

International Lightning Class Association

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Greetings from the Lightning Class! The International Lightning Class is actively looking for ways to provide a competitive and affordable sailing and racing environment for your post-graduate sailing career.

The Lightning Class provides, dollar for dollar, race for race, the best value in sailing today. The Class is well organized, with a dedicated international organization, a permanent Class Office with paid staff, and over 120 active fleets in North America. Regattas range from weekly 'beer can' races to our North American Championships. The Class also runs a Woman's, Juniors', and Masters' Championship each year, and our biannual Worlds Championship is slated for Salinas, Ecuador in 2017.

Lightning racing is clean, tight, competitive boat-on-boat one design sailing, well suited to the skills you have honed during your collegiate career. The boat works extremely well with co-ed teams, and the Class has a larger proportion of women racing than any other one design class.

Competitive Lightnings can be found at a wide variety of price points, from a few thousand dollars up to \$30k+ for a brand new boat.

The Class also runs a Boat Grant program each year for selected young sailors, providing boats, coaching, and regatta discounts for a season.

Almost 90 sailors have been recipients of a Lightning since the Boat Grant program began, over 70 of them accomplished college sailors that continue to enjoy great one-design sailing.

Sailors like Chris Segerblom, Mitch Hall, Clinton Hayes, Ben Spector, Caroline Patten, Will Brown, Sam Stokes and Sarah Somes, just to name a handful, have benefited from the Boat Grant Program and all the Lightning Class offers.

Information about the Lightning Boat Grant Program can be found online at www.lightningclass.org/racing/boatGrant/about.asp

Many fleets provide similar opportunities at a local level and crewing opportunities abound. All it takes is a pair of sailing gloves to jump into the best boat on boat racing in North America.

YouTube's great video of Lightning action is at www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dod5s-yv0es

Our website (www.lightningclass.org) contains links and contact information to all of our fleets, fleet captains, and District Commodores. You will be able to find great sailing from Vancouver to San Diego, Denver to Miami, the great lakes, Midwest and eastern seaboard there.

Call me at (303) 941-3108 or Laura Jeffers at the Class Office at (727) 942-7679, and we will hook you up with your local Fleet Captain or District Commodore.

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