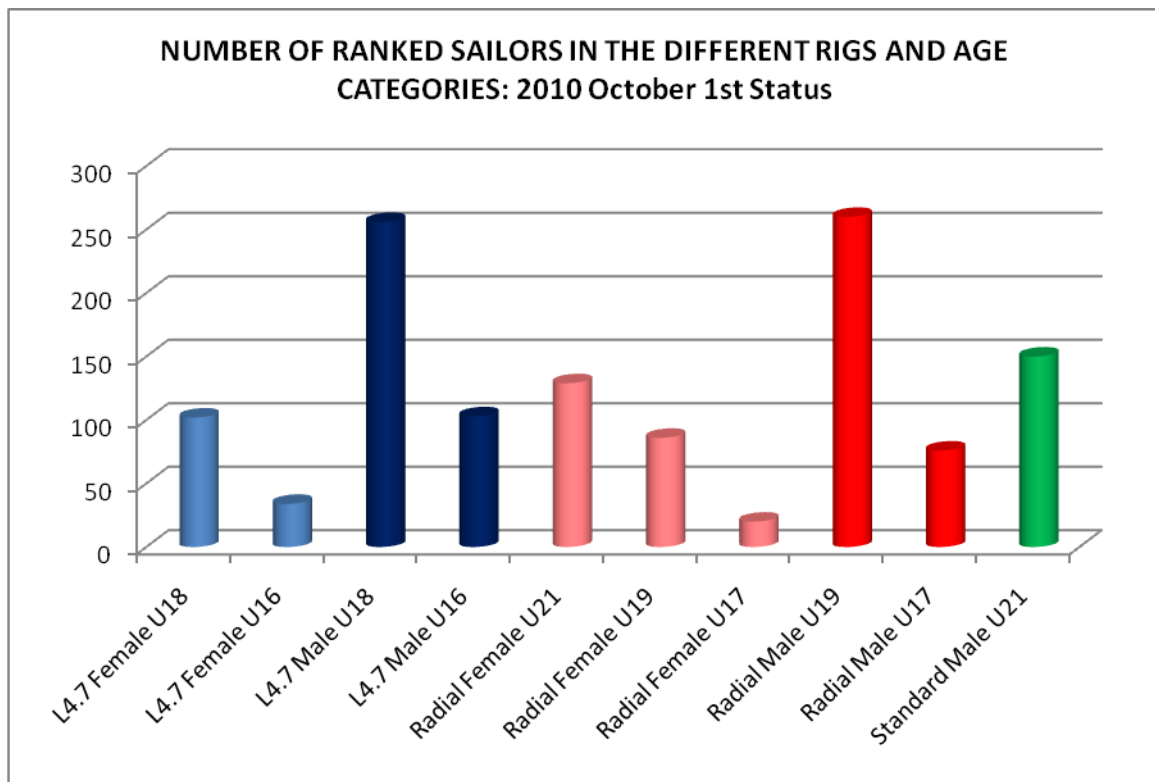


Evaluation of the European Youth Rankings Ladder

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The Laser European Youth Rankings Ladder was introduced in 2010, in order to help competitors, parents and officials alike to evaluate young sailors overall yearly performance (see: www.laserinternational.org/europe/youthrankingladder). The calculations include World and European Championships, Europa Cup and smaller international and national events results, aggregated through a weighting system. This leads, as far as possible, to fair and balanced overall rankings, reflecting the performance of sailors during the year. It is published 4 times a year and the winners at the January 1st rankings will receive prizes similarly to the Europa Cup overall series winners.

Overall, as of October 1st 2010 (for the period April 1 – Sep 30, 2010), 1630 sailors from 31 countries participated in the ranking regattae for the various rigs and age categories, and in total, 947 have been ranked. This is a pretty impressive figure showing how active in fact young Laser sailors are.



From Europa Cup data alone it would seem as if there were many more Radial sailors than L4.7, but, in fact, from the ranking ladders it is clear that there are as many L4.7s, they are just much less mobile. They show up at the World and European Championships and, also, at local events in big numbers, but travel to Europa Cups much less. The Radials seem to be the most mobile group, the most willing to travel.

Laser4.7: About 600 sailors participated in 1,9 events on average (overall participation being 1130) – out of them 358 have been ranked.

Radial: Close to 800 sailors participated in 2 events on average (overall participation being 1770)- out of them 392 have been ranked.

Standard: 240 sailors participated in 2.5 events on average (overall participation being 610) – out of them 150 have been ranked.

The Main Problems Experienced

ISAF NUMBERS

- ISAF number – some sailors have multiple ISAF numbers, and use them alternating at various events – so will end up having double identities. (A problem both at Europa Cups and the Youth Ranking ladders)
 - **Recommendation**: ILCA should make a statement warning sailors to clean up their own ISAF number mess.
- ISAF numbers/ nationality: quite a few sailors have an ISAF Number stating one country then competes as a sailor from another country
 - In fact this shouldn't happen. The organizing authorities of the various ranked events should screen this out.
- Double nationality ISAF number: one sailor having two different nationality ISAF numbers and use one national number in one event and the other in another.
 - **Recommendation**: ILCA should regulate this and require a sailor to use one nationality, ISAF number, within the one calendar year.

BIRTH DATES

- Only the YEAR of birth should be collected. The exact birth dates are never used but create a whole lot of extra data. Also, for missing birth years bogus Jan 1st is/was created - this is simply confusing.
- Problem with data entry from Largs (Radial World Champs) into database (Youth Ranking Ladder) – the problem was about the birth years which resulted in an age grouping mess, and somehow many ISAF numbers were not entered into the results database, although available since provided at the registration.