due to the limit on the number of races each day.
- I personally would like to see a lesser number of races than the championship fleet. A little more social events

- I think if we tried to turn the masters regatta into a shadow North Americans regatta, or as seemingly just a prep for the north Americans, that would limit my desire to participate
- I would like to see it separated from the NAs
- I would participate more with more inland lake sailing as I have limited experience in big water, big wave sailing. I believe the class is fostering that in recent years which is good.
- I'd be less interested in racing if there was a high chance that conservative views on Masters abilities (i.e., excessive restrictions on the sailing conditions) led to too few races being sailed. I'd be more likely if there were more events in the New England/Northeast region.
- If it becomes a social event, I am gone...if we sail only one race, I am gone.... Master's are not so old and decrepit that this regatta shouldn't be considered a Championship regatta.
- I'm really not the demographic. Until I retire, I'm not going to do any mid week events.
- It's not the NAs. Don't make it that.
- Keep cost down
- Less: 4 or more races/day, sailing in high winds. More: readily available, close housing (reasonable rates). Awards for top non 'pro'
- Less: if format changes to focus less on a mature masters audience. There are plenty of regattas for the younger set. More: don't treat it like a second rate regatta. Masters should still get a photo boat, spectator boat etc. Complete the regatta and honor the masters before turning attention to the perceived 'real' regatta, (the NA's). These people, the masters, have given their time talent, expertise and support to the class for decades and they continue to do so. Crews should be valued too.
- Let's splurge on some good food and entertainment
- Location & Cost & Calendar. How it fits!
- Location is key for me with my work and life schedule.
- Location within 1 day drive of Michigan
- Love clinics and training.
- Lower registration price
- Make me less likely: 3 races on the last day to get to 6 races total, 3 races on any day at the (even modified) maximum. More likely - having some fun type race - maybe a 1 lap with a 5 mile long beat. More Likely: where social event schedule trumps getting in another race. More Likely - if they have trophies for combined ages of 175 years and 200 years (1st and 2nd)
- More Boats!
- More likely to attend if the Masters regatta is held at the same venue (similar to Worlds).
- More likely to participate with max wind speed of 20, no more than 2 race/day and not more than an hour sail to race area.
- More- separation of Corinthians from pro boats.
- More social activities, especially if only 2 races. More time to spend meeting with others. Not so tired if not super windy or 'lots' of races.
- More social events.
- "MORE: Being a close-by venue, have housing available - inexpensive, Maybe on the first day have a practice race exercise of one lap and then a real race making it #1. This could be the extra race needed for the heavy air or light (no go) air deleted race. LESS: Three races in one day is TOO MUCH. Maybe in light air it would be O.K but not ideal."
- N/A
- No changes. I loved the PA and NC locations!
- Not sure I am the guy to ask this question. I will come no matter what changes are made. I guess I would not like to see three or more races each day at the masters.

- Prefer fresh water venues
- Provide an email for potential crew to volunteer.
- Rotate to areas with the most master age racers
- Sailing more than 3 races in a day would make me less likely to attend.
- schedule when school is on vacation.
- "Scratch the arduous measurement process. Do have a safety requirement but scrap all the other stuff esp with the boats all largely having been measured so many times. They are all cookie cutter now, vs the old days when they were all different, different builders, etc. Just say if you have been approved at any Masters or NAs in the past 5 years, don't need to measure (sails or boats)
- Allow sailors to switch positions on board for skipper or crew to allow everyone a chance to have fun, etc.
- Separating from NAs makes it easier
- Shorter duration regatta, more consideration that it's hard to sail for a week (in any conditions, even light ones) on the water. A large supply of Salonpas back/shoulder/gel pads for pain relief, Aleve as a regatta sponsor (LOL)?
- Shorter time on water overall
- Staying with the race limit per day.
- Summertime vs wintertime
- The primary reason I don't make it often is the time commitment
- The sailing area needs to be close to the launching site. Long sails or tows to the racing area are a big turn-off for me.
- There is very little reason to do the whole measurement process for masters. No one is gonna try to cheat and the sails are all standard. Simplify wherever possible. I'd also love to sail a masters w two of my kids vs one, but we'd never hit the age limit. I think maybe you could craft an extra exemption if you got two of your kids on board. It's a family class. what else can we do to encourage that?
- They have always seemed like great events. I look forward to playing with everyone soon.
- This is my opinion and mine only. The masters is pretty much the same guys doing the regular NA's, so some of the older or less experienced older guys still get crushed. I would like to see more separation of this. If your top 10 at NA's, stay out of the Masters, let some old guys have some fun and give someone else a trophy.
- time of year depending on the location of the regatta. If we can get a venue with good weather (typically) without being 'in-season' for the area. Equal amounts of racing, socializing, and maybe some skill building seminars prior to the event.
- Timing during Womens and Juniors makes boat availability difficult.
- Too many races in one day would disqualify me from participating
- travel distance
- upper windspeed limits
- venue - no light air places in the summer. If Annapolis or LI Sound wants to hold the regatta, move to fall or other more appropriate time
- We are more likely to attend when held at a 'civilized' venue - not big open water ocean sailing.
- Well managed, quality shore experience is attractive and a selling point for me. For example, I can't wait to go back to Florida Yacht Club but I feel very cheated by Sayville Yacht Club (\$570). Also, a Race Committee that mismanages time is a turnoff.
- Western locations.
- Wooden boat fleet

What would you suggest to increase participation?

- # of races per day along with sea, wind, weather condition considerations
- 3 day event over a weekend
- a Corinthian fleet
- allow exceptions for total age requirement to encourage 3 generation teams as long as 3rd generation team member is under 12
- An endless supply of Mount Gay Rum and Bloody Mary's (comment from Charles Howe, age 80+)
- Assistance in set-up and take-down
- Availability of boats for crews that have to travel far and don't/can't get their own boat to the regatta.
- "Bigger parties, better coverage. Add a Classic boat division!!
- Consider having a Masters Division within a single event
- Consider having the regatta NOT be right before the NAs or worlds. That amount of sailing for masters can be a lot. Pluses and minuses with this.
- Crew and time availability are the biggest challenges
- Expand age groups
- FREE
- fun accessible venues & hosts!
- Get rid of combined age and just have skipper over 55
- Grow class participation. Greater visibility of district series, and district and regional events leading up to the Masters regattas.
- Having boats available for those hauling or traveling long distance. Having older crew available. More fun activities after sailing such as appetizers, wine tastings, carnival games, cornhole. More fun activities in the evening after a nap before dinner."
- Help me find a way to 'retire' from my day job!!!!
- Hold it on Fri,/Sat,/Sun
- Hold qualifying events in multiple locations with say the top 5 finishers moving on to the Masters Championship held in a rotating location each summer.
- Hold the event on a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday format if possible. The 2011 and 2012 Master's , Juniors and Womens Regattas were held on these days with good participation.
- Honestly, I wouldn't do anything differently than we are doing now similar to what we are doing for women's and juniors at the WJM's.
- I do like the idea of being able to sail 3 races on a given day if needed assuming the conditions are reasonable - to make up for any lost days due to no wind/too much wind/storms.
- I don't have enough culture experience in the Lightning class but generally make the socials fun
- I don't think it is quantity over quality. We have a number of major problems -- No New Boats being built or are readily available, Poor fleet and district racing, and boats like the Flying Scot is eating us alive...because we don't focus on making boats available and fleet activities.
- I like that womens/juniors/masters was altogether in one event. Two of us could have participated in masters (our third was in her 30s), but we raced Women's instead. Location of the is event is probably a factor - and identifying how many masters are in a given area and making special attempt to get them out to the regatta will be helpful. My days of sailing week-long long-course, hard sailing (like, say, Southern Circuit or NAs) are behind me now, it's just too grueling and I'm left needing a vacation afterwards! I'm the crew, so as such, I take the brunt of all the banging around in the front of the boat.

- I like the current format. The only change I would like to see is flexibility with the 2 race a day rule to get all of the races in.
- I love the lab that goes with St Pete. I would also add more age groups like other fleets: Masters, Grand masters, now that I'm in mid 60s
- I think participation is going very nicely. All I can think of is offering a service to unpack and setup the boat and pack it up for say \$50 bucks would be very attractive to me. I would pay up to \$75 for this service.
- I think you have read enough from me but since you are asking. I would keep the off the water parts of the event up. I feel, for the Junior's, Women's and the Master's, it is a very important part of the event. Personally it maybe even more important than the sailing.
- I would advertise the event among other one design classes and across the one design sailing world. I believe that relatively few classes support competitive racing among people in their 60's, 70's, and 80's (a Laser Master can be only 35 years old, for example). This is a demographic where people have time and money, so we should see it as a growth opportunity for the Lightning class.
- Increase the recognition/award somehow? Lots of great Lightning sailors have 'retired.' We've got to figure out how to get them out of retirement.
- Integration of Masters Events into Major Regattas. (I.E. Sailing World Regatta Series) Often classes have sub regattas within other major regattas.
- Introducing grand masters and great grand master's categories.
- It looks to me that this class already has one of the most active Masters groups. Like many classes of boats, just because you have some years under your belt that doesn't mean you are not competitive. Quite often it is just the opposite.
- Just have fun.
- Just two days - can do practice race and have a light get together friday night. No measurement of boats.
- Keep cost down
- Keep criteria's the same for all boats
- Keep entry fee low. Make an effort to provide housing.
- Keep it focused on the masters.
- Keep the costs down as much as possible. Keep the daily gatherings after the races..huge! Wrap a 3 day on a weekend. Change the age and create a family exemption. Lower the max wind threshold some.
- Limit the hotshots.
- Location
- Lower the combined age. Just make one person have to be ancient
- Make boats available to former skippers / crews. Loved the idea of the Boat Loan boats being used at events if the loan recipient can't make it - perhaps make boat loan program boats available for the Master NAs if not too much trouble for the recipients - appreciate they have their own programs and the class is supporting those programs.
- Make it very clear how much sailing and socializing time is targeted. Make measurement an easy process.
- Maybe more selectivity, considering age and originality of boat as well as age of skipper and crew. Maybe sum of ages of skipper and crew in super masters no less than 210?
- More boats
- more parties
- More regional events

- More regional events.
- My own participation. it seems that I don't go to the big regattas anymore. Not entirely sure why. The excuse I use is lack of time."
- Normal promotion
- Not Allowing as warm up for NA's/Worlds
- Offer crew sign-up for remote events. Offer boats 'for-hire' or 'sail-buy-N-bye' program to encourage local owners to put their boats to use. Would need some insurance programs, liability terms & conditions, but it could get more boats in the races.
- Our Masters' team is looking for a non-Masters' team to share the boat for the upcoming Worlds events in Colombia in November. Splitting the cost of shipping the boat will make the cost of participating more accessible for both teams and increase participation by one boat in the Masters Worlds (as well as by one boat in the Worlds).
- Provide access to housing if possible.
- "Recognition of: All family team, Over 200 years team(s)
- Rotating positions for the boat without penalty.
- Run masters races in the morning followed by Women's and Jr's in the afternoon where the women and jr's crew for the masters then use the boats in the afternoon. The point would be to mix up people socially on and off the water who might not otherwise interact.
- Separate from NAs
- Social events - keep the sailors at the venue enjoying their time together. Meals together.
- The access to the venue is important. Also, I'd favor maybe even more flexibility in the number of races. For example having the flexibility for the organizers to run more than three shorter races on day one if it looks doubtful for the remaining days. There is a different issue that is also probably important. My guess is a large factor is how active the local clubs are because the incentive to attend something like the Masters (or W, J, or NAs) really depends on being very active during the season. It's becoming more difficult in so many locations to run things like evening racing considering commute times, etc. Unfortunately that's not a factor there is an easy answer to.
- The level of competition is quite high at most Masters regattas, which can be a turnoff to a lot of average sailors. I don't think it's a great idea to ban high level skippers or something like that, but widely separating WJM and NAs geographically can have a similar effect. When WJM and NAs are at the same or nearby venues, a lot of NA teams will show up for WJM as a tune-up which dramatically increases the level of competition.
- The weekend suggestion is good since many over 55's are still working. Don't assume that we all are retired, yet. ;)
- the whole week is too long for us working folks
- Timing over a weekend
- Two fleets based on qualification races
- Venue selection is critical. If we are talking about Womens, Jr.'s, Masters camping and a range of accommodation options would be a plus. Also venue related, what else is there to do in the area. Anything of interest for non-sailing family members? And I think a lot of people are put off by the cost of attending one of these events (the total overall cost, and housing is a huge part of that). To me it makes no difference if the WJM's are close to the NA's, geographically or by calendar. If a different place or dates could help boost attendance, we should at think about trying it. And lastly please do NOT break up the Womens, Jr.'s, Masters as a combo event.

- We may want to consider allowing participants to split into more competitive or less competitive fleets. Individuals can still enjoy all of the racing and on-shore activities depending on their level of competitiveness.
- Weekends. More locations.
- Work at the district level to feed into the NAs and Masters.
- work with individual clubs to promote master's program participation

Any Additional Comments?

- Didn't know we had a problem
- Excited to Sail in Masters
- For both the NAs and the MWJ it seems to be a reflection of the overall state of one design sailing in general. Actually I'd say the Lightning Class is doing pretty well compared to so many other classes. There probably isn't a magic change that can be made and it's important to realize the Class is doing very well today. Having an accessible predictably friendly venue may be as important as an exciting venue. And of course relatively predictable wind conditions. One other thought: I wonder if having access to a venue for several days before or after the event per se might be an advantage. My guess is liability issues these days for many clubs probably prevent that but it's just a thought. I've always heard stories of how the Class grew in part because the NAs also became the family vacations for members. I've sailed in a few NAs and Masters before but not in the last few years. I frankly think it would be great to do so again. Thanks for asking. I wish I had more definite suggestions.
- Give Laura a raise, she is doing an amazing job of keeping the class relevant.
- Grand Master? Age requirements? Crew ages?
- HAPPY SAILING
- Housing in a location is probably a factor - most Masters aren't going to be 'hey, let's crash on someone's floor or camp at the regatta site' for an event. It's just too hard on the body, so places where decently affordable accommodations, events outside the regatta venue (restaurants, activities) are helpful. In addition, though we are hub/wife team, with crew, we know many spouses don't race, and these extra amenities are helpful to attract older people to come.
- I assume this survey is in response to those who desire a senior level to the NAs with equal racing activity. It is not. I see it as an annual reunion of those who are still able to travel to a national event. Treat it that way and I believe we all win.
- I believe the masters regatta should remain scored for first two races a day. If people want to continue racing they can of course. But many older sailors like to come in after two and this way we all get what we wish.
- I did the MC nationals last year, never set foot on an MC prior to that. LOTS of people welcomed me, during the event, looked for me at the parties and made me feel like I belonged there. Included me in their dinner plans. It was the most fun I've had at a regatta in 35 years.
- I know the min. skipper age is 55 and with 'changing times' I think it needs to be raised (grandfather those currently allowed). Many of the 'older' crowd has fun but can't do 3 races or very windy days. Just not fun, so don't go. Masters was not meant as a tune up for another event.
- I know you are interested in increasing participation, but I think the age should be raised. 55 is no longer a 'Master.' As they say 60 is the new 40.
- I love this class, I love lightning sailors, and I love the community that we have created. I do wonder why we are doing the survey regarding masters level Regattas, as there has been a long-

standing precedent for the format that masters level events have followed. For a specific reason. I loved the fact that Hugh Hutchinson and his crew raced well at Pymatuning, having the boat with the oldest combined age. That is exactly what the masters is about.

- I think there should be a class rep working with the OA, looking at the conditions at the specific venue to help determine how wind/sea state/sail in and out/how many races we did yesterday... will determine how races are held. It might also work to have a self-selected group that will not sail more than two races a day, and not score them against the 'hardcore' group. I would say that maybe the actual masters trophies should be awarded to the first group as the others are really just warming up for the Open North Americans or Worlds.
- I would appreciate hearing from Bob Astrove.
- I'm just not likely to sail a Masters event until I feel like I'm not able to sail competitively in other events. When I am able to do an event, I really like to get in a lot of racing. So I'm way more likely to want to attend an event that has 15 races in 3 days than 3 races in 3 days. That being said, I'm just not that interested in sailing Masters events.
- Love sailing in the Masters. Always learning and having fun is what keeps me coming back whenever I have the opportunity. The social aspect of seeing everyone is key also. Thanks for doing a survey as it's a great tool for communication and improvement!
- Maybe Masters age should be increased by 5-10 years given the health and longevity of people these days
- None. I appreciate what you do!
- One reason I participate in the masters is to enjoy the different sailing venues around the country, mostly NE, South and midwest.
- Select sight where contestants can stay nearby.
- Should there be 3 races on the last day of the regatta? Should there be 3 races on the last day of the regatta, if the 3rd race is race 6 (the full complement of races)? Should we set up junior boats with senior boats (like a coach or mentor)?
- Should we consider multiple more regional Masters level regattas? Keeping costs contained by shortening travel distances. How about districts sponsoring an evening activity?
- thank you for issuing this survey!
- Thank you for your interest. The masters is a fun event for the class.
- Thanks for all the efforts to make, handle and report on this survey.
- Thanks for asking
- Thanks for asking!
- thanks for asking.
- The Masters programs (along with the Boat Loan) are two strengths of the Class. Draw people in and keeps them.
- The regatta has grown to the point it stands on its own. It is similar to the Finn Class. So a lot of good is going on already!
- What is your favorite moment at a masters regatta? In varying degrees, the sense of accomplishment and continuing to feel a part of an activity that has been an important part of my life.
- When you get the results it would have been interesting to see the opinions of women vs men. If not too late I'd add that into the survey questions now :)
- Wind limits are great, but it goes without saying that PRO needs to adapt to location as well. 23 knot gusts on an inland lake is a lot different than 23 knot gusts in open waters with big waves.
- WMJ's and International Masters have long been and remain amongst my favorite events.

- Would you attend regattas that were limited to teams that fit within the Masters age restrictions ? Our experience has been sailing in a regatta and being scored both in the overall regatta and in the masters division. Are separate classes being proposed ?
- You might have an amateur sub-division