
Tushingham T - Bird 7.5/8.0

Posted by jaymaclive - 2004/06/12 22:46

Yo, just bought a second hand F2 ride 284 and need a new sail to complement it! Lookin at the Tushingham T - Bird jobbies and they look like the sort of thing i'm after and are within my price range. Just got some questions for anyone with a bit more knowledge on the subject than ive got, which shouldn't take too much!

Would either of these sails go well with the board i got?

If i got the 8.0 would it fit onto a 460cm mast with an extention on it as i could do without the extra expense of a new mast as well? Would this affect the performance of the sail?

Has anyone got the T - bird 7,5/8.0, how is it generellly rated by the WK massive?

Is the difference in the performance of the sails much of a muchness, i weigh in at a healthy 15 stone and am obviously inclined to get the larger of the two!

If i need a new mast to get the 8.0, what should i go for and whats a good price to pay?

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Posted by WindyJohn - 2004/06/13 14:56

Both sails will work really well with that board. I've used the 284 with a 8.6 and it was fine.

The 8.0m really needs a 490cm mast as the luff is 497. This would be pushing the realms of any 460cm. The 7.5 does rig on a 460 and has a luff length of 485cm. If you got a longer extension for your 460 then the 8.0m would be on a much softer mast and start twisting off a lot earlier than if on the correct mast. So in this case you would be better on the 7.5.

I've sold quite a few T-birds and they seem to be very stable, well built and have a good wind range. One chap i know is quite happy on his 8.0m when i'm planing on my 5.3.

The performance of the two is similar and if i were you i would go for the 7.5 and spend some money on a larger fin as the one supplied is around the 34-36 mark. If you had a 44cm fin that would get you going a lot earlier on the 7.5 than the 8.0m would.

You are looking around the 120 mark for a C45 490 mast, and 199 for a C75. Tushingham tend to shape their sails around their own masts so stick with that brand for best pformance. Higher carbon content has less weight in the top two thirds of the mast so it compresses less when going over chop. This makes the rig more responsive and lighter because the weight is lower down.

One other thing to consider is boom length. The 7.5 has a 212cm boom and the 8.0 has a 220. This puts the 8.0m just outside the reach of an average freeride boom 160-220.!!!

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