**3.7 Radial Sail – New Development**

At the recent NZ National Championships the 3.7 class trialled a smaller Radial sail for lighter weight sailors and this proved successful with positive feedback on the concept.

This allows sailors in the 50+kg bracket to contemplate sailing a 3.7 whereas previously they would struggle with the full sail, especially in a stronger breeze.

The boats with this Radial sail race in the same fleet as the full sail rigs but have their own Radial division where they race against each other and are identified as such in results.

The key is that it is designed to be used on the standard mast, so there is no requirement for any additional equipment other than the sail. It has a square top to help the leech open up as the sail is approximately 400mm short of the full height of the mast.

The sail concept is around it being a “One Design” on dimensions, sail cloth and area with the only change allowed being to match the luff curve to the mast. The Dacron cloth is of a slightly heavier grade to make the sail last longer without compromising performance.

Prospective sailors for a Radial sail include intermediate sailors, lighter weight sailors or new to the class sailors who want to start with a more manageable rig.

Derek Scott the One Design Manager at North Sails Auckland NZ designed the sail and can be contacted at derek@nz.northsails.com for further information.

The 3.7 was designed by Bruce Farr and is a 3.7 metre (12 foot) single-handed skiff with a trapeze.

More information on the 3.7 can be found at: [www.3-7class.org.nz](http://www.3-7class.org.nz)