

Greetings from the Blueflash Sailing Team!

Here's the latest updates for July 25'

Wow! What an amazing first 4 months! Here's some key milestones to date:

- Over 100 sailors have participated since launching the first boats in April!
- We've run four clinics with 50 participants!
- Racing on Thursday's has been a huge success with up to 6 boats and 24 sailors on several nights!
- The huge task of launching and bring all 8 boats up to speed is (nearly) done!

What's next?

- All 8 boats are being booked for the six week block July 20 - August 28. This is for Thursday Twilight Racing, Sailing on Sundays, and open practice anytime the skipper's make the call!
- Crew subscriptions are available for only \$50 for the whole six weeks! Under 30's are only \$25!
- Look out for a September Clinic Weekend with both an intermediate and advanced track! Meanwhile, private coaching options are available.
- Winter is coming! Well, eventually...but plans are in motion to continue the Sailing on Sunday's and if that's a bit wet and cold for you, look out for the opportunity to charter and race in sunny San Diego starting in November. Trust me, it's worth the trip!

Scott Grealish - Founder and Managing Director



Join our Team!

Blueflash Sailing Foundation needs Volunteers!

- Are you skilled at organization, communication, or social media? We need administrative help to keep the program moving forward.
- Are you an advanced sailor? We need skippers to join our race teams and coach clinics.
- Are you able to help maintain our fleet of 8 Melges 20's? Join one of our workshops and learn how to keep the fast boats going fast.

Volunteers willing to commit a few hours a week can earn FREE boat access.

Email: scott.grealish@blueflashsailing.org



Racing

We had a great start to racing with the 6 week Summer Series! Between 3-6 boats were out nightly with plenty of breeze! We will continue the Thursday's and roll out the new option of Summer Sailing on Sunday's. Skippers should sign up for a boat on the website. Remember you can practice anytime and even do both series! (sign up officially at SYSCO and PYC)

Crew should jump into the WhatsApp group and post their availability on our google sheet. Feel free to contact skippers directly to get involved!

Shout out to Kerry Poe for kickstarting the racing scene for Melges 20's in PDX!

Clinics

Clinics have been a huge success! We've run 4 monthly clinics to date with 6-18 participants. The format has evolved to include a 2 hour classroom session Friday evening followed by a 4 hour On the Water session Saturday. With a coach on each boat guiding a crew of 3, the instruction has been very personalized and we are seeing sailors make big advances in their knowledge and skills!

Look out for a September Clinic featuring both an intermediate and an advanced track for qualified sailors (and skippers) focusing on the nuances of sail trim, rig tune, and racing tactics for the Melges 20!

We have a few more tricks up our sleeves to share!

Sarah at events@blueflashsailing.org makes it all happen and we couldn't do it without her!



The Fleet

We are very lucky to be managing 8 nearly new Melges 20's! That said, it's been a ton of work to organize the equipment, sort out the key items that tend to break, and generally keep up with maintenance. Our goal of 8 boats ready to sail, fully organized, and in top shape is almost realized. We owe many thanks to those who helped rig and launch, and especially to Langdon who has contributed so much time!

Can you help? We truly need all hands on deck to keep up.

Join us for a workshop/party **August 9th at 10 am**. Future topics will cover rig inspection and tuning, epoxy repair, outboard maintenance, and more! Learn new skills and help us out!

boats@blueflashsailing.org

Skipper Update

Skippers are a key piece of the program. The fundamental "model" of Blueflash Sailing is to empower skippers to create teams, motivate new sailors through teaching, and get the boats out racing! Our team of skippers has grown steadily, and many teams have co-skippers that alternate using the boats.

We are always looking to grow this part of the program, so advanced sailors should reach out, get onboard, and see why we believe fast is fun!

Contact scott.grealish@blueflashsailing.org

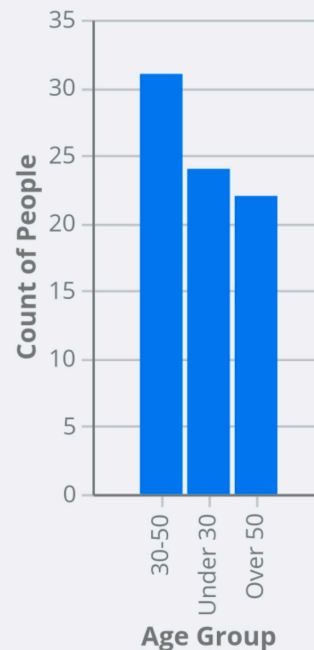
Crew Corner

Can anyone sail a high performance Melges 20 as a crew? Interestingly the answer is definitely YES! But it does depend on the wind conditions. We've learned that the boats have three different "personalities"

1. **0-10 Knots.** Great conditions for anyone to learn!
2. **10-15 Knots.** Things get lively! Requires two skilled sailors on the crew.
3. **15-20 Knots.** Advanced only. Physically demanding.
4. **Over 20 Knots.** Better to stay on the dock than break something or someone!

That said, we are really pleased to see that the age breakdown of the sailors in the program is very equally spread out from age 10-72! The skipper group is almost identical. It looks like Blueflash Sailing Foundation is for the young at heart, not just the young!

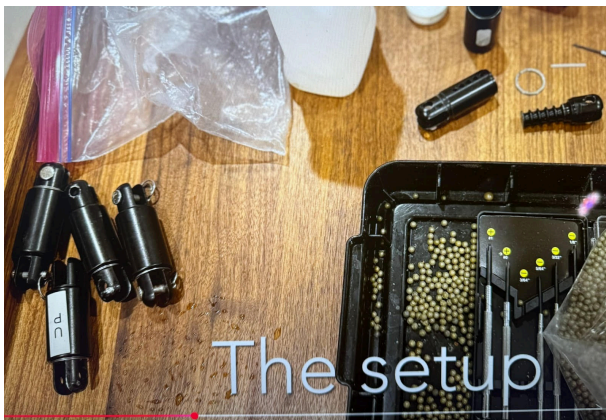
Count of People by Age Group



Join the WhatsApp Crew/Skipper Group. <https://chat.whatsapp.com/LieD3LMkkdJ0wJkehxGAz>

Sign Up for a Team or List your Availability.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Mt6EAPQf5-LKorBr8d0bD0tqrux-JExyLSfEfuyQgTU/edit?gid=1819316394#gid=1819316394>



Tips

Ever wonder why the upper swivel doesn't always spin when you try to furl the jib?

Maybe you need to replace the bearings!

Click below to learn how in 60 seconds:



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