

Australian Laser Class Association Inc 2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes 5 January 2023 at Georges River Sailing Club

Meeting Opened: 9.05 am

1. Attendance

Ken Hurling (QLD, ALCA President), John D'Helin (VIC, ALCA Vice President), Geoff Lucas (Treasurer NSW & ACT), Kevin Phillips (NSW & ACT Chair, ALCA Secretary), Rob Lowndes (Masters Rep NSW & ACT), Mike Wilson (QLA Rep), Peter Merritt (VIC), Don Elks (WA, ALCA Youth Representative), Gary Martin (Chair NT), Michael McAullay (Pres WA), Bill Cox (WA) Ros Sayers (Sec SA), Michael Jones (Sec WA), Phil Danks (Sec Qld), Peter Maree (Chair Tas), Graham Jennings (NSW & ACT), Bill Cox (WA), Sue Phillips (NSW & ACT), Vai Ripley (SAM & NSW & ACT), Craig Shears (GM PSA)

- **2. Apologies:** Hugh Leicester (Vice Pres ILCA)
- 3. District Representatives for Voting: Mike Wilson (QLD), John D'Helin (VIC), Kevin Phillips (NSW & ACT), Gary Martin (NT), Ros Sayers (SA), Michael McAullay (WA), Peter Maree (Tas)
- **4. Confirmation of minutes** of the Annual General Meeting held by Zoom Online 15 December 2021. Minutes accepted as presented.
- 5. Business arising from Minutes: Nil
- 6. Reports

ALCA Chairman: Ken Hurling - report attached.

In addition Ken Reported on changes in ILCA from his position as an ILCA board member.

- Changes to ILCA Constitution now passed by members and World Sailing. It changes, naming to ILCA, introduces more member representative voting and tidies up the now aged current version.
- 2024 Worlds at Adelaide SC now under contract.
- ILCA 6 Men's Worlds under review due to low participation.
- New ILCA technical staff now four in total (replacing Clive Humphris).
- Class builders likely to go nine with a new builder in North America.
- Strong ILCA effort to maintain standardisation of hulls and equipment with many more builders.
- Being considered move to U23 category, A system of Masters World Ranking, Medal races for events.

Treasurer: Geoff Lucas presented his report and Profit and Loss & Balance Sheet attached. Moved John d'Helin seconded Peter Maree that the Treasurer's report be adopted. Passed.

Western Australia District: Mike McAullay reported good attendance at their events and strong competition following the disappointments of not being able to run the 2021 or 2022 Nationals due to COVID. He reported a pleasing increase in participation in ILCA 4.

Victoria District: John d'Helin – presented report attached.

In addition, John discussed VLA focus on growth though more sailors at more clubs in ILCA 4 and efforts to prevent sailors from dropping out from sailing. He also spoke of VLA's Activate Program to resurrect older boats which otherwise site idle in clubs and garages.

Tasmania District: Peter Maree presented his report attached. He also spoke of a focus on ILCA 4 and the transport difficulties Tasmanian sailors experienced getting off the island.

Northern Territory District: Gary Martin - presented the NT report as attached. He also spoke of the success of the Oceania Masters 2022 in Darwin.

Queensland District: Mike Wilson – presented report as attached. He also spoke of QLA junior program and strong representation (over 100 boats) at the State Championships.

NSW & ACT District: Kevin Phillips – presented report as attached.

South Australia District: Ros Sayers reported.

- Membership likely to rise to more than 100 with the 2024 Australian Oceania & Worlds events at ASC.
- AS Coach (Brady Lowe) shared between SA and Tas.
- Working with other classes on local regattas.
- Working with ASC on promotion and logistics for the 2024 events.
- Using Sailor/Aus Laser app with help from Peter Merritt.
- Suggested the creation of national program of events. ALCA Secretary explained there is a page on ALCA web site if districts advise events these will be posted there.

Youth Representative: Don Elks – presented report attached.

- After coach and support program was on hold in 2021 due to COVID travel restrictions results in 2022 were down.
- Reported on energising the youth coach selection and development and working cooperatively with AS were possible.
- AS dropping support (and all representation) for Australian sailors at Youth Worlds 2023 and beyond is both a concern and an opportunity for support at ILCA World Youth events.

Masters Representative: Rob Lowndes reported.

- The 2021-22 National Masters event at Westernport was a great success well run and attended with some great sailing.
- 2022 ILCA World Masters in Mexico saw fewer entries and fewer Australians.
- The Oceania Masters at Darwin was a great event. Thanks to NTLD and Darwin SC for great organisation.
- 60 Australian Masters are entered in 2023 Worlds Pattaya, Thailand in February and hopefully many will be back for more at the Oceania & Australian event at Port Stephens in March.

7. Election of Office Bearers

Ken Hurling thanked the office bearers for their sterling efforts over the past year.

President - Ken Hurling (Qld); Vice president - John d'Helin (VIC); Secretary - Kevin Phillips (NSW); Treasurer/Public Officer - Geoff Lucas (NSW). Elected unopposed.

8. Sub-Committee Representatives

Youth Representative – Don Elks, Masters Representative – Rob Lowndes, Women's Representative – Vanessa Dudley were re-appointed.

9. ILCA World Championship 2024 Events Update

Ken Hurling reported that after much debate and evaluation of options the 2024 World Men's ILCA 7 (24-31 January) and 2024 Masters Worlds (2-9 February) were all now locked in for Adelaide Sailing Club along with the Oceania and Australia Open & Youth Championships in the normal Australian Championship rotation and timing (1-8 January).

It can be difficult in an Olympic year to schedule timing and location of major events as there are Olympic qualifier events for regions and the 2024 Worlds are a major qualifier event. For this Olympics for the first time there will be a "last chance" qualifier event which will be held in Europe. This contributed to the initial uncertainty (now resolved) about the 2024 ASC Worlds.

ASC has been doing a great job on sponsorship and arrangements and working with SALA on logistics and marketing of the events. A <u>great video</u> has been produced for the 2024 events program.

10. Adoption of ILCA Naming in Documents and by Districts

Following the resolution at the 2022 AGM to introduce ILCA 4, 6 and 7 naming and to rename Australian Laser Class Association Inc. to ILCA Australia Inc. a Notice of Motion (attached) was tabled. It was moved Ken Hurling (Chair ALCA) and seconded Kevin Phillips (Secretary ALCA) and was agreed by all seven member districts.

A Special Resolution (attached) was tabled to change Australian Laser Class Association Inc. Constitution to have all references to Australian Laser Class Association changed to ILCA Australia and all other references to Laser replaced with ILCA. It was moved Ken Hurling (Chair ALCA) and seconded Kevin Phillips (Secretary ALCA) and was agreed by all seven member districts.

11. Solidarity Program Initiative

John d'Helin outlined the ALCA solidarity program details of which are on the ALCA web site <u>Here</u>. John reported that despite it being constructed quite late for the 2023 championships it proved very successful and popular. John said that one of the problems was selecting just one sailor from each district considering the number and quality of the applications.

John that work was being being done to refine the program to make it financially viable longer term while expanding it to Oceania sailors outside of Australia.

12. General Business

General Manager Performance Sailcraft Australia (PSA) Craig Shears raised the issue of provision of charter boats for the 2024 Adelaide SC events. Craig reported that he is in discussion with Ferdinand Ziegelmayer whoes company holds the contract with ILCA for provision of world championship charter boats. Craig expressed his concern on the effect on the local market and the impact on his company if Zeigelmayer chose to import a fleet of ILCA boats for charter and then on-sold these on the local market.

The meeting's attention was drawn to the Australian Sailing 10 year Strategic Plan Sailing 2032 - worthy of study.

Meeting closed 11.05 am

Kevin Phillips Secretary ALCA



Australian Association

ABN 47 884 970 979 PO Box 5242 **Greenwich NSW 2065** Australia

Notice of 2022/23 Annual General Meeting of the Australian Laser Class Association to be held at Georges River Sailing Club 9.00am AEDT 5th January 2023

To participate online via Zoom;

Meeting ID 706 776 2418

PC or Mobile https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7067762418

By phone 08 7150 1149, 02 8015 6011 or 03 7018 2005

AGENDA

- 1. Attendance
- 2. Apologies
- 3. Identification and confirmation of voting District Representatives
- 4. Confirmation of Minutes of AGM held by Zoom Teleconference 15th December 2021
- 5. Business arising from the minutes
- 6. Reports
 - a. Chairman ALCA / ILCA
 - b. Treasurer Financial report
 - c. Districts
 - o South Australia
 - o Oueensland
 - o Northern Territory
 - o Tasmania
 - o Victoria
 - Western Australia
 - o New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory
 - d. Youth
 - e. Masters
- 7. Election of Office Bearers
 - a. President
 - b. Vice-president
 - c. Treasurer & Public Officer
 - d. Secretary
- 8. Nomination of Sub-committee representatives
 - a. Youth
 - b. Masters
- 9. ILCA World Championship 2024 events update Ken Hurling
- 10. Change of name ALCA to ILCA Australia Inc. Motions attached Kevin Phillips
- 11. Solidarity Program Initiative John d'Helin
- 11. General Business



PO Box 5242 **Greenwich NSW 2065**

ALCA AGM 2023 - Notice of Motion to Change Australian Laser Class Association Inc. to ILCA Australia Inc.

Background

EuroILCA, ILCA North America, ILCA Asia, ILCA Central & South America and some, but not all, districts have adopted ILCA naming.

ILCA have registered trademark name ILCA in Australia (No: 1891004 Australian TM class:41, approved: 16 March 2018). We presume that ILCA would prefer that over time all reference to Laser as the class name be replaced by ILCA.

While there are no trademark issues preventing continued use of the starburst logo and trademark name Laser in Australia, we consider that for consistency of naming and marketing we should move ALCA and OLCA to ILCA naming and recommend that Australian Laser Districts also make this change.

Motion for 2023 ALCA AGM

Moved: Ken Hurling ALCA Chair Second: Kevin Phillips ALCA Secretary

The name of Australian Laser Class Association Inc be changed to ILCA Australia Inc. and that ILCA Australia adopts the trading name AusILCA.

Kevin Phillips

Secretary Australian Laser Class Association PO Box 5242 Greenwich NSW 2065, Australia

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sec@laser.asn.au

12 October 2022



ABN 47 884 970 979 PO Box 5242 **Greenwich NSW 2065**

ALCA AGM 2023 - Notice of Motion for a Special Resolution to Change Australian Laser Class Association Inc. Constitution to ILCA Australia Inc.

Background

EuroILCA, ILCA North America, ILCA Asia, ILCA Central & South America and some, but not all, districts have adopted ILCA naming.

ILCA have registered trademark name ILCA in Australia (No: 1891004 Australian TM class:41, approved: 16 March 2018). We presume that ILCA would prefer that over time all reference to Laser as the class name be replaced by ILCA.

While there are no trademark issues preventing continued use of the starburst logo and trademark name Laser in Australia, we consider that for consistency of naming and marketing we should move ALCA and OLCA to ILCA naming and recommend that Australian Laser Districts also make this change.

Part of this change requires an amendment to the ALCA Constitution changing all references to Australian Laser Class Association to ILCA Australia.

Special Resolution for 2023 ALCA AGM

Moved: Ken Hurling ALCA Chair Second: Kevin Phillips ALCA Secretary

That the Constitution of the Australian Laser Class Association Inc have all references to Australian Laser Class Association, including in its naming, changed to ILCA Australia and all other references to Laser replaced with ILCA.

Kevin Phillips

Secretary Australian Laser Class Association PO Box 5242 Greenwich NSW 2065, Australia

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12 October 2022



Australian Laser Class Association

Chairman's Report for ALCA 2022/23 Annual General Meeting.

Australian Sailing Awards



At the November 2022 presentation of Australian Sailing Awards ILCA 6 Olympian Mara Stransky who is currently third in the ILCA 6 World Rankings won Female Sailor of the Year.

Leading up to her win Mara has had a great year winning the prestigious Kiel Week Regatta along with top-10 finishes at the World Championships, Hyeres Olympic Week and Allianz World Cup Almere regattas.

Manly NSW sailor Evie Saunders was announced as Youth Sailor of the Year. Evie won silver at the World Sailing Youth

World Championships in the Hague, Netherlands.

With Australian Sailing having announced that they will not be sending sailors to WS Youth Worlds any more we are wondering what will happen to the invitations which WS will presumably continue to send to AS for this event. It would be somewhat of a paradox if AS, having recognised Evie's achievement at Youth Worlds one year does not facilitate, even if they don't fund, sailors to it in 2023.

Australian Sailing

With Australian sailing now back to normal (except for the weather) we have all been looking forward to running our Oceania & Australian Open & Youth and the Masters this season. It is unfortunate that Western Australian sailors will miss out on their rotation.

Well done John d'Helin and VLA in establishing their ILCA 4 fleet and the Solidarity Initiative for the Nationals using them. We are planning to extend this initiative subject to agreements on support.

Australian Sailing is holding a series of class information meetings. ALCA VP John d'Helin attended the first one. The next one is on the 21/12/22 which I will be attending.

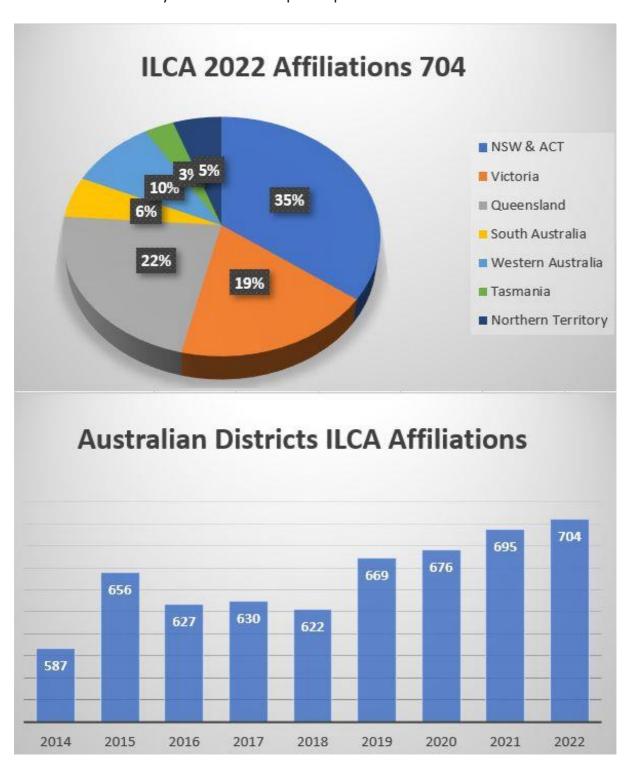
The Pacific Games which include an ILCA class sailing event will be held in Honiara, Solomon Islands between 19 November and 2 December 2023. Australian Sailing has arranged to assist with supply of some boats and in August the Australian Government donated \$16.5M AUD to SI towards the cost of running the games. In the past AS has selected some sailors

from Australia to compete in these games. This has worked well and is likely to continue for the 2023 event.

The Australian Laser App is gaining increased usage in our district events and is being used extensively for our national events. ILCA are currently monitoring it to assess whether it could fit some of their needs for Word Championships. The Club Ops stable mate Sailor App is being used by more clubs every month. Congratulations to Peter Merritt for these great products which are helping sailing administration at many levels.

Membership Trends

We now have over 700 members affiliated with ILCA. Affiliations have been showing a pleasing upward trend of the past few years and means we are allocated a larger number of entries for limited entry ILCA World Championships Well done all Districts.



International Sailing

It has been a busy year with Australians participating successfully at all the 2022 World Championships. More information is on the <u>ILCA web site</u> and posts are on <u>the ALCA web site</u> with dot point reports below.

- In May at Riviera Nayarit, Mexico six Australians competed in the Men's ILCA 7 Worlds. Unfortunately, Matt Wearn could not compete however the team acquitted themselves well in the very competitive 126 sailor event.
- At the same Mexican venue 14 Australian Sailors competed in the separate ILCA 6 and 7 Masters World Championships in June. Jeff Loosemore (ILCA 6 GGM) and Brett Beyer (ILCA 7 GM) both had convincing wins in their age divisions. This was Brett's 14th Laser/ILCA World Masters win - he is a true Master before his time.
- The ILCA 6 Youth Worlds were sailed in July from the Houston Yacht Club, in Texas, USA. Six youth sailors from Australia sailed in the fleets totalling 212 from 35 countries.
- The ILCA 4 World Youth Championships were run in August in Vilamoura, Portugal.
 There were 426 keen youth sailors (154 girls and 272 boys) from 44 countries
 competing in six fleets. Sixteen Australians competed (9 boys and 7 girls). Two Laser
 class coaches Annie Eastgate (Queensland) and Luke Elliott (Western Australia)
 supported the Australian group. They were two of 104 coaches registered for this
 event.
- There were seven Australian's competing among 238 sailors in the ILCA World Under 21 Championships also at Vilamoura in August with Sylvie Stannage the best of the women at 22nd and Stefan Elliot-Shircore the best of the Australian men at 28th.
- At the Women's ILCA 6 World Championships in October at the Texas Corinthian Yacht Club sailed on Galveston Bay five of the six Australian team finished in the Gold Fleet. A very strong performance. Mara Stransky was the best-placed Australian in 13th place with Zoe Thompson 18th, Casey Imeneo 21st, Elyse Ainsworth 26th, Evie Saunders 41st and Sylvie Stannage 49th. There were 86 entries from 40 countries.

ILCA Issues

As Oceania Region Representative I am a voting member of ILCA World Council which gives me reasonably good visibility of what is happening in the ILCA sailing world. Some issues and heads up on these are in the dot points below.

- The revised ILCA Constitution is now active. It provides for new ILCA naming, and arrangements and it streamlines and makes more democratic the composition of ILCA World Council.
- ILCA contracts are signed with Adelaide Sailing Club for 2024 ILCA 7 Men's (24-31 January) and ILCA 6 & 7 Masters (2-9 February) World Championship events just World Sailing Contracts to come.

- The ILCA 6 Men's World Championships is under review due to low numbers.
- Hugh Leicester is now Chair of the ILCA Events & Race Management Committee working with Estonian Andrus Poksi the ILCA events staff member.
- Chris Tunstall UK has taken over from Geelongite Clive Humphris as ILCA's Chief Technical Officer. Clive has done a great job over the years including the difficult period of class builder changes. Clive will remain as a consultant to ILCA.
- ILCA perhaps belatedly, have appointed a Promotions Manager Maria Henkel. Maria is getting to grips with long sought brand and class promotions strategy and materials. We are in touch with her and sharing some ideas and suggestions.
- There has been discussion about changing the U21 to U23 age division whilst retaining U21 as a subdivision. Don Elks may have something to add.
- There is consideration of the establishment of a world ranking system for Masters more to come on this.
- World Sailing are requesting of ILCA et al that events and building of our boats become more sustainable. While we can do more to reduce use of nonrecyclable/reusable materials in our events it is not easy to see how the long lasting very reusable tough as old boots ILCA dinghy could be made more sustainable – stay tuned on this.
- Dan Belcher AUS is now Chair of the WS Events Committee; his first request is for all Olympic Classes have a Medal Race. I see this as an ILCA Race Management issue, but I see no reason why we can't comply.

Regards

Ken Hurling OAM Chairman ALCA



ABN 47 884 970 979

PO Box 5242 Greenwich NSW 2065 Australia

Treasurer's Report Year Ended 30 June 2021

I have pleasure in presenting the financial statements for the above financial year.

The Income & Expenditure Statement shows a loss for the year of \$1,784.37 as compared with a surplus for the previous year of \$149.17

The income from membership subscriptions of the various Australian districts was down marginally by \$192.00 reflecting the lower membership numbers for all districts for the year of 648 compared with 2020/2021 numbers of 680.

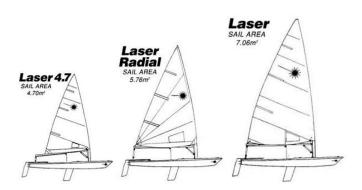
Expenses for the year were up by \$1,733.02. The increase was mainly due to the additional cost of \$3,500 for this year incurred in respect of the Laser App. The cost of running this feature next year will be reduced to \$2,000.

The 3rd Party Liability Insurance premium of \$1,561.34 covers all state and territory districts in Australia for that liability. The cost of this cover continues to rise and was up again by 16.7% for the year.

The Balance Sheet shows the net assets of the Association are the funds of \$46,693.00 held at Westpac, less the monies held in trust of \$25,312.30 for Australian competitors in two ILCA world championships. The Association does not have any other liabilities.

Thank you

Geoff Lucas Hon. Treasurer



Australian Laser Class Association Inc. ABN 47 884 970 979

<u>Income & Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30th June 2022</u>

<u>2021</u>		2022
	<u>Income</u>	
	Membership Subscriptions	
1,506.00	NSW & ACT	1,566.00
858.00	Victoria	708.00
810.00	Queensland	738.00
252.00	South Australia	174.00
432.00	Western Australia	474.00
132.00	Tasmania	102.00
90.00	Northern Territory	126.00
4,080.00		3,888.00
	Other Income	
8.52	Interest Received	-
4,088.52	<u>Total Income</u>	3,888.00
	_	
	Expenses	
226.12	Australian Sailing-Affiliation Fee	226.12
279.85	Website Hosting	286.91
-	Laser App	3,500.00
47.00	Filing Fees-Annual Return	48.00
100.00	Trophies	50.00
1,500.00	Laser 50th Anniversary Regatta	-
500.00	Travelling Expenses-President	-
1,286.38	3rd Party Liability Insurance	1,561.34
3,939.35	<u>Total Expenses</u>	5,672.37
\$ 149.17	Excess of Expenditure over Income-Surplus 2021	\$ 1,784.37

Australian Laser Class Association Inc.

ABN 47 884 970 979

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2022

<u>2021</u>			<u>2022</u>
	Current Asset		
23,165.07	Westpac -Current Account		46,693.00
23,165.07	<u>Total Assets</u>		46,693.00
-	<u>Less Liabilities</u>		
-	Trust Fund ILCA 4 Worlds 2022	17,233.16	
-	Trust Fund ILCA 6 Youth Worlds 2022	<u>8,079.14</u>	25,312.30
23,165.07	Net Assets		21,380.70
	Represented by Members' Funds		
23,015.90	Retained Earnings as at 1st July 2021		23,165.07
149.17	Less Current Year's Loss		1,784.37
\$ 23,165.07	Total Equity		\$ 21,380.70



ILCAVic Inc- ALCA AGM Jan 2023 Report.

Membership- During season 21/22 membership increased from 118 to 131 which is still well below the pre-Covid figure. The junior membership is holding up quite well however we seem to have lost some support amongst the Masters. Could be the Aero effect.

2022 Laser Masters Australian Championship at Westernport YC, entries were 106. The weather was kind to us & there were plenty of smiling faces at the end. A big thanks to McCrae YC who sent over a race management crew & patrol boats to assist Western Port. Thanks too to Nick Ede who organised the regatta for the VLA & was responsible for great catering including refreshments from sponsors Montalto wines & Bright Brewery. The principal sponsor was VicGov and we appreciate their continuing support of yachting in Victoria.

Two Victorian boys plus VIS coach Brody Riley attended the ILCA6 Youth championship in Texas & four boys & one girl represented the VLA at the ILCA4 worlds in Villamoura, Portugal. Hopefully the trend continues & we see more young Australian sailors competing in ILCA world championship events.

At the recent AGM the VLA membership voted to change the association name to ILCAVic Inc. This was to bring the Victorian district into line with ILCA naming worldwide.

The members also voted unanimously to award honorary life memberships to Joby Graves & Mark Tonner-Joyce. Mark & Joby were the architects of the VLA training programs & both have served many years as volunteers on the committee.

Finally, the I would like to congratulate the four young women representing Australia in the AST/ASS ILCA6 squad. Your efforts this year have been amazing.

I move that my report be accepted.

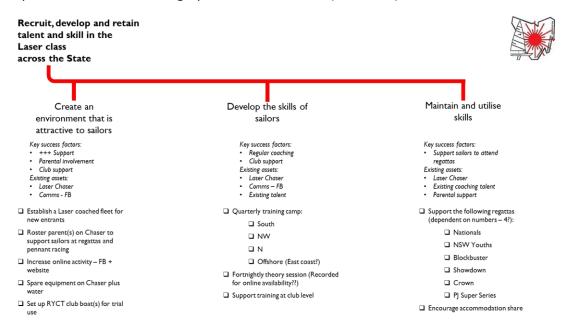
John d'Helin

Chair- ILCAVic.

State Report – Tasmania – ALCA AGM

The last few years saw a dip in numbers in Tasmania as older sailors either transitioned out of the class to keel boats or to study on the mainland. There was a correspondingly small number of junior sailors transitioning out of junior classes. At one stage we had just two 4.7 sailors in the State.

We developed and executed a strategic plan to build the class (see below):



The plan revolved around improving the culture in the class and creating a more welcoming environment for prospective sailors and encouraging older sailors to be role models for the younger group. The key focus being to support sailors of all abilities, not just the top end of the fleet. This has included multiple training programs all through the year and employing coaches that are inclusive and supportive of sailors of all abilities.

Although we haven't achieved all elements of the strategy, this approach has been hugely successful.

Challenges

- Socio economics It is hugely expensive to get off the island to the mainland to race and the cost involved is significant.
- Regionalism The North and North-West of the State continue to struggle. We have not succeeded
 in establishing a foothold n the North of the State where clubs such as Port Dalrymple have very
 successful junior programs. Part of the challenge is availability of suitable coaches to run training
 programs.

Successes

- We have been able to grow the fleet- to the point where we have 16 boats competing here in Georges River. We have a very active fleet in Hobart, based out of the RYCT. The relationship with the club is excellent. We have created a good value proposition by working hard on the culture within the fleet and providing a supportive environment regardless of your ability.
- We also have numerous people looking to purchase boats and are wanting to transition to the ILCA
- On weekends, during club pennant racing on the Derwent, the ILCA fleet is often the largest fleet out
 of all the classes racing.

Northern Territory District Laser Class Association

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2022 Annual report

Laser sailing in the NT has enjoyed a very successful year with a boost in the membership driven in no small part to the interest generated by the Oceania Laser Masters Championship conducted in Darwin in August 2022. Hosting an international event in Darwin highlighted the popularity of the ILCA Class and resulted in a number of sailors both old and new reviewing their sailing needs and raising to the challenge. This resulted in existing sailors upgrading their boats and equipment with their old Lasers being on sold to young and new sailors therefore adding the local fleet and increasing to the membership to 42 sailors.

In 2022 the Laser remains to be the most active class at the Darwin Sailing Club and Lasers outnumber all other classes in club and Championship racing. A fleet of 20 plus Lasers regularly sailed through the 2022 season covering all rigs with results awarded on Yardstick as well as performance handicap. Due to the consistent numbers of Lasers on the water the Darwin Sailing Club recognises the Laser as an individual fleet and provides separate start for the Class in its club racing.

In August this year the NT Laser Class Association conducted the Oceania Laser Masters Championship in Darwin. The Championship was a hosted by the Darwin Sailing Club and received support and sponsorship from the NT Government, Ronastan, Northline Transport Logistics, SEA, Australian Sailing, Sailor App/Club Operations and PSA as well as the Darwin Sailing Club and Waterfront Bistro. The racing was planned around afternoon starts to take of advantage of the reliable sea breeze, however due to the unseasonal weather in the south the sea breeze didn't reach its full potential resulting in a lighter than expected regatta. The Championship attracted 37 entries with after effects of the recent travel restrictions taking their toll on the response. For those who did attend, the racing was close and the atmosphere friendly and I think all agreed that it was a regatta worth attending.

Building on the success of the 2022 Oceania Laser Championship the NT Laser Class Association has lodged a submission with the Oceania Laser Class Association to host the event in Darwin again in 2026. Plans are already under way to secure sponsorship and make the 2026 event even bigger and better than 2022. The Championship will be in August or September, depending on the suitable tides and Laser Masters are urged to save the date for 2026.

Laser sailing is thriving in the NT and the success of recent event is proof of this. The NT sailing season runs from April to October, the water is warm and flat with 8 to 12 knots of breeze and up to 25 knots late in the season making Darwin the ideal place to spend the cold winter months.

Gary Martin NTDLCA President.



Queensland Laser Association Report 2021 -2022

December 2022

The past twelve months has seen the QLA activities return to normal with strong membership and attendance at regattas. Planning for future regattas leading up to our hosting of the Australian Open and Masters championships in 2023 has commenced with our securing of venues for both regattas and our States.

QLA Regattas: This year we held our State Titles at RQYS in Brisbane and we saw almost 90 boats entered, the largest numbers for some years. Next year are targeting our first 100 plus entries for the States at picturesque Humpybong. The South Pacific Laser Masters were held as usual at RQYS although earlier than usual in late April to fit in with the World Masters timing in Mexico. The 38 entries were lower than previous years primarily due to low interstate and international entries. Hopefully this is a hangover from Covid and numbers will improve in future years.

Our Metropolitan Titles were held at Humpybong and proved successful with 41 entries. Our River titles continue to struggle to attract entrants although they are always an enjoyable day. After having to cancel the scheduled event at the Tweed Valley SC for the last two years due to Covid issues we were able to finally hold our first event in NSW with 17 competitors in March 2022.

Membership: Our membership numbers continue to be historically strong Membership currently sits at 126 members compared with 125 last year and 135 the previous year.



Organisational Issues:

Mentoring: This year the QLA committee developed an outline mentoring program aimed specifically at young female sailors. The primary aim is to improve the environment and support for young female sailors so that they are less likely to leave sailing. Key activities include appointing a suite of experienced female sailors that can be contacted for advice and holding female forums at regattas. Once this is bedded down we will look at expanding the offers and also developing a similar service for young male sailors.

Coaching: We have sponsored/organised a number of coaching workshops this year at RQYS, BSS on the Sunshine coast and in north Queensland. We are also assisting with both financial and organisational input into coaching and on water support to our youth squad at the upcoming Nationals.

The QLA has welcomed Fiona Johnstone to our Committee as our Youth Coordinator replacing Doug Innes. Otherwise the committee has remained stable.

Regards

Michael Wilson

Chair QLA

15 December 2022



NSW & ACT Laser Association Report ALCA AGM 5th January 2023

NSW/ACT District Sailing

NSW/ACT Lasers had a successful 2021/22 season with interest in interclub racing gradually increasing after the impacts of COVID.

We had 130 boats at the State Masters at Port Stephens in February following the COVID affected entries for the State Championships at Georges River. Great racing was enjoyed at both cube events. Both enjoyed strong breezes especially the Masters which really tested the sailors with six races over two days mostly between 20-25 knots.

It was sunshine at Sunshine for the Coast Championship in October 2022 with 52 sailors enjoying very pleasant conditions and close racing. It was especially pleasing to stage this event after it had to be cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID travel restrictions.

The combined Open Youth and Masters State Championships were held at Wangi ASC on 19 November. There were 127 entries. Sailors came from Tasmania, Victoria and Queensland as well as NSW & ACT. Some great racing was enjoyed by all on Saturday. On Sunday a nasty westerly blew over the course with gusts over 40 knots which prevented any safe and fair racing.

The Double Bay Sailing Club's very popular Women's Regatta was run very successfully on 3 October with 35 sailors enjoying a day of action on the water and off. It was great to have this event back after two years of postponement due to COVID.

Thanks to the host clubs for putting on a great show for us. The on the water and in the club house teams make the events work. They do it just for the love of the sport and we thank them one and all.

National Championships & Planning

Following the disappointment of the cancellation of the National Championships in both 2021 and 2022 due the closure of the WA state border we are all looking forward to the 2023 event at Georges River Sailing Club (GRSC).

A lot of work has gone into planning this event by GRSC and our district. A large number volunteers have agreed to assist and on water resources have been donated by other bay and harbour clubs. We are confident that this will be a great championship and it certainly sees the hottest fleet on this side of the equator since 2020.

The Oceania & Australian Laser Masters Championships will be held at the Bay Sailing Centre Port Stephens - 10-13 February 2023 we still have work to do in resourcing this event. Running the State Masters at the venue last season showed up the challenges of running a big

regatta at a small though very enthusiastic club. Bay Sailing Centre has Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club behind it as its manager. NCYC was Australian Sailing Club of the Year in 2022 so we are confident that collectively we will have a great event.

International Sailing

After difficulties of travel due to COVID it was good that our sailors were able to compete again at all the World Championship events. Several NSW & ACT sailors were in the teams for each Youth, Open and Masters events.

Notable performances by NSW & ACT sailors included;

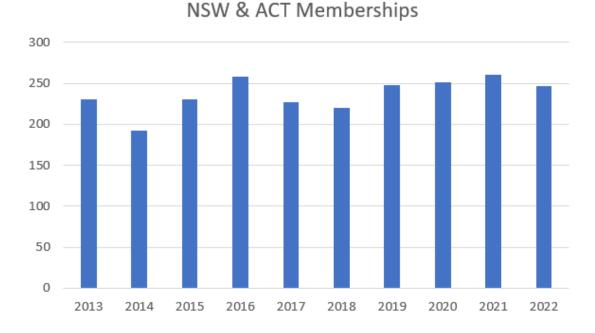
- Evie Saunders from Manly Yacht Club finished second in the 56 boat ILCA 6 fleet in the World Sailing run 2022 Allianz Youth World Sailing Championships in July in The Hague, Netherlands. Evie was announced as the 2022 Australian Sailing Youth Sailor of the Year in the gala event at the Australian National Maritime Museum in November.
- In May at the Open ILCA 7 Worlds sailed from the Vallarta Yacht Club in Mexico Finn Alexander was the best-placed Australian in 13th equalling his best-ever World Championship result. Finn had consistent places in other world circuit events with a 15th in Princess Sofia Regatta in Palma, Spain, 12th at the French Olympic Regatta in Hyères as well as the 13th in the Worlds.
- The ILCA 6 World Masters also sailed from the Vallarta Yacht Club resulted in an emphatic win for Jeff Loosemore in the GGM Division. Jeff won nine of the 12 races and had three seconds to win by 25 points.
- Brett Beyer was a clear winner in the Grand Masters division of the ILCA 7 World Masters in Mexico. Brett finished with eight bullets in the 12 race series for a convincing win. This was Brett's 14 Laser/ILCA World Masters win.



Brett Beyer in a familiar position on the podium

NSW/ACT Membership

Our District membership for the year decreased slightly to 247 (from 261 in 2020/21 and 251 in 2019/20 season). Our 10-year average membership is 236.



We pass more than half of our collected membership fees onto ALCA and ILCA through affiliations (\$23 per member to be exact) to help to support their activities. The greater the number of Australian Laser sailors we have as members the larger our allocation of places in limited entry World Championship events.

District Administration

Hopefully we are keeping sailors informed on sailing, events, results and Laser sailing happenings through <u>laser.asn.au</u>. We try not to barrage members and others on our email list with endless messages. We currently have 580 people on our email distribution list.

A special thank you to our own small team of helpers R.O. Andrew McLachlan, our treasurer Geoff Lucas, race secretary Sue Phillips, regatta helpers David & Elaine Edmiston and VC Ben Byford. Dave wears the Measurers hat as well. Thanks also to Masters Representative Rob Lowndes for his work, wise advice and support.

Thanks to the many people who helped out with administration and on the water for our events. Without people just stepping up as required we could never have managed the tasks involved in staging these events.

Cheers

Kevin Phillips Chair NSW/ACT Laser Association

ALCA report - Youth Development Pathway & guide

This document adds to an earlier report published 5/2/2020 which caused some considerable interest. The 2020 report analysed participation and performances data from Australian ILCA Youth World Championship Team from 2009 – 2020.

ALCA Youth Development Pathway

The Australian Laser Class Association (ALCA) formed in 2009 embarked on a strategy to sustain and grow the ILCA Youth & u21 classes.

ALCA endorsed a simple "Youth Development Pathway" of events to support district association that align with club, state and national High-Performance programs:

- 1. ILCA Youth & u21 State Championships;
- 2. Midwinter Championship (optional pre-worlds warm-up event currently at RQYS);
- 3. ALCA Australian Youth Championship; and
- 4. ILCA Youth & u21 World Championships.

Sailors can decide what level that they would like to develop their sailing so that clubs and state associations can organise support. The ALCA Youth Development Pathway today with the support partnering clubs and state-based associations is key to ILCA sailor development, important to growth and sustainability of the ILCA Class.

In 2019 ILCA began awarding prizes for u23, accordingly ALCA and district associations may consider extending the Youth Development Pathway to u23.

Proposal and next step

The ALCA to table information in this document.

ALCA to decide the mechanics of how to better inform the sailing community in Australia about the Youth Development Pathway including:

- better articulating why preferencing the ILCA class is important;
- how successful programs have used the Pathway to grow;
- how to use the Pathway to consolidate the club and association relationship.

Sustainable Youth Development

ALCA calls on the Australian sailing community to embrace the ALCA Youth Development pathway as a viable and stable platform for clubs and associations to build youth & u21 fleets (possibly will extend to u23).

The ALCA Youth Development Pathway vision sees the potential for larger fleets where young sailors aspire to competition for active lifestyle and social reasons. This allows a larger sailing economy to emerge, a mainstream approach to youth development with a broader diversity of sailors with the potential for more youth coaches and related support structures at club and association level.

The ALCA Youth Development Pathway is presented as a more productive alternative to the Olympic pathway. For all the good work achieved there remains a tendency to focus on the goal more than retention, whittling participation to the point where many clubs and associations are no longer using it. Through lack of an alternative we have a critical shortage of coaching experience and relevant support.

The Olympic Pathway is an inspiration for young sailors but at its apex does not have resources nor has the interested in the development of the mainstream youth classes. The narrowing Olympic selection process that begins at youth development tends to disenfranchise rather than motivate the mainstream to continue sailing, effectively an inefficient mechanism for talent acquisition.

Clubs and associations are encouraged to build upon the ALCA Youth Development Pathway as a stable alternative where coaches and organisers can focus on training and the next social or sailing event. Aspiring youth and u21 athletes are better placed in this kind of mainstream, where they can trial their state high performance scholarship, or fail and continue sailing, perhaps try again later. These program environments are functioning in some states but not in all.

ALCA applauds Australian Sailing assistance to Clubs and Associations in their efforts to improve standards of sailing and long-term growth, the sponsorship of ILCA Youth & u21 World Championship Team coaches. The Australian Olympic movement remains a key motivational driver, their institutional, financial, organisational and technical support are vitally important, ALCA and its members will remain organised to help it succeed.

General comments about this guide

A program is a series of organised activities that engage sailors in training, development and competition, normally a sailing club(s) or a state Laser Association or a combination of both. The report does not ignore the difficulty of building support mechanisms but rather endeavours to make more likely for them to be successful.

When major events bring home a mix of new and improving sailors, state base programs also have an opportunity to grow and improve from their experience. That can only happen when clubs and associations are organised to use competition to grow fleets. Some states are organised but the standard of sailing is patchy which makes it harder for programs to hang on to sailors.

Whatever the results the report shows acknowledges commitment where sailors will have learned where the world standard of competition lies and be better informed about the kind of support needed in their home environment to climb the ranks. Most of all sailors are stimulated when programs step-up.

ILCA4 youth intake – making the right choice

The ILCA youth intake is mostly through Club based junior programs who develop sailors for Club racing. Ideally these sailors can enjoy club activities and be encouraged to join their state ILCA class association where they can be exposed to a standard of competition that only class competition can provide. Some will follow Pathway competition to compete at a higher level. In this way Clubs and the ILCA class association are complimentary partners who help each other retain sailors in the sport.

State associations need to disseminate clear information so that families can make informed decisions about joining the ILCA class. Junior graduates are being offered the ultimate tactical/big fleet competition in the ALCA Youth Development Pathway. Readily available at low cost the ILCA dinghy requires minimal maintenance which helps young sailors compete with a high degree of independence ie more time on the water. Standards of sailing are elevated through accuracy, control, tactics and strategy best developed in single handed classes in big fleet competition. These elements are important foundations for any youth sailor and provides an entry to the ultimate game of sailing that only big fleets represent. Sailors won't get that anywhere else.

Junior graduates and Club programs need to be informed about this before they opt for an alternative class. There are many rival classes, wind or kite foils for example that may be novel or fast but not come with the same tactical/big fleet competition and development Pathway available through ILCA. Fleets will therefore tend to be smaller and competent coaches will be harder to find. Sailors will find it more difficult to gain the experience to compete effectively, Clubs will find it difficult to build and sustain fleets.

Connecting intake to the Youth Development Pathway

One of the most successful dinghy programs anywhere has been the ALCA Youth Development Pathway, at one end are local sailing events, at its peak are outstanding performances of the Australian ILCA Youth and u21 fleets. It needs to be better utilised.

Many sailors use parts of the pathway but are not aware of where it leads or how to get involved. Club and association organisers are encouraged to present the full extent of the pathway as a motivational driver just see what happens. Hopefully smaller training pools turn into larger and more viable programs.

The Pathway is stable, organised and has stood the test of time. The ALCA Youth Development Pathway is for fleets of youth sailors to prepare themselves at district and national level to compete in tactical/big fleet competition. ILCA World and Australian championship sailors bring experiences back to their training partners lifting the standards of sailing in each state, inspiring other to follow.

Unfortunately not all states are engaged in Pathway competition, which makes it more difficult for their programs to gain the experience necessary for coaches to develop and young sailors to succeed.

Improving the standard of sailing & Coach Development

Coach development and active fleets are fundamentally important to youth sailing. Australia has nowhere near enough experienced coaches, it is important that we develop them. One of the avenues for coach development is as an Australian ILCA Youth World Championship team coach, potentially there are 6 roles.

ALCA through fundraising has facilitated 33 coaches to travel with Australian teams to ILCA Youth World events, a very popular event. Coaches are there to unify the team and optimise the regatta experience, an important motivator to continue sailing. ALCA has fundraised \$288,000 for Youth Teams since 2009 and has organised teams which helped with affordability. Additionally there has been support for u21's.

Coaches are contacted or make themselves available for selection. The coaching decision is ultimately decided by sailors, however interested parties in the decision include Australian Sailing who may sponsor the program and ALCA. While ALCA's primary interest is in the team as part of its membership, it is also interested in the coaching experience gained at the event, particularly where young and emerging talent are committed to the ongoing development of the fleet in circumstances where they have state-based support.

Many of our best and brightest state and national coaches have supported ILCA Youth teams. Placements are limited, coaches will need to build a case for selection through AS to gain their sponsorship or through ALCA via state Association who may make representations on their behalf.

For optimised coaching support the goal is for two coaches for each Youth ILCA4, ILCA6 & one or two coaches for u21 teams. This began occurring in 2016 and 2017 when 5 coaches were organised. The

second coach is a win for the team but particularly for girls who's support can be prioritised. Those strong numbers contributed to a strong u21 worlds team this year.

Fundraising can begin as soon as sailors have made application to Championship events. Teams of 10 have been able to raise funds but inevitably need sponsors to achieve an affordable budget, funds raised are held in Trust by ALCA and accessed by a team representative. Teams of less than ten normally need additional sponsorship to sustain participation. Larger teams have on occasion required a second coach, not necessarily a marginal cost benefit, typically an additional sponsor(s) will be required.

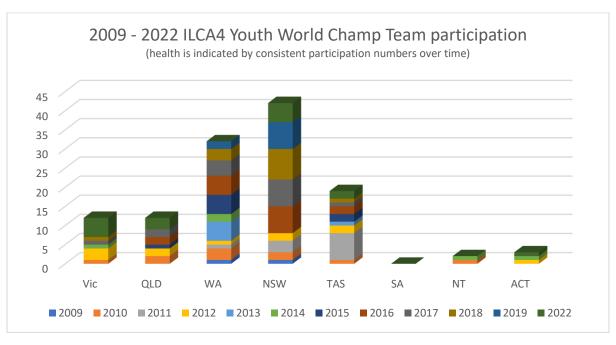
How we relate to State High Performance and the Olympics General principles are presented to guide the conduct of relationships are required between State High Performance, class associations and clubs for the common good of sailing.

Special responsibility: Special responsibility A peak body representative and new entrant to sailing, State High Performance has a special responsibility to take reasonable steps to assure club and association memberships are not compromised.

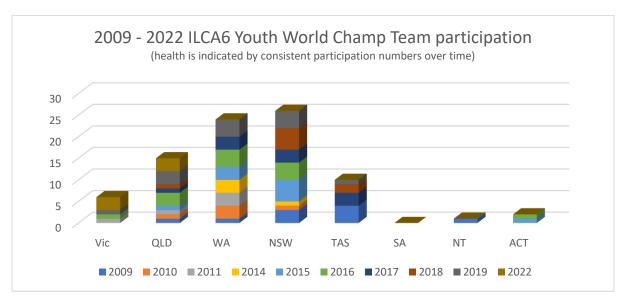
Principle of co-existence: ALCA see State High Performance, Club and Association as complementary programs, a longer-term view is required for the common good to prevail. Viability of all state-based sailing activities dictates that all parties need to find ways to co-exist and strengthen each other. There would need to be consultation or recourse to address these problems.

Examples of breaches: Centralised coaching may impact the ability for club and association feeder classes to finance programs that produce sailors, which is detrimental to all parties. Transfers of talented sailors who sustain smaller Club or Association fleets may be detrimental or lead to the collapse of those programs. State High Performance who offer scholarships to those sailors may be undermining the viability of those fleets when those sailors leave their home environment.

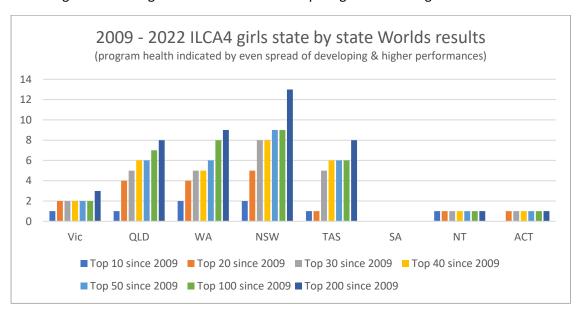
2009-2022 ILCA Youth Worlds participation & performance analysis The graphical data provides a state-by-state profile of participation and performances for analysis purposes, an insight into how youth development is performing nationally.



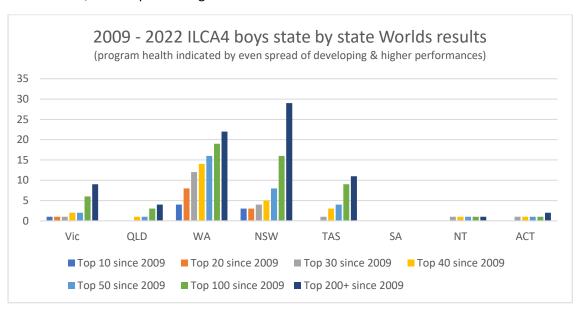
The above chart shows that state programs have sailors attending ILCA Youth World Championships, how many and regularity of participation since 2009. Because the ALCA Australian National Championship is a qualification event we also know the same state-based programs have sailors at nationals and by implication in local competition. Active sailors bring their experiences back to their home fleets where they lift the standard of sailing. Regular and higher ILCA4 participation tends to reflect a healthy intake of sailors from feeder junior programs. WA and NSW have higher rates and more regular participation which is a good foundation for fleet development, concerningly WA did not send a team in 2022 which will be a setback.



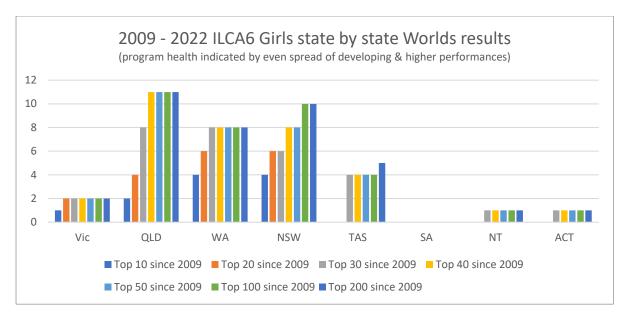
The above chart shows ILCA Youth World Championship sailors by state, how many attendances and regularity of participation since 2009. Because the ALCA Australian National Championship is a qualification event we also know the same state-based programs have sailors at nationals and by implication in local competition. Active sailors bring their experiences back to their home fleets and lift the standard of sailing more broadly. Regular and higher ILCA6 participation tends to reflect progressions from previous ILCA4 and accumulating experience. WA and NSW have higher rates and more regular participation which is a good foundation for fleet development. Qld rate of participation has improved more recently which is positive but the progression from ILCA4 is weaker indicating a disadvantage to sailors who start competing at an older age.



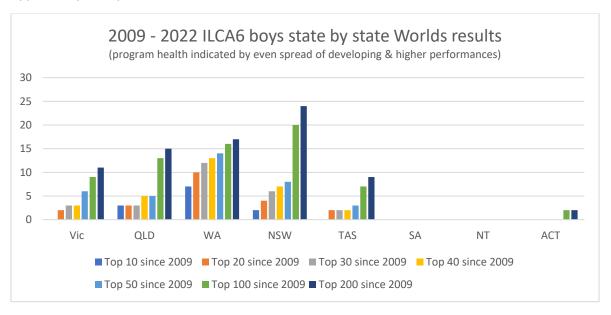
The above bar chart groupings indicate the standard of sailing achieved and potential for state programs to support and improve ILCA4 girl performances. When read in conjunction with the ILCA World Championship team chart results project a picture of how many and how often states are participating and whether they are improving. Sailors who are improving tend to be more actively returning to key events. An indicator of the health of a state program will be regular participation of sailors (commitment) who enter the groupings in right-hand bars and progress to the left-hand bars as they improve in subsequent events (improvement). Qld looks healthy but its low rate of participation and top ten results will constrain it despite occasional high achievements. WA & NSW are balanced, Tas has positive signs from a small base.



The above bar chart groupings indicate the standard of sailing achieved and potential for state programs to support and improve ILCA4 boy performances. When read in conjunction with the ILCA World Championship team chart results project a picture of how many and how often states are participating and whether they are improving. Sailors who are improving tend to be more active at key events. An indicator of the health of a state program will be regular participation of sailors (commitment) who enter the groupings in right-hand bars and progress to the left-hand bars as they improve in subsequent events (improvement). WA looks balanced with high & routine intake, fewer top 200 transitioning to top 10 results, but it did not send a team in 2022 and with less competition during Covid development may be hampered. Vic, Qld, Tas have small intakes that are not progressing to the left-hand bar. NSW has a larger intake and similarly are not progressing to the left-hand bar. In general terms Vic, Qld, NSW and Tas state programs have reasonable standards of sailing in the home fleets but need more support to impact retention and get them to the next level.

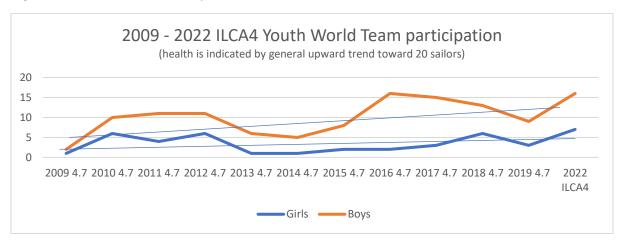


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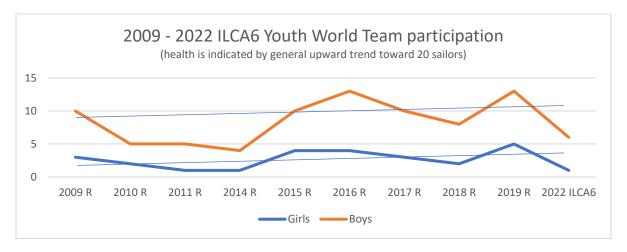


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(commitment) who enter the groupings in right-hand bars and progress to the left-hand bars as they improve in subsequent events (improvement). Vic, Qld, Tas ability to improve is hampered by low and infrequent participation rates. NSW & WA have larger participation rates however WA is more balanced progressions to the left-hand bar, indicating home program support is improving to a higher standard more effectively.



The above graph reflects participation rates of in the Australian ILCA4 Youth World Championship teams, who will have qualified at the Australian nationals and been active in their respective state programs. The blue trend lines indicate an increasing participation rate of boys compared to girls which is healthy particularly the uptick during covid. However it appears that boys are transitioning into the event more often and at a greater rate than girls. ALCA initiatives such as Solidarity which sponsors girls to participate at nationals, competition prizes and event organisation that distinguish girls from boys, having a second coach at ILCA Worlds are all helpful however the ILCA class is informed that we can do better.



The above graph reflects participation rates of in the Australian ILCA6 Youth World Championship teams, all will have attended the Australian Nationals qualification event, some will be competing for the first time, others will be building their experience. The blue trend lines indicate that boys and girls are increasing participation rates at similar rates which is healthy. There is also a notable downtick during the covid period, some experienced sailors will have aged out and transitioned to u21 which had a particularly high rate of participation, possibly that ILCA4 sailors were not travelling or transitioning during that time. The problem is that less experience will be available for home fleet development. However the uptick in ILCA4 participation indicates that a larger ILCA6 team is possible in 2023.

2009 - 2022 ILCA Youth World Championship Participation										
Average per annum	Vic	QLD	WA	NSW	TAS	SA	NT	ACT		
ILCA4 boys	0.8	0.3	1.8	2.4	0.9	0.0	0.1	0.2		
ILCA4 girls	0.3	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.1		
ILCA6 boys	0.9	1.3	1.4	2.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.2		
ILCA6 girls	0.2	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.1		
note; average attendance per annum										

The above table shows average attendance per annum which reflects the experience available to the home fleet that may affect training and developmental activity in each state. A nominal score of '1' indicates that a training program is averaging participation of at least one sailor with international experience per annum. Scores below '1' has implications caused by a less experienced fleet.

Data analysis summary & comments

The Australian ILCA Youth Development Pathway has been a wonderful achievement, its capacity to engage large fleets at multiple levels has brought unity and stability to the front end of its ALCA national sailing organisation, a leader in the Oceania region, part of the ILCA International World Council. This is about people and there is clearly work to do, this report provides a way forward for state-based programs to support their fleets in a way that youth sailors have been responding to.

State base programs who find ways to induct and develop sailors are demonstrably more successful when at least some of their sailors attend key events and improve their performances, lifting the standard of sailing in their home fleet. ILCA dinghies are readily available, states have a way forward, success is available to the willing.

ILCA4 YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

More sailors than ever are competing at ILCA4 World Championship level, the 2009-2022 participation rate for boys compared to girls is trending upward which is a healthy sign particularly with the 2022 uptick post covid which indicates recovery after limited competition. However it appears that boys are transitioning into the event more often and at a greater rate than girls. The good news is that diverging participation rate differential closes for girls in ILCA6, where both genders are growing at similar rates.

Not all states are organised, the 2009-2022 data indicates that the state-based program support is uneven that some ILCA4 World Championship sailors participate at higher rates and more regularly over the period which will affect stability and opportunities to develop in the home fleets. 2022 show promising signs of recovery in participation some less active states but it is too early to know whether those programs will be driving 'improvement'. 2022 ILCA4 Team results were less competitive than in previous campaigns with only one sailor achieving top 30.

In general terms ILCA4 Pathway competition has ample scope to continue growth, except for limited entries into the Youth World Championship, team size will be limited to around 20 sailors. Selection by application will be dependent on ranking results from the Australian Youth Championship being the qualifying event. Offers will become increasingly competitive, home state programs will come under increasing pressure to prepare their sailors appropriately.

ILCA6 YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

ILCA6 girls and boys have been responding positively to the event, the long-term trend indicates both genders rates of participation are increasing similarly which is healthy. Despite a downturn in

2022 there are good reasons to expect that a general upward trend to continue ie strong 4.7 and u21 participation.

Some state programs have higher and more regularised participation rates which can help improve fleet development when compared to others, some state programs demonstrate the capacity to consistently improve sailors by comparison to others. WA has been a standout performer in this regard however for the first time in years has nil youth sailors participating which will be concerning to program organisers, coaches and state high performance. Adding to woes 2022 ILCA6 Team results were less competitive than in previous campaigns with only one sailor achieving top 50.

In general terms ILCA6 Pathway competition has ample scope to continue growth, except for limited entries into the Youth World Championship, team size will be limited to around 15-20 sailors. Selection by application will be dependent on ranking results from the Australian Youth Championship being the qualifying event. Offers will become increasingly competitive, home state programs will come under increasing pressure to prepare their sailors appropriately.