

Development of Keelboat Sailing in o Asia remains slow, as the nature of Water based Tourism has changed dramatically since Covid. With a massive reduction in the number of yachts available for charter in the area.

Sales of Monohull yachts has bottomed out in the region, with brokers reporting around 5 new boats sold locally and regional sales of around 10 preowned boats showing on the /boat wizard system. There are private boats being sailed into Thailand by RUS owners, under the banner of sailing schools. These are being operated in locations and have owners offering participation packages in Regattas, although getting them to obtain a fair rating is an issue as they are basing their marketing on winning.

With Asian governments taking a "neutral" stance, regional regattas (to comply with government policies to accept entries from these counties) will accept participation, while continuing to 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.

Singapore continues to lead the way, 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. There is now an increase in the number of boats applying for SEC certificates to participate in events outside Singapore waters.

While there is little or no advancement of competitive keelboat racing in Thailand or Malaysia. There are more "Social Cruising Events" appearing on the calendar, both as recreational and commercial ventures. which may offer an opportunity for the region to introduce the YTC scheme. This would also be of interest to the growing PHI sailing community which is slowly re-developing.

The 2025/6 Season saw 60 Boats registered under IRC in SEA, which is consistent with 2024. International events such as the Phuket King's Cup Regatta, Malaysia's Raja Muda, Langkawi Regattas and The Bay Regatta averaged 30-40 entries, although numbers are considerably down on pre-covid days with less boats travelling and, as mentioned previously, considerably lower number of boats available for Charter.

For 2026/7, we will still be missing The Top of The Gulf Regatta and Phuket Race Week which remain casualties of COVID. However, on a more positive note.... There has been the announcement of the TP52 Superseries coming to Thailand in Feb/March which might generate some interest in the Gulf of Thailand.

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

Phuket King's Cup Regatta – Phuket, Thailand

5th December – 12th December 2026
www.kingscup.com

Royal Langkawi International Regatta – Malaysia

18th January – 23rd January 2027
www.kingscup.com

The Bay Regatta – Phuket, Thailand

3rd – 7th March 2027
www.bayregatta.com

Koh Samui Regatta – Samui, Thailand.

22nd – 29th May 2027
www.samuiregatta.com

Raja Muda Selangor International Regatta – Selangor, Malaysia.

13th – 21st November 2026
<http://www.rmsir.com>

Singapore Regatta - Singapore

19th – p February 2027
<https://www.csc.org.sg/events/singapore-regatta-2027/>

BPI Boracay Regatta 200 – Subic to Boracay - Philippines

21st – 28th February 2027
<https://www.bpi.com.ph/about-bpi/news/>

BPI Subic Bay Regatta – Subic Bay - Philippines

6th – 20th April 2027
<https://www.bpi.com.ph/about-bpi/news/>

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