



***2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing
World Championships***

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

30 NOV - 3 DEC

WELCOME FROM PADDLE AUSTRALIA

On behalf of Paddle Australia, I would like to welcome all competitors and team supporters to the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships.

We are excited to be staging this event in Western Australia; home to some of the best conditions for Ocean Racing in the World. This event promises to show the spectacular nature of the sport. Canoe Ocean Racing is the largest competitive paddling discipline in Australia, and the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Championships will provide the opportunity to share the water with paddlers from many nations. Your participation will help to make this the biggest paddling event ever held in Australia.

We hope that you will enjoy a great competition and build friendships that last a lifetime within our global paddling community.

See you on the water,

Andrea McQuitty (*President – Paddle Australia*)

WELCOME FROM THE ICF

On behalf of the ICF, it is a privilege to be able to welcome all participants and spectators to the 7th ICF Ocean Racing World Championships.

It is fitting that one of the leading countries in the discipline finally gets to host the premier event on the ICF calendar. Stemming from its powerful lifesaving movement, Australia has a proud tradition in ocean sports, long distance surf ski racing was an inevitable spin off.

Ever since the first long distance race in 1957, the discipline has been dominated by paddlers from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Over the past few years, however, paddlers from other continents, especially Europe, have begun to close the competitive gap. The popularity of the discipline has increased dramatically around the world, bringing an element of universality to it.



I would like to thank the Australian organising committee who will, no doubt, put on a fantastic and memorable event.

To all competitors, travel safely and race hard.

Yours Sincerely

Colin Simpkins (*ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Technical Committee Chair*)

INTRODUCTION

Paddle Australia (PA) is the National Federation for Canoe and Paddle Sports. PA is affiliated with the International Canoe Federation (ICF), Paralympics Australia and the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC). We are excited to host the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships and master's Championships in Perth, Western Australia from 30 November – 3 December.

The 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships will cater to Junior, Under 23, Open and Para competitors. The 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Masters Championships will cater to all age categories as specified in the [2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Rules](#) (from 35 years+). The race will start at Bathers Beach, Fremantle and will first run 2km off the coast before an 18km downwind stretch down the coast of Perth to finish at Scarborough Beach. The 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships will be an open event, meaning participation is uncapped in all categories. The 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing masters Championships remains open in accordance with the [2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing rules](#) as a Level 4 event.

We would like to encourage all competitors to stay up to date on the event via the event website [HERE](#).



ABOUT PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

We look forward to welcoming both International and local competitors and the International Canoe Federation to the event. Australia is known for its natural wonders, wildlife, beaches and wide-open spaces, Western Australia showcases the best Australia has to offer. With renowned white-sand beaches and world-class surf, paddlers from across the world will be treated to a world class event. Western Australia also boasts over 12,500 km of coastline, UNESCO World Heritage reef and rock formations and one of the oldest known living cultures on Earth.

Of the state's 2.7 million residents, roughly three-quarters live in the Perth region. With more than 3,000 hours of sunshine per year, Western Australia is Australia's sunniest state.

In delivering the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships we are committed to engaging, inspiring and motivating a generation of paddlers with a world class event that highlights our renowned Western Coastline and diverse paddling community.



(Perth City, Western Australia)



(Fremantle, Western Australia)



(Scarborough Beach, Western Australia)



PADDLING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

For a downwind paddler, the Perth Coastline benefits from what locals call “the Fremantle Doctor”, a term which describes the cooling afternoon sea breeze that occurs during the summer months in the southern areas of Western Australia. The Fremantle Doctor is at its strongest in the months of December and January, creating perfect conditions for downwind paddlers.

Western Australia has a strong connection and rich history in Ocean Racing, hosting a number of the nations most anticipated Surf Ski races. The Australian Ocean Racing Series (AORS) WA Race Week (typically held in November annually) hosts a number of these races including “The Doctor” where paddlers race from Rottnest Island to Sorrento Beach – easily regarded as one of the ultimate downwind races worldwide.

THE RACE

Race Window: 30 November – 3 December 2023

The race will start at Bathers Beach, Fremantle. Bather’s beach is a renowned tourist attraction in the heart of Fremantle. Fremantle lies on a series of limestone hills at the mouth of the Swan River, approximately 25 minutes from Perth, the capital of Western Australia. Many of the city’s most impressive heritage buildings are built from the pale-coloured local limestone. Fremantle has a rich history and connection with ocean sports, hosting the 1987 Americas Cup which was said to transform the face of Perth.

Fremantle (native indigenous name ‘Walyalup’) was named in TIME’s annual list of the World’s Greatest Places of 2022, which highlights 50 extraordinary travel destinations from around the globe. The port city earned its spot in this year’s list thanks to a \$270 million renewal project. This once-in-a-generation project is the city into a vibrant commercial and community hub.



The city is also home to a rich maritime history - which can be discovered at the WA Maritime Museum, ideally located at Fremantle's historic Victoria Quay. It houses several unique galleries that explore the moments, voyages and vessels; plus, artifacts, people and stories that shaped Western Australia's maritime relationship. This includes treasures such as Australia II (winner of the Americas Cup) and an 89-meter-long submarine you can clamber through.

Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbor has been a fully operational fishing port since the early 1900s, today the harbor precinct also features boardwalks, cafes, restaurants and a brewery. Tucked between the WA Maritime Museum and Fishing Boat Harbor is Bathers Beach. Bathers Beach is where the rich heritage and vibrancy of Fremantle meets the ocean. It's here you'll find bars, cafes and restaurants and the oldest public building in Western Australia.



(Bathers Beach, Fremantle)



(WA Maritime Museum, located also in Fremantle)

The race will finish at Scarborough beach. Scarborough beach is another beloved Perth beach. The beach itself has a long stretch of white sand and regular surf breaks, offering opportunity for competitors to test their skills in timing their entry to shore. There are many cafés, bars, restaurants and shops and a large range of accommodation from backpacker hostels, affordable family apartments to luxury hotels with ocean views, ensuring accommodation options for all competitors are available. Scarborough beach will also be used to establish an event hub which will undoubtedly facilitate a festive and community energy. Scarborough Beach is a 20-minute drive northwest of Perth and regular buses run from the city. Given the popularity of both the start and finish locations, this will offer organisers the opportunity to bring the sport to an entirely new audience, creating both spectator and media interest.



Like Fremantle it has recently undergone a major redevelopment, with pristine white stretches of sand and crystal-clear water, bustling pedestrian promenades, a children's adventure playground, art projects, variety of skate bowls, climbing walls, half-court basketball, amphitheater and magnificent Sunset Hill where you can enjoy the sun set into the Indian Ocean. Scarborough Beach has a proud history of holding major events and will again play host to the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships in 2023.

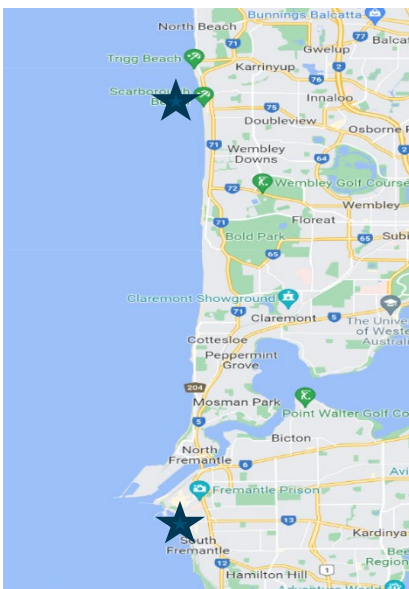


(Scarborough Beach)



(Scarborough Beach Promenade)

The course is a downwind race stretching 20km up the coast of Perth, starting in Bathers Beach, Fremantle finishing on shore at Scarborough Beach. Paddlers will start the race by paddling out to sea for 1.8km and then turning north, paddling past the Fremantle Port. The course has been designed to not only start and finish in iconic locations but also to align almost perfectly with the Fremantle Doctor breeze which blows every day in summer from a south-west to south-south-west direction.



ENTRIES AND REGISTRATION

All participants seeking to enter into the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships must do so via their National Federation using the online ICF SDP system. All participants must be a member of their National Federation. National Federations will be advised of the payment process for competitors. Payment will be required from all competitors prior to competition.

All participants seeking to enter the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Masters Championships must be a member of their National Federation and provide proof of membership at the point of registration. Federations are welcome to provide one letter verifying membership of all competitors. Registrations will be made online via the event website.

Event Organisers will be facilitating the following events in accordance with the ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Rules. Two days of racing will be facilitated with more details on the official competition programme to be provided to competitors in the next bulletin. In accordance with ICF rules, there must be a minimum number of national federations in each category to constitute a valid World Championships class.

2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships

- MSS-1 (Mens Surfski Single)
- WSS-1 (Womens Surfski Single)
- U23MSS-1 (Under 23 Mens Surfski Single)
- U23WSS-1 (Under 23 Womens Surfski Single)
- JMSS-1 (Junior Mens Surfski Single)
- JWSS (Junior Womens Surfski Single)
- XSS-2 (Mixed Surfski Double)
- U23XSS-2 (Under 23 Mixed Surfski Single)
- JXSS-2 (Junior Mixed Surfski Single)

2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Masters Championships

- MSS-1 (Mens Surfski Single)
- WSS-1 (Womens Surfski Single)
- XSS-2 (Mixed Surfski Double)



Registration dates are listed below.

2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships

Entries Open: 9am (AWST) 17 July 2023

Numerical Entries Close: 11.59pm (AWST) 7 November 2023

Nominal Entries Close: 11.59pm (AWST) 19 November 2023

2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Masters Championships

Entries Open: 9am (AWST) 17 July 2023

Entries Close: 11.59pm (AWST) 19 November 2023

PARTICIPATION FEE

Please find below a summary of the participation fee for both the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships and master's Championships.

2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships

	1 Event (per athlete)	2 Events (per athlete)
JNR and U23	\$125AUD	\$200AUD
Open	\$160AUD	\$250AUD

2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Masters Championships

	1 Event (per athlete)	2 Events (per athlete)
Masters	\$160AUD	\$250AUD

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

DATE	
27 November	Event Hub Opens / Training Day
28 November	Event Hub Open / Training Day
29 November	Training Day
30 November	Training Day



30 November	2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing and Master's Championships Opening Ceremony Scarborough Beach
1 December	Race Day 1
2 December	Race Day 2
3 December	Back up day / Event Hub closes

BOAT RENTAL

The organising committee is committed to developing a boat rental service for the event. More information on securing a boat rental will be included in the next bulletin and will be available on the event website.

LANGUAGE

The official language of the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships and masters championships is English. All information distributed will be in English.

VISA SUPPORT

Paddle Australia can provide letters to support a visa application upon request. Requests must come from the authorised representative of the National Federation. Applicants must provide all relevant documentation and evidence of intent to participate in the competition as requested.

TRANSPORTATION AND BOAT STORAGE

During the period of the 27 November – 3 December there will be a paid shuttle service available to athletes and for the transportation of boats. There will be services arranging pickups from the airport to the Event Hub. There will also be shuttle services operating to assist in training and course familiarisation during this period. Information regarding booking a shuttle service will be included in the next bulletin and will be available on the event website.



ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in and around the event hub in Scarborough is substantial and there is considerable variety in the types of accommodation options available. Paddlers are encouraged to consider accommodation options in the Scarborough area given that is where the Event Hub and finish line will be located. Event organisers will provide more details on accommodation options via the website.

STAYING UP TO DATE

Event information will be posted regularly to the Event website found at the link [HERE](#). We encourage paddlers interested in attending the event to review this website regularly. The next bulletin will be issued prior to entries opening in July.

General Enquiries: Event Manager (Jason Wright) oceanracing@paddle.org.au

