



Oceania Laser Class Association Inc.

Oceania Laser Class Association AGM 10th February 2018 - Presidents Report 2018

As you may be aware the ILCA changed its regional structure to be in line with the Olympic Movement's five geographic rings. One of these rings represents Oceania. As a result Australia is now in ILCA's Oceania Region.

There are 24 potential member countries in Oceania most have Lasers and sail in some local events. The goal ahead is to welcome them all into the ILCA family and to help facilitate and promote Laser sailing in them.

I see opportunities in the future to promote Laser sailing both here and in Oceania with initiatives such as a sailor exchange program and Laser coach exchanges between OLCA countries. I am hoping to have at least one of these operational in 2018.

Some of the consequences and actions which follow from the creation of Oceania Region are:

- The formation of the Oceania Laser Class Association OLCA is now formed with the Constitution approved and incorporation by Fair Trading NSW completed.
- Members of OLCA will be each ILCA Laser District in the Oceania Region.
- Initially OLCA will have as members 13 Laser districts from 7 countries. These countries represent 96% of the 40.6 million people in Oceania.
- Voting will be by district so Australia will continue with a strong seven voice in the Region.
- The formative OLCA committee is Ken Hurling Qld, Kevin Phillips NSW/ACT, Nic Page NZ, Neville Koop Fiji, Geoff Lucas NSW/ACT.

In the early stages all Oceania Championships will be combined with the Australian Championships and follow its rotation. From time to time the Oceania Championships will be separated. The current plan for these events up until 2021 is:

- 2017/18 OLCA events combined with the Australian Nationals were held at RQYS.
- 2018 February OLCA Masters event combined with National Masters here in Mooloolaba Qld.
- 2018 October Masters event in Fiji. The event web site and advertising poster will be available for circulation at the Mooloolaba Masters event.
- 2018/19 OLCA events combined with Australian Nationals in Devonport Tasmania.
- 2019/20 OLCA events combined with Australian Nationals in Sandringham Victoria.
- 2020 January ILCA Laser Radial Worlds Victoria Sandringham Olympic selection Event.
- 2020 January ILCA Laser Standard Worlds Victoria Sandringham Olympic selection Event.
- 2020 February Masters Nationals Masters Reunion Regatta and ILCA Masters Worlds Geelong Vic. We have booked a hall that seats 700 people for the Masters Reunion dinner.
- 2021 proposed 4.7 and Oceania Youth Championship North Marianas
- 2021/22 OLCA events combined with the Australian Nationals in Western Australia.
- 2021 A proposed Oceania Masters event in New Zealand dates TBA.

A strong reason for us to propose and make these changes is that we need to establish the brand Oceania and publicise it and where we are in the Laser and the sailing world.

So what do we see as the advantage of Oceania for the ALCA and Australian National Championships?

- In the future will see more International Sailors in attendance.
- Having this new region means we will have more cube events in our vicinity.
- The 100 point Regatta and the involvement with World Sailing can only help expand our National Championship and increase quality and numbers.
- Because of the way we rotate around Australia we will take a 100 point World Sailing event to all Australian Districts. Some of these would normally miss out. For example other classes tend to support eastern states where we support all Australian Districts and treat them as equal.
- All Oceania and Australian Championship events will come under ILCA selection for World Championship events.