

Championship Division Report – August 2015

We are coming to the end of a very busy championship season. The Youth/Junior events are concluded and the adult series is underway. As a result of the Working Group's recommendations, we are taking a five year approach to the events and tracking their performance with 2013 as the baseline. Some comments related to this are below.

Event	2013	2014	2015	Change Green: no change or improving Yellow: Keeping a watchful eye Red: Moving in the wrong direction
Number of Sailors in open or ladder events				
Juniors * - # in ladder	470	513	456	
Junior Women's Doublehanded	76	78	80	
Junior Women's Singlehanded	50	42	35	
Singlehanded	15	67	50	
Multihull	23 +	7	11	
Number of Boats/Applications				
Adult** - # boats	8	9	14 +	
Women's Match* #RIF	10	8	7	
Youths* #applications	200	184	178 +	
Disabled	11	17	19	
Match*	30	24	38 +	
C of C**	32	23	33	
Youth Match * -RIF	12	N/A	14	
Team**	15	16	15	
Offshore**	9		10	
*qualifiers ** invitation only RIF – Requests for Invitation + - Format Change				

Singlehanded

The success of this event is totally dependent on our partnership with the Laser Class. This year, we used Laser Nationals which was a better fit than North Americans. We will be debriefing with the class later this month to determine what could happen in 2016.

Multihull

The success of this event is totally dependent on our partnership with the class of multihulls in the rotation. Unlike other classes, the multihull community does not seem to switch boats often. On the plus side, we are building stronger partnerships within the classes themselves.

Disabled Sailing

The recent decision to eliminate Paralympic sailing and by extension classification has had an enormous impact on the U.S. Disabled Championship. While the number of boats may have changed little, the impact is on the boats that are being sailed for the championship. The majority of boats sailing at this year's event are with sailors who would or could not be classified under the IFDS System. The Sailors with Disabilities Committee and the Disabled Championship committee will need to spend time this winter defining what it recommends US Sailing classifies as "Disabled".

Team Racing

This event has also experienced a demographic shift. Until recently, it was a post collegiate crowd. With the change from the Vanguard 15, the sailors are now predominately collegiate. There is some discussion on what changes need to be made to accommodate this shift.

Youth Sailing

The Try It Out Clinics just completed another successful event in multihulls in Annapolis last month and we are in discussion with other groups with the view to building the number of Try It Out clinics in 2016.

Junior Women's singlehanded sailing is in a nationwide slump right now. The numbers at Laser Nationals mirrored the proportional numbers at the JWS, Youths and Juniors.

The Women's Match Racing community is a small one with little to no growth. I am attending the Women's Match Racing Championship this month to enter in discussions with the sailors as to what actions need to be taken to save this event.