

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because of your membership with the International Lightning Class Association. Don't forget to add office@lightningclass.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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78 years young and the Intl Lightning Class is still a leader in One-Design sailing!



Flash Blast May 3, 2016

Advertise your business here and support the Lightning Class!

Single advertisements are available for each Flash Blast. For more information or to reserve your spot please contact Laura in the [Class Office](#) or at 727-942-7969.

Notes from the Class Office

- Next Flash Blast deadline: May 13th.
- Next Flashes Content Deadline: Spring/Summer Issue: May 15th. Drop Date - June 1st Email, Paper Copy Mid-June. Issue will include a look ahead for 2016.
- The remaining 2016 Flashes Schedule is as follows: Fall: Content Deadline, Sept 1st (drop late Sept); Winter: Content Deadline, December 1st.
- We are looking for more articles and stories to use in all of our publications - short, long or anything in between... if you don't have something to tell, what type of article(s) would you like to see? Please send your thoughts to Todd Wake or the class office.
- Looking for a new boat? Check out the [Classified Section](#)! There is a lot of activity happening right now! Also check out the Sail Classified or Other Items Classified pages.

The Executive Committee is pleased to announce the:

2016 South American Championship

December 10-13, 2016

Yacht Club Santo Amaro

Sao Paulo, Brazil

Boats are provided by the host Country. There is a qualification process that takes place within each Country to determine the Country representative. Each Country with Lightning activity is

granted at least two spots. A boat draw system determines which boats competitors sail. The host Country is allowed additional slots.

[Rules Governing the South American Championship](#)

2017 Southern Circuit Date Announcement

March 19-21, 2017 - 70th Anniversary Winter Championships, St Petersburg YC

March 23-25, 2017 - Midwinter Championship, Coral Reef YC

We are happy to announce that in 2017 we are able to schedule a free travel day on either end of the Southern Circuit. This was beyond our control in 2016 due to scheduling conflicts with the venues. Mark your calendars now for this terrific week of sailing and seeing your Lightning friends!



July 23-27

2016 Youth World Championship

The on-line registration link is live! In addition an amendment has been made to the NOR. It amends the dates for registration and the late registration fee. Qualified participants should log in and register as soon as possible. Also as a reminder each participant will need to complete and return a signed Competitor Agreement, Liability Release and Medical Information/Consent Form.

Please click on the above link for more information

2016 Lightning Lab Schedule (as of 5/1/16)

Click the above link for more information

May 6th (Dixie District)

SSA in Annapolis, MD. Friday Before the No-Gas Regatta

Coached by Geoff Becker : Contact Joan and Gary Hurban at jghurban@gmail.com

May 21st -22nd (Ecuador District)

Salinas, Ecuador

Coached by David Starck: Contact Juan Rafael Santos at juanrafaelsantos@gmail.com

June 10th (Dixie District)

Havre De Grace, Md, before Dixie Districts

Contact Tom Compton at comptont@concentric.net

The Southern Circuit Mentor program is like a 4 day Lightning Lab. Videos taken of talks given by top lightning sailors at the 2015 Southern Circuit Mentor program are posted on the ILCA you-tube website for you to watch at any time. <https://www.youtube.com/user/IntLightningClass>

Please contact Joan & Gary Hurban Lightning Lab, VP's if you would like more information and/or schedule a Lightning Lab.

Recent Regatta Champions

Click the above link for full details on all regattas including Report and Photo Links!

Long John Regatta: Mitchell Hnatt, Rick Pokorny, Tara Rudd

Hellenic Championship Cup: Tsamis Sotiris, Papadakis Vasilis, Manolakis Iannis

San Isidro Labrador Championship: Nicolas del Campo, Pato del Campo, Manu Loitegui

Spring Championship/Post-Circuit Stop Over Regatta: Steve/Jeff Hayden

When sending in regatta results PLEASE try to list all crew members as well!

55th Annual Long John Regatta

Monmouth Boat Club/Fleet 391

Red Bank, NJ

April 30-May 1, 2016



Team Hnatt

Mitch Hnatt, sailing out of the Metedeconk River Yacht

Club, won the Monmouth Boat Club's 55th Lightning Long John Regatta with a two wins, a second and two thirds in the five race event that kicks off the Lightning Class season in the Middle Atlantic Region.

Hnatt, sailing with Rick Pokovzny and Tara Rudd, won his third Long John event. He took top honors previously in 2001 and 2008. In ideal conditions - sunny with 8-10, mph breezes - on Saturday, April 30th, Hnatt won the second and fourth races to separate himself from the 18-boat fleet. He finished third in the final race Sunday, May 1, in a less than ideal chill and rain, typical of the aptly named Long John event.

Justin Coplan who won the Long John in 2015 and finished second for the United States in the 2015 Pan American games in Canada won the first race when Jimmy Burnash from the Rochester (NY) Yacht Club was disqualified and placed 18th after leading from start to finish. Coplan, with a 14th place in race two, put himself out of the LJ running even though he finished in the top five in the final three races.

Brian Taboda, also out of Metedeconk, and a past Long John winner, finished third, one point behind Coplan.

Monmouth Beach's Denis Farley served as the principal race officer and set long, windward-leeward courses for each of the races.

Full results and a link to over 100 photos by Art Petrosemolo click on the heading above.

Hellenic Championship Cup

NAOV

Voula, Greece

April 23-24, 2016

It was a fantastic weekend! There were 14 boats on the starting line with many athletes being ex European champions. I say that to keep in mind because the level of competitors was high.

The weather was light to medium strength and we sailed in the bay of Voula. Six races were completed, with a few OCS' as you may see in the results. The spectacular part of this regatta, I believe, is the fact the fleet was very close together. For all the position there was a struggle, every detail had an affect on your position. This might sound normal. But few years ago there was a gap when 3 or 4 boats would be ahead half a leg. The rest would just follow. Now the boats would finish with just a few boat length differanc,e and, in many cases, we need to use the foto finish technics.

Next Regata in Pireus 14-15 of May we take some rest as it is Easter time then 7-8 of May training and of we go again keep you posted.

Click on the title above for the complete results and link to the regatta photos.

San Isidro Labrador Championship

Rio de La Plata,

Buenos Aires, ARG

April 2016

During three weekends in April the 2016 "San Isidro Labrador Championship" was sailed in the Río de La Plata near Buenos Aires. This served as the first part of the selection for the Sudamerican's in Brazil December 2016.



Toasting the Champions!

Significant problems with the weather conditions made it hard to get races in. Floods all along the region and extremely variable wind speeds (too windy or no wind at all) made it possible to only run three out of 10 races scheduled and they were all sailed on the last day of the championship! The three races were tightly won by Nicolas del Campo with his brother Pato and Manu Loitegui. Right behind them were Nicolás Cloos with María and Ale Cloos as the crew in second. The final day was sunny and comfortable with winds blowing close to 20 knots.

The championship ended with the same positions as the races , Del Campo first and Cloos runner up. Eight boats were entered from Buenos Aires , Santa Fe , Rosario, Concordia and Ramallo.

As usual the organization of the Championship was excellent. Michele Aubone served as Chairman and the Club Náutico San Isidro as host of luxury.

The Lightning Class continues to grow in Argentina and has the current Pan American Champion in its country.

Click on the title above for more photos.

Match Racing Clinic Recap with Steph Roble & Taylor

Canfield

Philip Muller

Community Sailing of Colorado

What do you get when you mix two professional sailors, a group of eager sailors and a small inland lake? This past weekend, at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Stephanie Roble and Taylor Canfield served up an unforgettable experience that elevated the skills and knowledge of our mile high racers.

As soon as Stephanie agreed to speak at our 17th Annual Spirit of Sailing Gala (more on that in an upcoming post), we leaped at the opportunity to get our junior sailors in the boat with she and Taylor. Steph herself admits this type of mingling helps set sailors on the right track, "I did not really have opportunities to sail other boats with other people, so keep that going for the kids. I think that is a good way for them to figure out where they want to stand in sailing and keep it as a lifetime sport."

An onshore chalk talk to cover the ground rules and situations boats can both pursue and avoid set the gears in motion. Thanks to the generous support from our local Lightning Fleet through Denver Sailing Association, we flected four boats, so all the sailors could get an opportunity to sail with Steph and Taylor.

Two groups on the water worked on location specific plays, to attempt to control their opponent. Steph and Taylor rotated sailors in near the starting line and went through pre-start and starting playground antics with the sailors, of finding controlling position over the other boat. Our other two boats started windward/leeward rounding drills, set up tip to tail, and engaged in tacking duels and forced port/starboard convergence. An atypical building South-Westerly breeze kept the sailors on their toes, as these full-sailed boats skipped across the water. Steph and Taylor delivered a world-class clinic to our sailors and the experience was unforgettable. A huge thanks to them for bringing their skill and talent to Community Sailing of Colorado!



Match Racing Lightning Style

Fleet 488 members Steve Davis, David Thompson, Lucas Armstrong, and Curtis Rist made

their boats available for this event and had an opportunity to pitch Lightnings to the kids.

Click on the title above for the full story and more photos.

Upcoming Events

Click on the title for more information on a single event for for the full schedule of events

May

No Gas Regatta	Annapolis, Maryland	May 7 - 8
Burl Harmon Memorial IndianaOpen Regatta	Indianapolis, Indiana	May 7 - 8
US Sailing Area F Youth/Sear"s Cup Qualifier in Lightning"s	Shoreacres, Texas	8-May
Lake Lansing Regatta	Haslett, Michigan	14-May
Pymatuning Yacht Club Spring Classic	Jamestown, Pennsylvania	May 14 - 15
Southeastern District Championship	Savannah, Georgia	May 14 - 15
32nd Annual Doc Gilbert Potomac Cup Regatta	Virginia	May 14 - 15
Bay Series	San Diego, California	15-May
FL District Championship	St Pete Beach, Florida	May 21 - 22
48th Hernando De Soto Regatta	Hernando, Mississippi	May 21 - 20
Great Lakes Leukemia Cup	Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan	21-May
Mini Off Shore Regatta	Voula, Greece	21-May
Southern District Championship & Juby Wynn Regatta	New Orleans, Louisiana	May 28 - 29

Rochester Yacht Club

Samson Rope 2016 Lightning North American Championships!

Rochester YC/Fleet 52

Rochester, New York

WJM's Aug 10-14

NA's Aug 13-19

Rochester YC is looking forward to hosting Lightning sailors in August! We are pleased to announce Samson Rope as the title sponsor. Samson Rope is partnering with APS/Annapolis to

offer line packages for the Lightning. Event shirts and gear will be available on site at the Coral Reef Sailing Apparel store.

Sailing on Lake Ontario in August is warm, fresh water accessible re: a short sail out the Genesee River.

The Executive Committee has approved a 1:1 ratio so to qualify for the NAs you must register for your District Championship. The WJM's are an open event.

Rochester YC welcomes all sailors and family members to enjoy the facilities and will offer guest charge privileges during the event. The club has a swimming pool/snack bar, tennis courts, bar and dining room. Those who are not sailing can enjoy sitting on the deck right on the river and watch boats sail out and come in each day. RYC Sailing program, led by Holly and Liam are putting together a great week for Lightning Kid's Camp Monday-Friday during the NA's featuring a mid-week adventure to Rochester's famous: Strong Museum of Play. Kids Camp will include a mix of many fun activities for kids age 5 and up. [Kid's Camp Registration is open!](#)

Skip Shumway and Shumway Marine, the club's neighbor to the South has offered to make arrangements for those wishing to bring an RV and stay close by. Contact Skip at Shumway Marine to make arrangements directly with him: 585-342-3030.

The Housing Committee is making every effort to fill requests for housing for all junior teams who request housing by July 1st as well as to match up club members willing to host sailors in their homes or staying aboard boats in the basin. There are several recommended hotels with special rates for the event.

Saranac Beer has come on board as the event beer sponsor. The beer truck will be open for 2 hours after racing each day with free beer and soft drinks. Daily debriefs with snacks included will be scheduled after racing each day along with drawings for give away items from our sponsors.

Come for the [Womens, Juniors and Masters](#) and enjoy an evening at Seabreeze Amusement Park Friday evening. Welcoming meeting Thursday night includes food and drink, RYC cookout Saturday night and Awards party Sunday after racing. NA's begins with a practice race on Sunday afternoon August 14th with an Opening Ceremonies party (food and drink), a Monday night dinner after the debrief featuring entrees from two of Rochester's famous food trucks, Wednesday RYC cookout, and Awards Friday evening followed by a buffet meal and entertainment.

The club setting is a perfect place to enjoy socializing after sailing each day.

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