

# FLASH BLAST!

## August 18, 2013

### Welcome to our first official Flash Blast!

Flash Blasts will be distributed on the **1st and 15th of each month**. It is a short email that will have the **latest news** about the Lightning Class. This mode of communication will aid in the information transfer between the Class and its sailors. The ILCA website is certainly the first place to go to find up to date information on the Class ([www.lightningclass.org](http://www.lightningclass.org)). These bi-monthly emails will highlight some of the information posted on the website. For those that do not check out the ILCA website daily, you will still be up to date on important information.

In conjunction with these Blasts, a **full Flashes Newsletter will be produced (in print - for those that choose that option with an additional fee) 3 times per year (2nd, 3rd and 4th Quarter each year)**. In the 1st quarter, the ILCA Yearbook will be distributed. With the amount of information posted on the ILCA Website, Facebook and Twitter pages, the Class is streamlining our publications to keep these communication pieces up to date. This schedule will allow members to receive a full publication from the ILCA every 3 months. The **return of "Printed Paper Flashes" begins in just a few weeks**. It will be mailed to all current members FREE OF CHARGE. There will be instructions inside that issue if you would like to sign up for the printed option.

Thank you all for your patience as we have been working out the details of this new publication plan and the roll out procedure. Please contact the Class Office if you or your company is interested in advertising in any of our publications. [office@lightningclass.org](mailto:office@lightningclass.org)

### Notes from the Class Office

- Results and Photos from the **Youth World Championship** and the **North American Championships** are now posted on the ILCA Website. Full reports will be in the September Flashes.
- **Next Flash Blast Deadline:** is August 29, 2012
- **Next Flashes Deadline:** September 3, 2012 (Flashes coming back via Printed Issues!) and November 5, 2012.
- Please make sure your Fall Regattas are listed in the ILCA Calendar of Events.

### Atlantic Coast Championship By Art Petrosemolo, Monmouth Boat Club

Atlantic Highlands, NJ - July 29-- For the Atlantic Coast's top Lightning sailors, the weekend championship event was governed by some frustrating weather. Saturday saw plenty of wind but heavy rain. On Sunday, the weather cooperated but the wind did not. In the weather shorted two race regatta, Justin Coplan sailing out of the Nyack (NY) Boat Club recorded two firsts to top his closest competitor by 9 points.

The 44 boats battled winds nearing 15 mph with waves and chop on Sandy Hook Bay on day one sailing through intermittent heavy showers. The fleet was called in for a one-hour weather delay by Principal Race Officer Denis Farley between race one and two.

For Coplan, one of the youngest and hottest Lightning sailors on the East Coast, it was his first Atlantic Coast Championship title. Coplan, sailing with regular crew Mike Carney and Danielle Prior won Saturday's first race handily but executed a nifty maneuver within 50 yards of the line to take the second.

Trailing the all family team of Larry, Theresa and Parker Colantuono from the Niantic Bay (CT) Yacht Club for nearly the entire five legs of the windward-leeward course in race two, Coplan moved himself into the lead on a starboard tack within sight of the finish. With just enough boat speed, he increased his lead sufficiently to flop over onto port tack, without fouling, to cross the line just in front of Team Colantuono.

Coplan and his crew are five-time Metropolitan District Champions.

The Atlantic Coast event was hosted by Lightning Fleet #70 out of the Monmouth Boat Club, Red Bank, NJ and the Atlantic Highlands Yacht Club.

Veteran Lightning sailor Keith Taboada, sailing with Russ and Chris Schon out of the Metedenconk River Yacht Club finished second in the event with a fifth and a sixth for 11 points. Thomas Allen, sailing out of the Buffalo Canoe Club with his son Karl and ILCA Class Secretary Laura Jeffers was third with a sixth and tenth place finishes.

The regatta, scheduled for five or six races, was abandoned Sunday after the competitors spent more than two hours waiting with the race committee on Sandy Hook Bay for a consistent breeze that never filled in.

Photo Gallery - courtesy of Art Petrosemolo

### **RECAP of Class Business from Governing Board and Annual Meetings:**

The Governing Board met during the North American Championship Regatta and a series of amendments were proposed for vote during this meeting:

- **Amendment 1 was approved** and a permanent change to the Document Governing All Sanctioned Lightning Class Championships specific to the Articles Governing All Lightning Class World Championships has taken effect. This amendment is in response to our world wide growth in areas that have not been recognized in our rules. It will allow for Countries with active Lightning activity such as Australia and Nigeria to officially qualify for the World Championships.
- **Amendment 2 was approved.** This temporary 1-year amendment to the Document Governing All Sanctioned Lightning Class Championships is specific only to the 2013 World Championship in Numana, Italy. Based on the participation over past World Championships and the economic conditions in some Countries the Executive Committee feels that by allowing additional Worlds slots to be filled even if it creates a situation where one Country may have more than 50% of the entered boats will aid in a successful event in Italy.

The Annual Meeting occurred during the North American Championship Regatta.

- The Nominating Committee presented the **Slate for the 2012/2013 year** and it **was approved** as submitted and in addition, Gustavo Tamayo was appointed as the VP of Colombia.
- The Executive Committee presented a proposal for changes to the **Southern Circuit format for a 1 year trial, effective 2014**. This proposal was also **approved**. For more information please review the Southern Circuit 1 year trial proposal and the 2012/2013 Slate.

Full minutes from these meetings will be posted on the ILCA Website soon.