

2019 IRC CONGRESS

AUSTRALIAN REPORT

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Endorsement policy:

In 2018 we had an offer for South Australia (Adelaide) owners. They could get discounted price for standard certificate. This discount hasn't increased the application rate from South Australia. So we are back to our usual policy: in Australia an IRC certificate needs to be endorsed.

Overview of IRC situation in Australia:

- IRC numbers:

Year	Number of IRC boats	Number of new boats	Percentage of new boat	Percentage of endorsed boat
2016	413	41	10%	95%
2017	429	54	13%	95%
2018	437	50	11%	95%
2018 (31 st of august)	288	12	4%	95%
2019 (31st of august)	311	19	6%	97%

- IRC is used for inshore and offshore racing in Australia but it's mainly used for national or states events. Only a small amount of club, usually big one use IRC for club racing.
- Average size of boats: 12.3m in 2018, but average size of boat who amended their certificate at least once is 15.3m.
- Only 1 short-handed certificate in 2018 but short-handed racing is slowly picking up around here. It's not in the Australian culture to race short-handed. 2020 Sydney to Hobart will have a short-handed category.
- Strong competition of local ratings in the South of the country and of performance handicap system (PHS) for club racing.
- 75th Sydney to Hobart, huge number of boat registered, so we are expecting a big year → target will be to keep the momentum next year

IRC issues:

- Lots of owners asking for the possibility to have an inshore and an offshore certificate. But this is not going toward a cost reduction
- Numerous request from owners to authorize boats to have one spinnaker with a mid-girth measurement of 65% of foot length to get code 0 with better shape.