

National Report: IRC in the Netherlands 2018

On the 31 of August 2018 we had 116 IRC Certificates in Holland, in 2017 there were 126 valid IRC certificates. These certificates are mainly issued to participate in international IRC events but we continue to try to attract those IRC participants to the main events like the North Sea Regatta and the Dutch IRC Nationals. Dual scoring (ORC&IRC) these races attracts entries that normally race under either of the two rating systems while enticing them to enter in the other as well.

2018 saw the inaugural combined IRC/ORC Offshore World Championships held in The Hague in July. An innovative solution to unite the world's two leading handicap systems, efforts and knowledge into 1 combined World Championship Offshore Sailing. It has taken some years to get here but everyone was pleased this event was so well-handled with the excellent cooperation of the ORC and IRC technical teams. With non-typical Dutch weather conditions, with all the elements you could wish for. The battle was on until the very last moment and we are looking back on a successful event.

Most Dutch yachts have an ORC certificate with more and more only an IRC certificate for international IRC events. We continue to improve the format the Dutch events and races to serve today's sailors needs better and we remain active for IRC to stimulate Dutch teams to participate in international events like Cowes Week and the Fastnet Race.

Major IRC Events in the Netherlands:

- North Sea Regatta and North Sea Race, May / June 2018
- Open Dutch IRC Championship (Breskens Sailing Weekend), September 2018

Dutch IRC Champions 2018:

- **IRC 1**
 - 1st: Van Uden / Ker 46
 - 2nd: Elke / First 40
- **IRC 2:**
 - 1st : Hubo / W36 worlds edition 2018
 - 2nd: Team Heiner III / Max Fun 35

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