



WORLD CHAMPION BOATBUILDER FOR OVER 40 YEARS

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

[www.optistuff.com](http://www.optistuff.com)

ISSUE No. 6

## McLAUGHLIN SPRING NEWSLETTER 2006



### TEFLON POLISH YOUR HULL?

In recent years, several companies have brought out polishes with a Teflon additive. Normally we would advise you to not use waxes on your hull as the beading of the water creates surface tension that actually slows the boat down. These new polishes actually reduce drag and have the benefit of keeping the hull clean. Spencer, David and Steve have been using a Teflon polish on their MC Racing Scows for about 6 months. We see no decrease in speed and the bottoms sure stay clean. The polish is much easier to apply than wax. The manufacturers claim it has 5 times the life of normal fiberglass polishes. West Marine and Star Brite are two brands we are aware of.

We get calls from customers whose hulls have a yellow stain on them. This usually occurs in salt water. Lake Pontchartrain is particularly bad. 2 contributing factors may be oil contamination or iron deposits. We have found that Star Brite Instant hull cleaner will turn your hull white again with very little effort. The primary active ingredient is Oxalic Acid. Although intended for use on fiberglass hulls it is important to remember that Oxalic Acid is a corrosive and should be used sparingly to preserve the longevity of the hull finish.



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### **MCLAUGHLIN TO CHARTER AT 2006 NA'S AND EUROPEANS:**

In the fall of 2005, the charters for the 2006 North Americans and 2006 Europeans were awarded to McLaughlin. Both Charters are asking for roughly 90 hulls, which are currently being manufactured. Rio Techna of Argentina will split the NA charter while the European charter is exclusive. Furthermore, This is the first time ever that a non-European builder has been chosen to supply boats at the European championships. If your sailor is training on one of these teams this spring, this is yet another great reason why they should be sailing a McLaughlin.

### **HARKEN'S NEW BALLBEARING HOOK IN BLOCK ADDED TO OUR ONLINE STORE [WWW.OPTISTUFF.COM](http://WWW.OPTISTUFF.COM)**

Harken is introducing this spring a new hook-in sprit block. It will be available in either a black or red casing. Harken suggests that a high tensile strength line be used rather than stainless steel wire. In addition, they recommend the Harken 29 mm Ti-lite block or the 29 mm Carbo Single/fixed block for the turning block of the 2 to 1 power system. The slightly bigger blocks provide very smooth adjustment of the sprit tension and maximize the purchase system without increasing drag on the mast.



Prices for the parts and assembly are as follows:

Hook in Block \$28

Ti-lite 29 mm Block \$16.55

Complete assembly with out handle \$78.29

Carbo 29 mm single block \$10.35

Handle EX1354 \$5.00



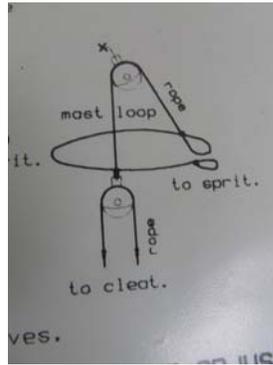
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## SPRIT PREVENTOR SYSTEM

In Europe a very old rule allowing a sprit preventor has come into vogue. The rule allows a line to be run from the sprit end around the mast and back. This rule is found on “Rig Plan Sheet 9/12 last updated March 1991.” In the plans it is shown as one continuous line for the preventor and sprit lift.



The purpose of the preventor is to keep the top of the sail equal distance from the mast as tension is applied. Without the preventor the peak of the sail moves upward and backward. This moves the draft of the sail aft and flattens the sail. With the preventor, it is possible to independently control the sprit height and how far aft it lies. In theory, the preventor can be used to power up the sail in heavier air for chop and waves, but should not be used in lighter winds. If any of our readers play with this control we would be interested in your findings.

## McLAUGHLIN ON THE WATER

Undoubtedly you have seen the McLaughlin Flag flying from a boat at some of the major Regattas. You should know that this boat is equipped with repair materials and tools in case you are in need of them.





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## 2006 EVENTS WON IN A McLAUGHLIN

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>SAILORS NAME</u>
2006 Valentines Regatta, 1	Taylor Lutz
<b>2005 US National Championship 1</b>	Matt Wefer
2005 New England Champ 1, 2, 3, 5	Pearson Potts
2005 Atlantic Coast Champ 1,4,5	Mathew Graham
2005 Pacific Coast Champ 1,2,5	Gregory Dair
2005 Great Plains Champ 1	Matt Graham
2005 Mid Winters 1, 2, 4, 5	Nick Johnstone
2005 Texas Race Week 1	Taylor Lutz
2005 Florida State Champ 1	Max Lopez
2005 European Champs 1	Emily Dellenbaugh*
2005 Israeli Nationals 1	
2005 Greek Nationals 1	
2005 Spanish Nationals 1 ST 8 of top 10	
2005 Bahamas Nationals	
<b>2004 World Championships 1, 3, 4, 5</b>	57 McLaughlin's vs. 175 Lange's
2004 Valentine Regatta 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Sean Moynahan
<b>2002 World Championship 1, 2, 3</b>	108 McLaughlin's vs. 108 Winner's

\* Sails a McLaughlin At Home

**WOW! Why the Astronomical improvement in race results?** The probability of the above results just being random chance is near impossible. A great deal of engineering, time and money went into changes in the manufacturing procedures to make the boat superior in construction. Major changes took place that directly affect speed such as mast-to-foil alignment, weight distribution, rigidity, durability of edges and surface gelcoat. Many more changes went into cosmetics and prolonged boat life.

## McLAUGHLIN/OPTISAILORS.COM TO SPONSOR 2006 CLINICS

McLaughlin has partnered up with the coaches from Optisailors.com for a series of advanced racing clinics to be held throughout the 2006 sailing season at select locations. They will be scheduled just before some of the biggest regattas of the year at or close to the sailing venue. If you want your sailor to excel in competition we highly suggest that you attend one of these. Please check our website for further details and updates as the season progresses.



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### **Tentative clinic schedule:**

Team Trials Clinic, March 25 & 26, International Dinghy Shop, Amityville, NY

North Americans/Summer Clinic, June, Puerto Rico

Canadian Nationals Clinic, August, Vancouver, BC

Atlantic Coast Championships Clinic, September, Little Egg, NJ

Midwinter's Clinic, November, Houston or new Midwinter's Venue

Christmas Clinic, December, Coral Reef Yacht Club, Coconut Grove, FL

### **TEAM TRIALS – ADVANCED RACE CLINIC - March 25 and 26**

Dinghy Shop, Amityville, Long Island New York, Cost \$150 per skipper, which includes, T-Shirt, Lunch both days and notebook. This clinic will be held on the same waters as the team trails. Register at [www.optistuff.com](http://www.optistuff.com)

### **DINGHY SHOP\_ McLAUGHLIN INTERMEDIATE CLINIC – April 1 - 2**

Dinghy Shop, Amityville, Long Island New York, [www.dinghyshop.com](http://www.dinghyshop.com), 631 264 0005

### **INITIAL McLAUGHLIN CHARTER CALENDAR FOR 2006**

- Canadian National Championships
- Atlantic Coast Championships Oct. 7 – 8
- Great Plains Championships July 8 – 9
- KABB clinic, USSCMC
- Midwest Championships
- Mid Winter Championships
- US National Championships July 23 – 28
- National Team Race Champs July 14 – 16
- New England Championships Aug 6 – 9
- McLaughlin Christmas Clinic, Coral Reef, Miami
- Orange Bowl Championships Dec 27 – 30
- Pacific Coast Championships
- Scotia Bank Regatta and Clinic, St. Thomas VI June 19 – 25
- Southeast Champs
- USODA Team Trials
- All USNT and USNDT Practices
- North American Championships
- European Championships

The Scotia Bank and the Canadian Nationals will fill up fast this year so do not delay in making your reservation. All reservations can be made through our automated reservation system at [www.optistuff.com](http://www.optistuff.com) or by calling 800.784.6478.



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## TWO NEW RACING STOP WATCHES FOR 2006 ADDED TO OUR ONLINE STORE [WWW.OPTISTUFF.COM](http://WWW.OPTISTUFF.COM)

Count Down, Audible Signal, Large Numbers, Easy Reset

Retail: Race Timer 3 X 3.5 inches = \$49

Regatta Wrist Watch = \$29

See your local Dealer or [Optistuff.com](http://Optistuff.com)



## 2006 NEW ORLEANS BOAT SWAP AND CLINIC

On March 10, 11, and 12 we will be sponsoring an Optimist swap and clinic with KO Sailing. The event will take place at New Orleans yacht club and is intended to help encourage the trading, selling, and replacement of gear for the new season. Please see our homepage [www.optistuff.com](http://www.optistuff.com) for a complete notice. For further details about the swap please contact Rachel at KO sailing [Rachel@kolius-sailing.com](mailto:Rachel@kolius-sailing.com). For further details about the clinic please contact [gsonnier@wm.com](mailto:gsonnier@wm.com).