



WORLD CHAMPION BOATBUILDER FOR OVER 40 YEARS

4737 Adams Road, Chattanooga TN 37343 (423)875-0740 Fax (423)875-4011

www.optistuff.com
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McLaughlin Wins US Nationals and New England Champs

CONGRATULATIONS To the following McLaughlin Sailors:

First Place US Nationals: Mathew Wefer, Herman Tomasgaard Second Place, Mitias Rengifo Forth Place, 6 of the top 10 finishers were McLaughlin's.

First Place New England Championships: Pearson Potts, Mathew Wefer Second Place, Jordan Factor third Place

First Place European Championships: Emily Dellenbaugh. This is the best finish of any American Optimist sailor in International Competition ever. **WOW!**

The New 2005 McLaughlin's are very fast and attractive on top of that. It should be noted McLaughlin has won 2 of the last 4 Worlds.



Above pictures are from the World Championships held this August in St. Moritz, Switzerland. Left, The beautiful back drop of Lake Silvaplana and Swiss Alps, showing Optimist rounding the upwind mark and reaching to the jib mark. Middle, The US team marching to the Opening Ceremony. Justin Doane, Sean Moynahan, Eliza Richartz, Will Haeger, Mike Russom, Coach Kyle Shattuck and team leader Kent Haeger. Right: Eliza Richartz about to head downwind for day 2 of racing. Picture number 1 is actually of Eliza moving from third to second on the reaching leg. Sean rounded that mark in 7 Th place for a big USA showing.

How do you hold a World Championship Regatta on a small lake? You have the "Malojawind", "The reverse wind". This wind comes up every day about 11:00 AM. It is strong and its direction is so predictable the marks were left in place through out the Regatta.



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Charters For New Orleans Team Practices And Fall/Winter Regattas

Now is the time to put in your reservations for the up coming Regattas:

Sept 24-25 Atlantic Coast Championships, Sea Cliff, NY

Oct 8-9 USODA Southeast Championships, Lake Lanier, Atlanta, GA

Oct 13-16 USNT Practice, New Orleans, LA

Nov 11-13 USNDT Practice, New Orleans, LA

Nov 24-26 Midwinter Championships, New Orleans, LA

Dec 27-30 Orange Bowl Regatta, Miami, FL

Jan 21-22 South East Team Racing Championships, St. Pete Yacht Club, FL

Feb 11-12 Valentines Regatta, St. Pete, FL

Fall Specials: SAVE \$400 on new boat

McLaughlin announces it's fall special for those buying a boat between now and December 31, 2005. All new boat packages purchased will receive an Optibucks coupon good for \$400 in free gear from the Optiparts catalog. The purchase of a charter package will receive \$300 off MSRP.

This is an ideal opportunity to save some money and buy a unique Christmas gift on the 2005 McLaughlin hull, which is undisputedly the finest Optimist in the World. You can take advantage of this sale at your Optimist dealer or at one of the fall events that McLaughlin will be at.

McLaughlin Christmas Clinic



McLaughlin will once again be hosting the Annual Christmas Clinic in Advance of the Orange Bowl at Coral Reef Yacht Club December 20 – 23. This makes a terrific Christmas gift that will long be remembered. There are only a limited number of spaces available. Some of the best coaches in the country will be present. Both Advanced and



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green fleet coaching is provided. Watch Optinews and www.optistuff.com for more details.

Two Ideas From The Worlds



Mast Step Rubber Band And Adjustment: A very effective way to keep your mast step from changing it's settings from the vibration caused by heavy seas is to put a rubber band around it. If you cannot find a small rubber band cut a slice out of a small bicycle inner tube.

It should be noted when making mast rake adjustments that 1 turn of the wheel changes the rake adjustment about 1 Centimeter or ½ inch. Mast rake is the measurement from the top of the mast to the edge of the deck at the stern. Here are some typical mast rakes for different weight skippers:

<u>Skippers weight Lbs</u>	<u>Mast Rake inches</u>		
Under 70	109-110,	70-80	110-111
80-90	111-112	90-100	112-112.5
100-110	112.5-113	110-120	113-113.5
Over 120	114-114.5		

These measurements also depend on how you sail, are you a footer or a pincher. Raking the mast back helps pointing ability. Forward rake helps power up the boat for



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speed. Wind velocity and sea conditions will also affect rake. Let your coach help select the best rake for you.

4 To 1 Main Sheet Adjustment:

This idea came from team New Zealand. In heavy air continuous mainsheet adjustment is critical to speed. Lighter weight skippers have a tendency not to play the main sheet because they lack the strength to do so for an entire up wind leg. Adding the extra purchase helps over come the strength issue.

The Harken 2651 single 40 mm Carbo block (attached to your existing block) works best. The Harken 2642 – Double fixed 40 mm Carbo block, or the Harken 2655 40 mm Carbo fiddle blocks will also serve this purpose. It was also suggested you could drop down a size on the diameter of the main sheet and even go to smaller size 29 mm blocks. When the winds lighten up it is easy to drop out one of the purchases and effectively shorten the main sheet.

New Rule Foils Can Damage CB Slot / Blade Measurement At McLaughlin

We have seen evidence that the new rule foils, being made of hard epoxy, have a tendency to cut through the rubber daggerboard insert placed in the slot aft bottom corner. Keep an eye out so your board does not do damage to the hull bottom by cutting into it. McLaughlin is experimenting with several solutions. One idea is to place a hardened ware strip into the aft corner. We will keep you informed of developments.



At the recent Nationals USODA Board meeting Mike Sherman volunteered to have Dean Hearn, Measurer for McLaughlin, **measure older blades**. Simply send them insured to McLaughlin with \$35 to pay Dean and cover return postage. Please tape your name, address and phone number to the blades. It should be noted: **There is no reason for you to buy new rule foils**. Your current blades, if measured, are grand fathered forever for any race in the United States and most outside the US. (The only exception to this last statement is when the North Americans are held in the US



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beginning in 2007.) In many cases the older foils have a better shape for your skipper than the new design.

How Important Is Mast and Foil Alignment?

In terms of speed we think it is everything. If the manufacturer cannot reproduce exact alignment then he will have fast and slow boats with no way to tell which is which. We spent nearly 8 months working on systems that assure you of accuracy and precision alignment every time.



NEW!!! "Ice Blue" bailer.

The "Ice Blue" tint to this durable four quart bailer results from the strength additive we had the manufacturer put in to make it last longer. The "Ice Blue" comes with a 1/8 inch lanyard to attach the bailer to your boat. \$10 available at your Opti Dealer.



McLaughlin dealers also have quality Laser and 420 parts, sails and covers at very reasonable prices. Visit the store at www.optistuff.com for more details.

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