

ILCA Age Policy and Useful Information

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS - general

As a result of high demand for places at major Championships, the majority of Laser World Championships and European Championships are allocated place events. For further information see www.laserinternational.org.

YOUTH AGE CHAMPIONSHIP POLICY

The Laser is widely used as a youth training and racing boat. The chart below illustrates a typical progression and suggested age limits for prizes at youth events. The stepped progression maintains interest throughout youth years for different rates of growth.

Age*	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Birth Year**	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Laser 4.7	UNDER 16				UNDER 18				
	Laser Radial Youth			UNDER 17		UNDER 19			
	Laser Radial Women					UNDER 21			
	Laser Standard Men					UNDER 21			

* The age the competitor **becomes** in the year of the Championship

** The year during which the competitor must have been born **FOR A 2017 CHAMPIONSHIP** using this guide

Within these age limits there will be a wide variation in weight for a given age, therefore some overlap is necessary. The age bands for each rig show suggested main prize categories even when the total entry for a rig is starting together. In larger events, prizes for more age groups within the band limits should be awarded to generate even greater interest.

In general, ILCA recommends that youth events shall be held in Laser 4.7 and Laser Radial rigs. ILCA also recommends an "Under 21" category (17 - 20 years old in the year of the championship) for the Laser Standard Men and Laser Radial Women categories.

In 2017 ILCA will organise Youth World Championships in the Laser Radial and Laser 4.7, following the above age limits, and an "Under 21" World Championship for the Laser Standard Men and an "Under 21" World Championship for the Laser Radial Women.

Competitors in Youth World Championships will normally be in the upper age limits and will be of a high standard. They should be experienced in big fleets and able to sail well in all conditions, including waves and high winds. Entering a World Championship without experience and ability in all racing conditions is not recommended, especially if a sailor is not heavy or strong enough to handle the rig.

WOMEN - policy

ILCA's recommended policy is that Women's championships should be held in the Laser Radial.

For identification purposes, sails used at certain women's events shall carry a red rhombus above the top batten pocket on both sides, see class rule 4(g).

Red rhombi shall conform with ILCA Rules, Part Two, section 4(g)(i) RED RHOMBUS.

LASER 4.7 - policy

Although the Laser 4.7 is used primarily as a youth class, at times it may be appropriate to run "open" Laser 4.7 regattas for lighter weight adults. At these events, separate category prizes for youth and women should also be considered, in a format similar to the Laser Radial.

Further information about events can be obtained from www.laserinternational.org