



www.irc-sea.com info@irc-sea.com



Sailing in South East Asia is slowly opening up after COVID restrictions, particularly around the issue of both provincial and international travel.

Boats can now cross border travel of boats between Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. Resulting in international events slowly returning to the calendar, although quarantine rules for crews returning to places like HK and China are still restrictive.

IRC measurement in Singapore has developed well, with regular IRC fleet racing at Changi Sailing Club. Singapore now has 24 boats "Check measured", with most boats now holding endorsed certificates and the rest in process. Government imposed Crew number restrictions are now returning to normal.

In Malaysia and Thailand, restrictions on cross region and international travel are now lifted. Which means that owners or crews based further out of country can now start to enter regional regattas. Although flight prices have now considerably increased.

International events such as the Phuket King's Cup Regatta, Malaysia's Raja Muda and Langkawi Regattas have now announced date for the 2022/23 season (See below), so we should start to see an increase in IRC boat numbers.

Several foreign owned boats have remained untouched in Marinas and at anchor for almost 3 years. Those who have kept their sails in "Storage" have seen a significant deterioration in sails due to humidity, with one boat going through 5 headsails at the recent Phuket Race week, despite the sails being kept in a controlled environment. Supplies of replacement sails or repair materials are very limited. So, the return to racing may still be delayed over the next few months.

Once replacement sails arrive, we expect measurers will be very, busy checking sails - especially at events like the King's Cup, and it is the intention for all SEA measurers to issue measurement stickers for all "Checked" Sails for Jan 2023. Rolly Tasker Sails in Phuket (One of the world's largest Sail lofts) has recently applied to become an IHC certified loft. They will also work with us to provide a measurement service for local and visiting boats.

In SEA, there are several resident RUS/BEL passport holders and boats with RUS Sail numbers. It is anticipated that the current directives from World Sailing on RUS/BEL participation, will influence participation in events for the foreseeable future. With Asian countries taking a "neutral" stance, regional regattas (to comply with directives) will impose a limitation that boats and competitors shall not display any sail letters, symbols, flags or anthems of RUS/BLR on any boat, competitor or place associated with the event.

Update 1: Hong Kong has just announced a relaxation of quarantine for returning crews. Hopefully the Asian travelling circuit can re-start for 2023.

Update 2: The Phuket King's Cup just announced entries will not be accepted from any persons holding only Russian or Belarusian nationality.

The IRC-SEA will be on-site at the following regattas in SEA.

Phuket King's Cup Regatta – Phuket, Thailand

3rd – 10th December 2022
www.kingscup.com

The Bay Regatta – Phuket, Thailand
22nd – 26th February 2023
www.bayregatta.com

Koh Samui Regatta – Samui, Thailand.
20th – 27th May 2023
www.samuiregatta.com

The Raja Muda Selangor International Regatta – Selangor, Malaysia.
18th – 26th November 2022
<http://www.rmsir.com>

Top of the Gulf Regatta – Pattaya, Thailand
1st week of May 2023
www.topofthegulfregatta.com

Phuket Race Week – Phuket, Thailand
June 2023
www.phuketraceweek.com

Simon James

IRC South East Asia – Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand