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Summary

Ever since I was a little kid I have loved the sport of sailing. Sailing is a sport that utilizes natural energy and harnesses it, for a competitive end. Yacht racing is the oldest sport in the world it is known that sail boats were present in early Kuwaiti civilization between 5500 and 5000 BCE. Sailing is the cross between taming elements and letting them throw you around. My family has owned our current boat for over 40 years and we have been sailing for over 150 years. We sail our boat against other boats in a fleet around a predetermined course and the first to finish is the winner. I am a sailing instructor in the summer, so I teach students ages 8-17 the importance of respect for the weather and basic skills that are associated with the fundamentals of sailing. It is one of the greatest jobs out there, every say I sit in a boat teaching kids, out on the water every day.
Why I love it

As stated, I enjoy the sport of sailing because my whole family can get involved, for example my brother and my dad and I sail The Chicago Mac race every year, which is a 333-mile race from Chicago’s Navy Pier to the top of Lake Michigan at Mackinac Island. I just like being outside, I was that kid whose parents let him go outside just so I could get tuckered out and be quiet inside. Sailing is probably one of the greatest stress and energy releases, because it is physically exhausting and you get to see the sunset every time. I also am in love with sailing because there are always new challenges, for example on this past Mac race, we were in a perpetual severe thunderstorm, so it was constant sail changes, things broke and the ways to fix these problems were always creative.
The oldest competitive sport is the Olympics, but out of the modern sports The America’s Cup of Sailing is the oldest, it actually predates the modern Olympics. The Americas cup takes place every 2 years. In between the two regattas there is a race series, the winner of this series is the challenger, they compete for the cup against the previous America’s cup champion. Now, the champion has the freedom the change the race style and format. In 2013 America won and the owner of the team decided to institute wing sailing. Wing sailing is a relatively new sailing technology, but is has completely changed the direction of the America’s Cup. This is how the new technology works, it is basically an airplane wing stuck on its end in the middle of the boat. Many sailors love this new technology because with traditional sails they would be holding on to ropes with a lot of tension on them, and that can be tiring, but now everything can be done with ease and with less people (Sailing World, Stuart Strueli). In sailing the wind does not push the boat, it pulls it, like and airplane. On an airplane wing there are different pressures on different sides of the wing and this provide lift, this is the same idea with sailing except the lift is horizontal. This new technology can help boats achieve massive speeds, which make the races more exciting to watch. This technology can be easily implemented into common sail boat racing.
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<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
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<td>• There is less tension on all the lines of the boat</td>
<td>• This technology is more expensive than traditional sail designs.</td>
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<td>• You do not need as much hardware, all you need is a few winches, this cuts down on the weight (Onesails)</td>
<td>• Just like any innovation the old ways will be lost, leaving tradition.</td>
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<td>• You can operate the boat with fewer people. (Onesails)</td>
<td>• Takes more time to construct.</td>
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<td>• It allows the boats to reach much higher speeds. (Onesails)</td>
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How it will Change the Sport

Due to the high cost of the wing sail, I believe that it will be while before wing sails make their way into recreational sail boat racing. Though many sailors are stuck in the traditional ways, they must begin to understand that this is the future of the sport and the sport is declining in popularity. So, it is very important for people to adapt to the new technology otherwise the sport will die. I think when the sails are easier to produce more people will be willing to buy them and more clubs will be willing to create fleets of winged boats.
Works Cited

