

Yngling for the Future

Best Practice Examples

Walter Baumgartner, Dec. 1, 2012

Updates: Jan 3, Jan17, Jan 24, Mar 5, 2013, Jul 8 2014, 23 June 2015

Preamble

Yngling for the Future aims at revitalizing the Yngling class worldwide by attracting new sailors. This by providing *attractive events, good training and access to good boats*.

Frame conditions for and needs of Yngling sailors vary between regions. The international Yngling organization is therefore a decentralized organization following the principle “local management - global rules”. Knowledge transfer and best practice exchange are key for improvements in such organizations.

This paper describes “best practices” practices from the Yngling associations from Austria, Holland, Norway and Switzerland. They shall be exchanged between and applied by other associations worldwide, eventually after adaptation to local conditions.

The descriptions are brief and shall trigger to contact the owner of the practice for a deeper understanding.

This book is the seed collection and shall be enhanced continually, resulting in a “book of Yngling practices” later.

The current three main chapters are: (1) offer good training, (2) make low floor boats competitive and (3) access to competitive boats. More chapters can be added.

Table of Content

1. Offer good training

1.1 Basic Training, “1st of May”, Switzerland

1.2 Weekly Training, Switzerland

1.3 Ladies Cup, Switzerland

1.4 On board coaching during regattas, Switzerland

1.5 Yearly Training Event, former “Dolce Vita”, Austria

1.6 “Area Responsible” coordination

1.7 Virtual Winter Sailing

1.8 “Duisburg sails”

- Make low floor boats competitive

2.1 Low floor boat checks

- Access to competitive boats

3.1 Example Dutch Yngling Foundation

- General practices

4.1 Revitalizing the Yngling class in Norway

4.2 Yngling promotion on the Suisse Yngling website

4.3 Hein Ruyten Trophy, a new format for performance and pleasure

1. Offer good training

1.1 Basic training, "1st of May", Switzerland

- Target Group: all Yngling sailors, new comers and experienced
- Practice: "1st of May training"
 - One day training, led by an experienced Yngling sailor
 - Simple maneuvers, trim exercises and short races
 - theory and demonstration of boat handling and maneuvers in the harbor during lunch time
 - Discussion with sailors and trainer at lunchtime and evening BBQ
 - Training is also kick-off for the weekly training regattas on Lake Zurich and Lake Thun from May to September.
 - Carried out since 1999 on an annual basis
- Practice Owner: Flavia Gregorini, Suisse Yngling, f_gregorini@gmx.ch

1.2 Weekly Training Regatta, Switzerland

- Target Group: all Yngling sailors, new comers and experienced
- Practice: fun and training regatta
 - Began more than 15 years ago with 3-5 club Yngling (Zürcher Segel Club)
 - Today 13 - 16 Yngling participating weekly, from May till September
 - Participants are both ambitious sailors and newcomers. The latter ones as crew members of experienced sailors
 - Start procedure carried out by a participating crew
 - Start time is 18.30h, max 2 1/2 h sailing, i. e. up to 4 regattas
 - Afterwards joint dinner in club-house, prepared by two participants
 - Dinner discussions include regatta review, speed comparisons, rule interpretation, etc.
 - No official rankings, no seasonal prices
 - Altogether: a combination of boat handling, competitive sailing, dinner and discussion; in other words: training with a strong social aspect
- Practice Owner: Marcel Güttinger, Suisse Yngling, marcel.guettinger@swissonline.ch

1.3 Ladies Cup, Switzerland

- Target Group: female sailors
- Practice: a pleasure regatta to encourage woman to compete
 - Build self confidence, escape male dominance
 - Women sail, men organize race-day and act as regatta committee
 - Two events per year: Lake Zurich (Yngling only) and Lake Thun (mixed fleet)
 - One-day event: a.m. training, p.m. competition, evening dinner
 - Individual registration possible, composition of crews by organizers
 - Basic principles: tolerance on errors and friendly atmosphere
 - Executed since 2006 on Lake Thun, 2008 on Lake Zurich
- Practice Owner: Sandra Lehmann, Suisse Yngling,
sandra@lehmann.com

1.4 On board coaching during regattas

- Target group: less experienced Yngling sailors
- Practice: experienced sailors act as crew members on regatta boats of less experienced ones
 - Provide practical advice on all regatta aspects - training on the job
 - One-time or repeated participation of the coach “until the crew is confident” in one season
 - Thereafter changing to another team (in the same season)
 - Creates much goodwill and “glue” within the group
 - *Caveat: the experienced sailor, acting as coach sacrifices one season*
- Practice owner: Helen Huber, Suisse Yngling, huber.h@bluewin.ch,
Thomas Huber, Suisse Yngling, th@huber-bandfabrik.com

1.5 Yearly training event, “Dolce Vita”, Austria

- Target group: all Yngling sailors, who are or want to get experienced
- Practice: spring time training in Riva del Garda at Lake Garda, Italy
 - “starting with the ORA* is tradition” (Amos Vacondino, May 2001)
 - Training is led by an professional trainer or experienced volunteer
 - It is a two to three days event right before the “Open Yngling Springtime Championship” including
 - Getting used to the boat after winter time
 - Trim adjustment
 - Boat handling and maneuver training
 - Speed comparison
 - Short regattas
 - Training is filmed; trainer and/or experienced sailors comment, explain and distill lessons learned in debriefing sessions
 - Had been carried out regularly by Yngling Austria till 2000 at Circolo Vela, Torbole, since 2001 at the Fraglia Vela, Riva del Garda
 - Not always “tightly” organized and with trainer, but always a valuable training with with experienced and ambitious sparring partners
 - “if you miss, you will have a hole in your life” (Huub de Haer, April 2005)
- Practice owner: Andreas Knittel, Yngling Austria, andreas@knittel.at

* South wind, 4 - 6 Bft

1.6 “Area responsible” coordination, Austria

- Target Group: all Yngling sailors, with particular attention of former and new ones
- Practice:
 - Austria has 9 sailing areas, each one has an area responsible
 - An area responsible shall
 - Capture all Yngling owners
 - Organize a meeting with owners for opinions exchange and scheduling of sailing activities at season start
 - Plan and organize
 - activities for training (short regattas), trimming, speed comparison, ..., eventually with the support from an experienced / renowned sailor
 - “factor regattas” in his area; a minimum of 5 participants is required for consideration in annual rankings (for details see <http://www.yngling.at/club/images/stories/docs/faktorregatten-schwerpunktregatten.pdf>)
- Practice Owner: Andreas Knittel, Yngling Austria, andreas@knittel.at

1.7 Virtual Winter Sailing, Switzerland

- Target Group: current and potential regatta sailors
- Practice:
 - A winter in-house sailing activity - dry sailing in the cold season
 - Preparation on the coming season - learn/refresh racing rules
 - One evening per week from January till March
 - Theory: one hour racing rules discussion
 - Analysis of last week's regatta
 - Practice: virtual regattas (two runs) on a local network with up to 20 participating boats
 - Carried out since 2002 at the Zürcher Segel Club
- Practice Owner: Marcel Güttinger, Suisse Yngling, marcel.guettinger@swissonline.ch

1.8 “Duisburg sails”, Germany

Duisburg is a large industrial city - with 10 % water surface!

- Target Group: young sailors (secondary school to university students), sailing teams from other boat classes and colleague teams from different companies
- Practice:
 - A four days event in summer, organized by the city (Stadtssportverband), to create sailing publicity
 - Regatta activities with sailors from regional schools and universities, companies and sailing clubs (school cup, university cup, company cup and championship “best of the best” from all classes sailing in and around Duisburg)
 - In former years this event was done with various boat classes; in 2012 Yngling class was chosen as event boat; continues in 2013
 - Yngling class uses the event to “show and share” the Yngling
 - Participants from other classes sail Yngling
 - Students form crews with their teachers
 - Match races on Yngling
 - Inland water sailing practice is prerequisite
- Practice Owner: Petra Schutt, Deutsche Yngling Klassenvereinigung, 1vorsitzender@yngling.de

2. Make low floor boats competitive

2.1 Low floor boat checks

- Target Group: owners of low floor boats, built prior to 1 March 2002
- Practice:
 - Encourage owners of older boats to return to competitive sailing
 - Boats will be weighted and inspected whether they fulfill regatta, in particular WC requirements and the class rules
 - Technical check of boat weight, measurement certificate, mast marks and weight, radii of keel and rudder, floating media (styrofoam) volume
 - Giving ideas how to improve fittings, equipment and accessories to allow better boat handling
 - Technical expert: a certified measurer
 - Location: hall with weighing infrastructure
 - One time event in spring
 - Similar practice will be carried out by Yngling Austria
- Practice owner: Thomas Huber, Suisse Yngling, th@huber-bandfabrik.com

3. Access to competitive boats

3.1 The Dutch Yngling Foundation (1)

- Target group: young people to become Yngling sailors
- Practice:
 - The foundation was established 2003 with the intention to promote sailing in general and sailing in the Yngling especially.
 - The Netherlands are very successful in hockey, football and ice skating. We identified the three keys for success:
 - strong local competition
 - world class training facilities
 - readily available, competitive equipment

Foundation building

- The foundation started with 3 refit boats, brought to a competitive level by a local expert.
- After some experience with these, a deal was struck with the best builder we could find, to give us world class level equipment.
- A delegation visited two potential builders
- Eventually, after long negotiations, we committed to 10 boats over 3 years at a very substantial discount.
- By that time, we had a title sponsor in place who helped finance the purchase of these boats
- We supply boats complete with trailer, cover, insurance, but no sails in a three year contract.
- We also bought former Olympic boats and other good level boats
- -The foundation now owns 26 Yngling and a RIB for training and coaching

3.1 The Dutch Yngling Foundation (2)

- Practice (continued):

Training

- Sailors are selected and screened and have to submit a three year sailing program
- Sailors first get a refit boat, and can "earn" their way to a new(er) boat after good performance on trainings and regattas
- We organize ten (10) full weekend trainings every year, all year round. Including eating and sleeping at very low costs (120 euro per team)
- The foundation hires professional trainers

Social Aspects

- We emphasize the social and public aspects of the sport
- We award sailors who attend a lot of trainings and regattas, for instance by paying part of their accommodation at Garda, or entry fee at the Worlds

3.1 The Dutch Yngling Foundation (3)

- Practice (continued):

Lesson learned

- Boats are best maintained if people are personally connected (not through a club)
- The Yngling is a difficult class. Giving new boats to new teams gets them frustrated as they end up in the back of the fleet, despite their material.
- Giving anything for free makes people lack commitment
- Sponsors need to actively be involved and use their marketing department
- One needs a professional (with a financial interest) to maintain and service the boats
- We have a compulsory end-of season-event where we inspect the boats and have some fun too
- All of this takes a lot of time and requires one, dedicated individual to back it all up

(Text: Maarten Jamin)

- Practice owner:
 - Maarten Jamin, Yngling Club Holland, trainingscommissaris@yngling.nl
 - Bauke Boersma, Yngling Club Holland, penningmeester@yngling.nl
 - Arjen de Jong, Dutch Yngling Foundation, arjenwdejong@gmail.com

4. General Practices

4.1 Revitalizing the Yngling class in Norway

- Target Group: those who want to revitalize or establish an national Yngling association
- Practice (key elements):
 - Build solid environment with big numbers of boats (with trailers) and eager enthusiasts. Much more efficient than few boats on many locations.
 - Organize informal and social events.
 - Maintenance of club boats could be an difficult issue – paid professionals should do the job.
 - Establish good program for youth sailors.
 - The Yngling is a perfect boat to start sailing and keep on sailing until you are senior ++.
- Practice owner: Karl Petter Haugen, Norsk Ynglingklubb, kphaugen@online.no

4.2 Yngling promotion on the Suisse Yngling website

- Target Group: all sailors - three key sentences describe short and concise the Yngling, its sailors and Suisse Yngling
- Practice (key sentences):
 - the Yngling is timeless elegant, safe and olympically proven
 - Yngling Sailors are open-minded, cultivate friendship and team spirit
 - Suisse Yngling offers regattas, training and social events

These key sentences appear on the homepage of the Suisse Yngling website, underlaid with rolling photos.

The website of national Yngling associations shall not only be an internal but also an external communication means - to attract other sailors.

- Practice owner: Walter Baumgartner, Suisse Yngling, walter_baumgartner@me.com

4.3 Hein Ruyten Trophy, a new format for performance and pleasure

- Target Group: current and new regatta sailors - from Yngling and other boat classes
- Practice: a “total offer concept”, comprising accommodation, evening program, meals and more, all included in the participation fee
- Example “Hein Ruyten Trophy”, 3 days in October:
 - **Fantastic Friday** with **top training**; dinner and **team speed date** to meet new sail mates
 - **Smashing Saturday** with **sprint races**; biggest party of the year and lottery with great prices
 - **Super Sunday** with races continued and prizes - not just for winners
 - Accommodation in a youth hostel in town on Friday and Saturday, breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday
 - Participation fee 150 Euro per team
 - “Sand glas” race course for the sprint races causes a tight scene - attractive for spectators
 - Top mark is a hollow buoy with room for spectators - all is happening around them
 - Sailors from other classes / new sailors can rent an Yngling from a neighboring wharf

An important aspect of the event is Yngling promotion. This is supported by professional photographs and a yearly event movie (published on Facebook and in sports media).

The Hein Ruyten Trophy is carried out since 2012. 37 boats were participating in 2014. Today it is the most spectacular sailing event in the Netherlands. It attracts new sailors to meet the Yngling class.

- Practice owner: Marnix van Dishoeck, wedstrijden[at][yngling.nl](mailto:wedstrijden@yngling.nl)

Help Yngling sailors to have access to good boats and good training !

We want to

- Reactivate former sailors
- Attract new sailors from all age classes

by providing

- Attractive events
- Good training and
- Access to good boats.