

There is now an alternative sail to the Comet Xtra, called the White Xtra. Designed to fit an existing Xtra rig, the new sail is made with conventional white Dacron sail cloth but uses the same radial cut with battens and zipper as the Mylar Xtra.

Like the original Xtra the new rig makes the Comet easier to sail for lightweights and beginners with its' shorter and lighter mast. Using a zipper luff sleeve and a halyard lets you keep the mast up and use an overboom cover for far quicker rigging.

We tried to make the original Mylar Xtra equal to the standard Comet in overall performance but the fact that it was of smaller area meant that it was a bit slower on a dead run where an efficient shape isn't so important as pure sail area as the dinghy is simply being pushed along by the wind. To counter this, we have made the new sail a bit bigger in the luff and foot and dropped the boom a bit with a longer leech.

The new sail will fit a Mylar Xtra rig but to get a bit more boom height a new fitting can be fitted to the top of the mast to gain a bit of height.

I reckon this new sail is about 6.25 sq. m midway between the Mylar Xtra 6.00 sq. m and the standard Comets' 6.5sq. m.

As with the Mylar Xtra, the original bottom mast and boom can easily be shortened to create the new rig. Sail only £365. Sail and conversion kit £408.



All rigs racing well together at the Association Championships.

