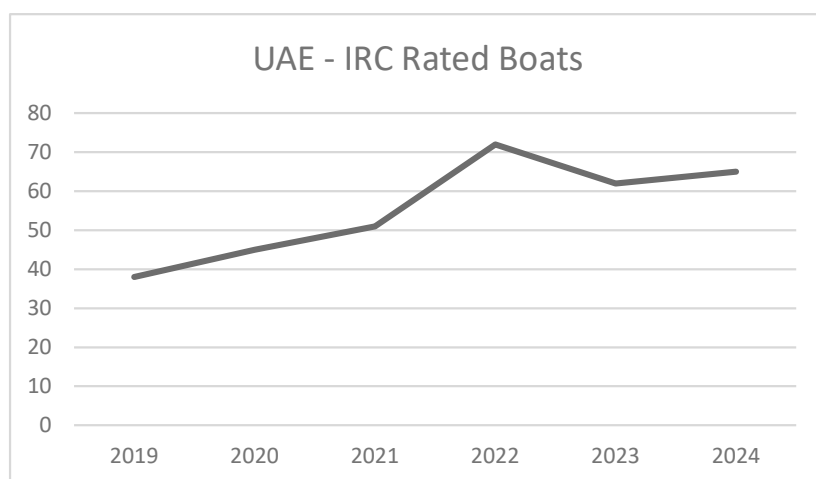


2024 IRC CONGRESS - UNITED ARAB EMIRATES REPORT

The IRC racing season in the UAE runs from October until May. Whilst we are geographically in the northern hemisphere, our certificate validity follows the southern hemisphere system.

Number of boats with IRC certificates



It is assumed that the total number of keelboats in the UAE is around 200 - 250. Around 140 are moored at the Dubai Offshore Sailing Club with the remainder spread out in marinas across the country.

The UAE IRC fleet numbers have shown a year-on-year increase of around 5% in 2024, which is largely in line with the growth trend over recent years.

End of Certificate Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IRC Rated Boats	38	45	51	72	62	65

This number of certificates issued in 2024 represents somewhere between 20 - 25% of all sailing boats in the UAE, with around 40% of the boats moored at DOSC having an IRC certificate.

Recent initiatives:

- Short Handed Series, we race all boats on the same course which meant we could run an overall IRC score as well as have separate division results.
- Amended our Club class rating system during short-handed series allowing a total crew of 4 persons per boat. This acts as a feeder for less confident sailors to start racing before moving into IRC.
- For 2025 we are making all non-IRC racing white sails only. If people want to race using spinnakers then they can join an IRC fleet. We expect the IRC Cruiser divisions to grow as a result and also to attract more newcomers into the sport by making Club Class more "entry level".

2024 IRC Middle East Regatta

This season saw the third IRC Middle East Regatta which was run over two days in December. There were thirty-two entries across four divisions. For Divisions 1,2 and 3 the first day had three inshore races followed by one inshore race and a coastal race on the second day. The IRC Cruiser division had a coastal race on both of the days.

2023/24 season - Number of IRC races/entrants:

Event	IRC Entrants	IRC Divisions	Race Days	Total Races
Commodores Cup	36	4	9	24
Coastal series	35	4	3	3
Double Handed series	21	2	6	6
Short handed trophy	5	1	1	3
IRC Middle East Regatta	32	4	2	5
Spring regatta	27	4	2	5
Dubai to Muscat Race	21	4	3	2
Dubai to Ras Al Khaimah	7	2	2	1

Total days of IRC racing	28
Total IRC race division starts	173

- Average IRC race days held per month during the season: **3.5**
- Average race-day attendance as a percentage of overall IRC fleet: **54%**

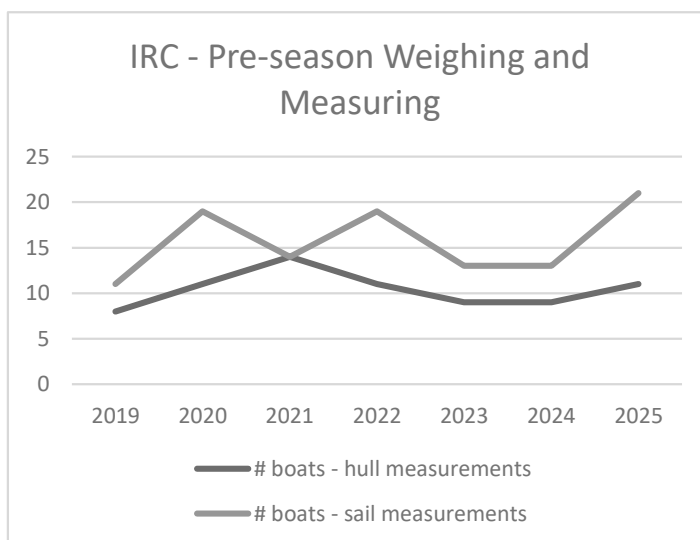
Annual weighing and measuring:

Each September we run an annual IRC weighing and measuring weekend.

This is free of charge for any boat owners who want to get an IRC certificate, whether members of DOSC or not.

The number of boats that signed up over the last seven years are given below

On average we would expect to measure an additional two or three hulls and five sets of sails each year.



Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
# boats - hull measurements	8	11	14	11	9	9	11
# boats - sail measurements	11	19	14	19	13	13	21

2024/25 revalidations

At the time of writing we are still receiving renewals for the new season. Based on the uptick in measurements we expect the number of IRC certificates to grow by a further 5% this year.



DUBAI OFFSHORE
SAILING CLUB

IRC feedback

In general the fleet seems to accept that IRC creates a fair and level playing field given the broad range of boats and weather/sea conditions it caters for around the world.

There have been occasional concerns raised regarding the following:

1. That some boat types rate better than others.
2. That the IRC formula may reflect expected conditions in Europe rather than other parts of the world where less wind and flatter seas would be expected. A question was raised as to whether IRC might consider a regional tweak to its formulas.