

ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship

Byte CII, Girl's One Person Dinghy - Regulation 24.4.9.

A submission from the International Byte Class Association

Purpose or Objective

The Byte CII be reinstated on the list of equipment to be chosen from, for use as the Girl's One Person Dinghy event at the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship

Proposal

24.4.9 The Classes for the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship are:

Boy's One Person Dinghy - Laser Radial

Girl's One Person Dinghy - Laser Radial **or Byte CII**

Boy's Two Person Dinghy - 420

Girl's Two Person Dinghy - 420

Boy's Windsurfer - RS:X with the 8.5m rig

Girl's Windsurfer - RS:X with the 8.5m rig

Open Skiff - 29er

Open Multihull - Hobie 16 with spinnaker or Sirena SL16

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

1. Increase Participation: The equipment currently used requires a competitive weight of 65kgs-70kgs, a range way above the majority of girls natural weights between the ages of 14-18 years. This limits the number of youth sailors who can opt to sail this class at youth level. The Byte CII has a competitive weight range of 54-64kgs and looks modern, attractive and fun therefore appealing to a wider market
 2. Reduce injuries: There is a step up from Youth to Olympic level sailing in all events except the Girls 1-Person Dinghy Event. The Laser Radial is very physically demanding, above the capabilities of most 14-18 year olds which leads all too often to back and knee injuries
 3. Improve safety: The Laser Radial is a heavy boat, 60kgs hull and 80kgs complete, so it is hard to re-right after a capsize in heavy winds and hard to pull up the boat ramp. The cheap alloy mast is guaranteed to break at some point making safety an issue when training unassisted by a rescue boat. The Byte CII hull weighs 33kgs and all up sailing 43kgs so the boat is easier to re-right after a capsize and to pull up the boat ramp. The Byte has a robust composite mast offering great longevity, increases safety as it will not break under sailing loads and racing is far less likely to end with the bitter disappointment of equipment failure
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4. Supplied Equipment: The Byte class can ensure supplied equipment to all Regional and International Championships with 7 of the world's best boat builders now building Bytes and working together cohesively to promote the class. The new look Byte group is made up of 7 of the best dinghy builders in the World and covers every region.
 5. Increase marketability: the Byte CII is visually attractive and coupled with lighter weight sailors will be more appealing to sponsors, media and PR
 6. Pathway to all: the Byte CII is a unique 1-person dinghy requiring dynamic boat handling skills and sail trimming techniques similar to that of high-performance boats and so lends itself as an ideal youth boat for all sailors, whichever pathway they then opt to follow
 7. Suitable for boys: the Byte CII is also suitable for young male sailors as has been demonstrated through its use as the equipment at the Youth Olympic Games and the increasing level of participation at the Byte CII World Championships where participants from 21 different Countries competed in split male / female fleets with a little over half the competitors being male at the 2014 World Championship
 8. Active Class Association: with an impressive and informative website:
<http://www.byteclass.org>
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