

# IHCA EVENT MANAGEMENT GUIDE



January 2026

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## **HANSA CLASS ETHOS**

The International Hansa Class Association has always been anchored to the principle of inclusion, meaning the Class facilitates and promotes recreational and competitive sailing for everyone regardless of any defining characteristics of a sailor's body.

This goal is achieved through the Hansa sailboats being of Universal Design, a discipline which creates products, in our case sailboats, which everyone can use.

The result is our events are open to all and provide equity, equality, dignity and respect without any need to classify or reference a sailor's physical or mental ability.

That is our uniqueness in the world, and we believe this approach delivers the best outcome for all, by treating everyone as equals. We are therefore more than just a class association as in our DNA is a social justice agenda.

This Ethos needs to be respected by organisers of Hansa class events, and guide the design of pre-event branding, marketing, and promotion. Likewise, this Ethos is behind the specific requirements described in the Hansa Class Race Management Guide which covers the on-water activities. While the conduct of the opening, closing and awards ceremonies also need to reflect this ethos and not blur the distinction that Hansa Class Events are Open to All.

## **2. MAJOR EVENTS AND SCHEDULE**

Hansa Class World, International and Regional Championships are organised to promote Hansa Class sailing all over the world.

The Hansa Class boats are:

Hansa 2.3

Hansa 303

Hansa Liberty

SKUD 18

The 2.3, 303 and Liberty are World Sailing recognised classes.

Not all classes will necessarily sail at all regattas and will be determined by minimum fleet sizes.

The minimum number of entries required for an open division to be valid at Hansa Class Regional Championships is four (4) boats. For servo classes, the minimum number of entries required for a division to be valid at Hansa Regional Championships is three (3) boats.

The minimum number of entries required for a division to be valid at World or International Championships is six (6) boats and the minimum number of entries required for a division to be valid at International Championships is four (4) boats.

### **Dates of the events**

***Combined World Championships*** are currently awarded bi-annually each odd year, having changed from even years following 2018's event to better align at the time with Para World Sailing's World Championships.

Hansa Class World Championships have been held in:

2007 – Whitby, Canada

2010 – Rutland, United Kingdom

2012 – Sydney, Australia

2016 – Medemblik, Netherlands

2018 – Hiroshima, Japan

2021 – Palermo, Italy

2023 - Portimao, Portugal

2025 – Newport, Sydney, Australia

2027 - France

**Combined Regional Championships** are currently awarded for Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific (including the sub-continent) bi-annually on each even year (e.g., 2022 etc.) having changed from odd years, as described above.

Previous Regional Championships have been held in:

2009 – European – Port Carmague, France

2009 – North American – San Francisco, USA

2011 - Asia Pacific – Perth, Australia

2011 – European – Lake Garda, Italy

2013 – Asia Pacific – Canberra, Australia

2013 – European – Arbon, Switzerland

2013 – North American – San Francisco, USA

2015 – European – Rutland, United Kingdom

2017 – Asia Pacific – Geelong, Australia

2017 – European – Meze, France

2019 – European – Portimao, Portugal

2022 – Asia Pacific – Hiroshima, Japan

2024 – Americas – San Diego, California

2024 – Asia Pacific – Gold Coast, Australia

2024 - European – Sneek, Netherlands

2026 – Americas – TBA

2026 – Asia Pacifics – TBA

2026 – Europeans – Barcelona, Spain

Individual Class Regional, International or World Championships may be awarded in addition to the above at the discretion of the International Hansa Class Association.

The dates of World, International and Regional Championships will, wherever practicable, avoid conflict with the dates of other Hansa Class Championships, Olympic and Paralympic sailing events and other major sailing competitions.

### ***Para World Sailing Championships***

As part of the Para World Sailing Strategy 2020-2023, Para World Sailing Championships can be held in conjunction with Open Class World Championships in years not coinciding with the Sailing World Championships. The 2021 Hansa Class World Championships in Palermo included a Para World Sailing Championships for the 303 and Liberty classes.

Para World Sailing Championships may also be held in conjunction with Hansa Class Regional and International Championships.

Para World Sailing Championships have additional requirements for organisers, such as providing for Para-Classification Committee and a World Sailing Technical Delegate. An Event Agreement must be signed between the Organising Authority and World Sailing. **(See Section 3 for more information).**

### **3. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR WORLD SAILING CLASSES**

The right to conduct World Championships is governed by World Sailing regulations 10.4 and 25.2.

Events not conducted in accordance with these regulations may see the International Hansa Class Association prevented from having future World Championships.

These regulations can be read in full on the World Sailing website via [this link](#).

Some points of note from regulation 10.4:

To maintain the right to hold a World Championship, a Class that holds a World Championship shall:

- (c) appoint an International Jury for the World Championships unless otherwise agreed with World Sailing.
- (d) appoint an International Measurer to the technical committee for the World Championships unless otherwise agreed with World Sailing.
- (e) meet or exceed the following participation levels for two of the last three World Championships (except that for multihull boats up to 6.0m, the required number of entries is 25):

Category according to Hull Length or weight	Number of Entries			Number of Countries	Number of Continents
	<i>Gender open and men's only world championships</i>	<i>Women's, boy's and mixed World Championships</i>	<i>Girls and mixed Youth World Championships</i>		
Boats up to 6.0m	30	20	15	5	2

If a Class has failed to meet this requirement for two of their last three World Championships, it may only call its next such event a World Championships and award World Champion titles if the participation levels at that event meet this requirement.

#### **4. ATHLETE/ NATION ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY FOR IHCA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Participation in Hansa Class Championship events is only open to boats where at least one of the crew is a financial member of a National Hansa Class Association affiliated with the International Hansa Class Association or an individual member of the International Hansa Class Association.

Organisers should include an option for individual membership of the IHCA as part of the online entry process for individuals. Countries that wish to form a National Hansa Class Association should be encouraged to do so, and contact the Vice President of Development for more information via email: [vpdevelopment@hansaclass.org](mailto:vpdevelopment@hansaclass.org)

Competitors should also be reminded that they need to comply with the Racing Rules of Sailing entry and qualification requirements, including:

##### ***RRS 75 Entering an event***

To enter an event, a boat shall comply with the requirements of the organizing authority of the event. She shall be entered by

- (a) a member of a club or other organization affiliated to a World Sailing member national authority,
- (b) such a club or organization, or
- (c) a member of a World Sailing member national authority.

In most cases, one of the crew are required to be a member of a club affiliated to their World Sailing member national authority.

From 2025, World Sailing are asking for all sailors (including crew in 2 person fleets) around to have a World Sailing ID. This is a unique code that identifies the sailor and their country and a unique number – ie. John Smith of New Zealand would be NZLJS and a 1–3-digit number. This code should, ideally, be recorded as part of the entry process so that the athlete's results can be collated by World Sailing to track participation across the world.

Sailors can check if they already have a profile by visiting the Sailor Profile page [here](#).

Signing up for a World Sailing ID is quick and free – find out more on the Sailor Dashboard page [here](#).

## **5. APPLICATION PROCESS FOR HOSTING IHCA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Application to host an event will preferably be made at least two years before the event, to the IHCA Executive Committee, in writing.

Current IHCA Executive Committee (as of December 2025)

President – Vera Voorbach (NED) – [president@hansaclass.org](mailto:president@hansaclass.org)

Secretary – Shauna Phillips (AUS) [secretary@hansaclass.org](mailto:secretary@hansaclass.org)

Treasurer – Jackie Kay (AUS) – [treasurer@hansaclass.org](mailto:treasurer@hansaclass.org)

VP Championships – Bob Schahinger (AUS) – [vpchamps@hansaclass.org](mailto:vpchamps@hansaclass.org)

VP Rules & Measurement – John Figgures (GBR) – [vprules@hansaclass.org](mailto:vprules@hansaclass.org)

VP Development – Shauna Phillips (AUS) – [vpdevelopment@hansaclass.org](mailto:vpdevelopment@hansaclass.org)

Interested Clubs can complete an expression of interest form, available as part of the IHCA Race Management Guide, via [this link](#) to our website.

When proposing dates for World, International or Regional championships, care must be taken to avoid conflicts with other National Hansa Class Championships, World Sailing events, Olympic, Paralympic, or other major sailing competitions.

Information required for consideration of hosting a World, International or Regional Championships will include details such as:

- Proposed dates
- Venue information including accessibility.
- Weather and tide details
- Travel, accommodation, and tourist information, (including type of accommodation, accessibility details and- where possible - prices). **See section 9.**
- Social and official program. **See section 13**
- Proposed Fees and costs – including charter boat opportunity and costs

All information required is available as part of the Race Management Guide, and any further information can be obtained from the IHCA Executive.



## **6. LOGOS, BRANDING AND PROMOTION**

The official logo of the IHCA is the Blue HANSA logo below.



Logos for the class divisions are:



Hansa 2.3 single



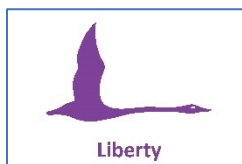
Hansa 2.3 doubles/ Servo



Hansa 303 single



Hansa 303 doubles/ Servo



Hansa Liberty



Hansa Liberty Servo



SKUD18

High resolution images and Class flags for all divisions will be provided by the IHCA.

## Event Logo

The Organising Authority should look to produce an event specific logo which clearly identifies the event as per below:



## **BRANDING & PROMOTION**

The Hansa Class Championships are an open and inclusive event. Occasionally, there may be a Para World Sailing Championship sanctioned by the IHCA and Para World Sailing for eligible athletes.

In correspondence and press releases, they are to be known as:

**The 20XX Hansa Class World and International Championships**

or

**The 20XX (Regional) Hansa Class Championships.**

(It can be referenced that the event will incorporate a Para World Sailing Championship for eligible sailors, if one is to be run.) ***See section 3 for World Sailing requirements for World Championships (Page 6).***

A naming-rights sponsor can be included in the title, where applicable.

The event is not to be called:

Hansa Paralympic Championships

Disabled Hansa Championships

Hansa Para Championships

Nor include:

World Sailing, International Sailing Federation or World Cup in the title.

Press releases and all official correspondence needs to refer to the event as being an open and inclusive event of people of all abilities, and not focus on disabilities of some competitors.

## **7. OFFICIAL EVENT WEBSITE**

In order that the record of the World or Regional Championships is not lost, the OA will be given access to the official Hansa Worlds or Regional website.

The websites are set up in Wordpress.

The address for the Hansa Worlds website is: [www.hansaworlds.org](http://www.hansaworlds.org)



These sites will host all information about the event, official documents, entry, links to accessible accommodation and transport, gallery and tourist information.

The Regional Championships website is [www.hansa-regionals.org](http://www.hansa-regionals.org)

This main site will provide a split to 3 separate sites – one for Americas, Asia Pacific and European.

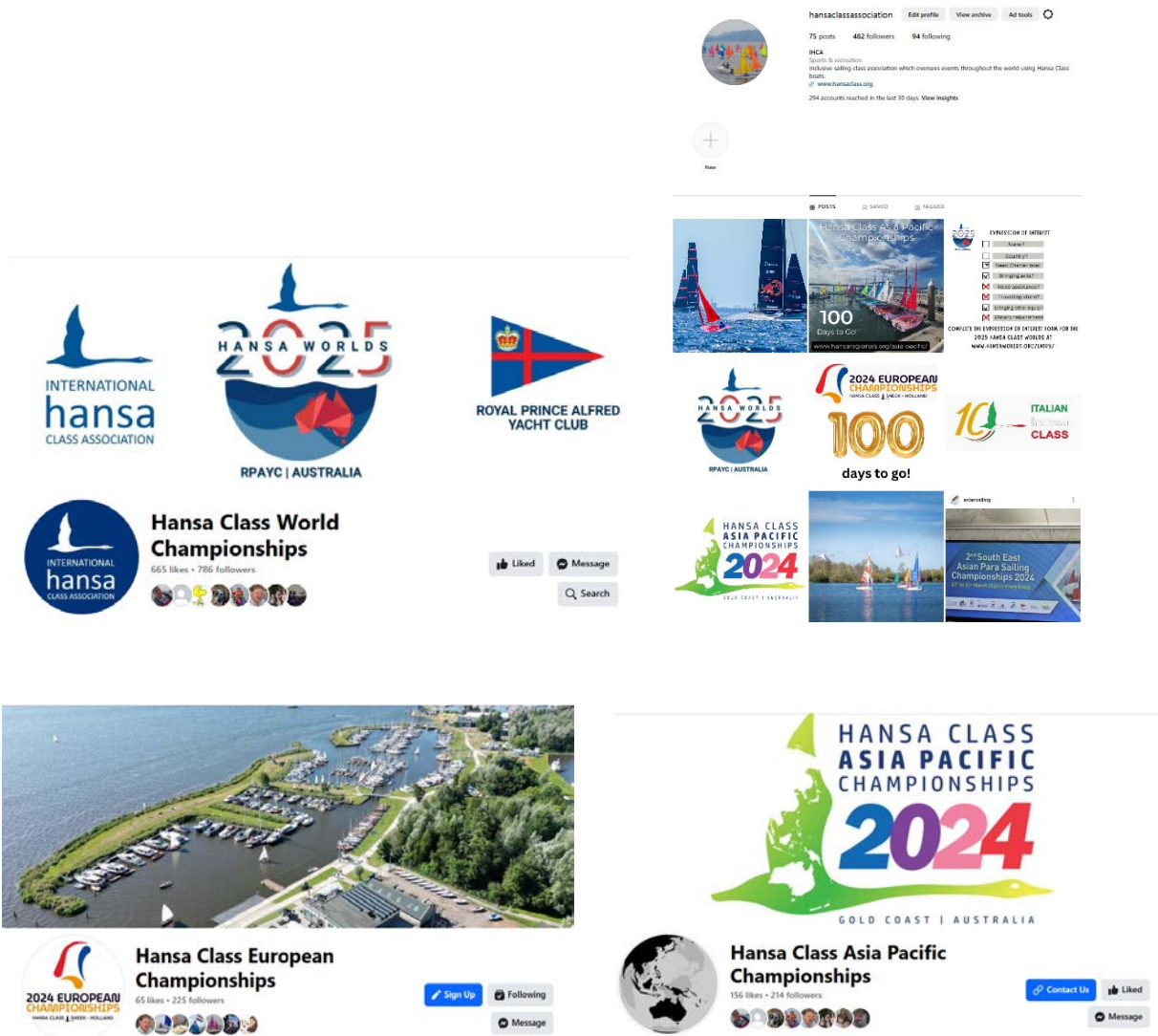
The website is being populated as information becomes available, and the respective OA's will be given login access to update and populate the website relevant to their region.

## 8. OFFICIAL SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Official Social Media platforms – Facebook, Instagram and Youtube

There is a dedicated FB page for World and Regional Championships, and events will also be promoted on the IHCA pages on FB and Instagram. Videos can be uploaded to a dedicated IHCA Youtube channel that is being set up.

Competitors should be encouraged to use specific hashtags for the event -eg .#hansaworlds, #asiapacificchampionships #hansaclassassociation #inclusive sailing etc.



## **9. EVENT ACCOMMODATION, FACILITIES, TOURISM AND TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

As competitors at our events may have a range of disabilities, the IHCA in partnership with the OA aims to provide links to information about accessible accommodation, tourism and transport at host venues.

### **ACCOMODATION**

The OA from the Regional and World Championship venues are encouraged to provide the IHCA with information for competitor to allow sailors to make informed decisions about accommodation options that suit their specific needs.

A range of all accessible options should be included from high end hotels, B&B's, short term rentals to accessible caravan or camping grounds with distances from the sailing venue noted.

Information regarding accomodation should include links to the accomodation website and photos (where possible).

This information will be posted to the official Regionals/ Worlds websites.

### **FACILITIES**

We will also include on the event website information and contact details for care needs and equipment hire.

This could include hiring personal care workers, hire of bathroom aids, disability and support services, local wheelchair accessible public toilets, along with contact details in case of repairs or spare parts are required for wheelchairs – spare tyres, replacement batteries etc.

Ideally, arrangements should be made with accommodation venues that any hired aids can be dropped off and stored before competitors arrive.

Information spreadsheets can be obtained by the OA from VP Development, Shauna Phillips.

### **TRANSPORT**

Information on wheelchair accessible cars for hire to international competitors, also parking and any international driving licence regulations.

The Transport information could also include contact details for wheelchair accessible taxis and other public transport – tram, train, bus etc. If the regatta site is near public transport, accessibility information, stop number, ticket costs, where to purchase etc.

## ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE HIRE

**PLEASE NOTE** – YOU MAY DRIVE IN AUSTRALIA ON AN OVERSEAS LICENCE FOR 1 MONTH, HOWEVER YOUR LICENCE MUST BE IN ENGLISH, OR If the licence is not in English, **you must carry an official English translation or an International Driving Permit (IDP).**

[Wheelies Vehicle Van Rentals](#)

[Access Car](#)

[Wheelchair Car Hire](#)

[Europcar](#)

[Vroom Vroom Vroom](#)

[Hertz](#)



## ACCESSIBLE EQUIPMENT HIRE

[Queensland Rehab Health Care Solutions](#)

[Red Cross Mobility Assistance Hire](#)

[Gold Coast Mobility Hire](#)

Information from Southport – Asia Pacific Championships 2024

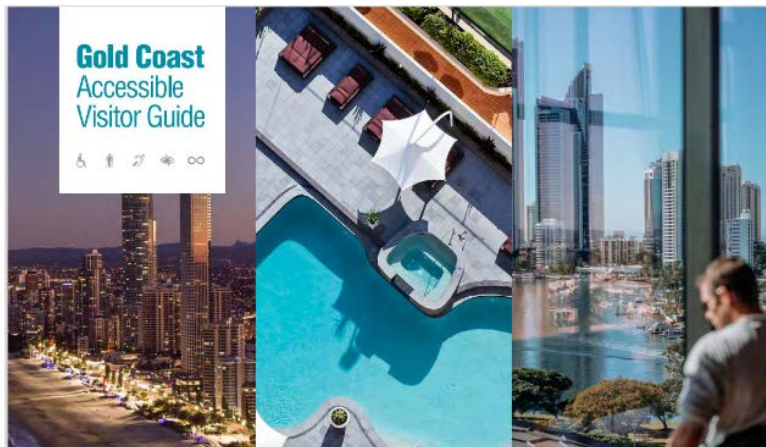


## **TOURISM**

Information about what there is to see and do in the local area. Information shall include entry costs, accessibility, and other relevant information (opening hours, how to get there etc).

Opportunities could be showcased for sailors and non-competitors to sightsee between sailing sessions.

Gold Coast Tourist Information – 2024 Asia Pacifics





## **10. MEDIA**

During the regatta, daily press releases – in local language and English – should be sent out to local media, the IHCA, Yachting Associations & Publications, World Sailing etc.

Ideally, professional photographers may be used to take images with the OA or IHCA given approval for all future publication of images with credit given to the photographer.

Provisional results should be included in media reports, with results published to the event website promptly.

For World Championships – it is desirable for a drone to be flown over the course and racing live streamed - with commentary, preferably in English - on event Facebook page and shown on a screen onshore for competitors.

Good wi-fi signal should be available to all competitors and supporters on shore.



## **11. CLEAN REGATTA PROGRAM**

The IHCA are affiliated with Sailors for the Sea's Clean Regatta's program.

This program aims to ensure that the event has a low environmental impact on the venue, with initiatives including paperless event management, no plastic bags or straws, single use water bottles etc. Trophies should be recycled or perpetual.

Organisers should encourage recycling, increase awareness of local wildlife and habitat protection and look to engage like minded local organisations. A beach or marina cleanup can also be arranged.

More information on the Clean Regatta's program is available [here](#).



## **12. ON SITE FACILITIES**

Strong Wi Fi signal for all attendees onshore.

Clear signage to direct athletes to correct areas, pontoons etc.

Car and trailer parking for competitors – drop off zones for wheelchair passengers.

Sign on/off, Protest/Jury rooms as close to pontoons as practical.

Sufficient space for sail measurement, equipment inspection and boat and sailor weighing (where applicable).

Official Noticeboard – in English and local language – at appropriate height for wheelchair competitors.

Provision to communicate with all sailors for important updates via “WhatsApp” or a “Facebook Messenger” group – ie. changes to the racing schedule – is desirable.

The opportunity for a Sailors’ Forum to discuss development, upcoming events, rules and equipment/manufacturers update. IHCA will provide ZOOM access for this event to be broadcast to sailors unable to attend the regatta.

Sufficient change, bathroom, shower and toilet facilities located as close to pontoons are practical.

Canteen/ food station to allow sailors and supporters to purchase small snacks and drinks close by. Food needs to be suitable for all competitors, taking into account special dietary requirements, vegetarian, gluten free etc. Ability to purchase tea and coffees is also encouraged.

### **13. ATHLETES AREA**

Where possible, at World Championships, an “Athlete’s Village” may be created.

Chairs and tables provided in shaded facilities – tents, gazebo etc.

Lockers, if possible, for secure storage of phones, wallets etc.

Access to power to charge phones, with adapters as required.

Dedicated battery charging station for wheelchair batteries, including equipment to supply 240v power (transformer, generator etc) if necessary.

Water stations for filling drink bottles.

Storage facility for additional sailing gear – spare parts, extra sails, gear etc. Racks/ hangers to dry wet sailing gear also desirable.

Close access to accessible bathrooms, toilets and change facilities.

Interpreters, assistance for blind or deaf sailors where required.



## **14. CEREMONIES & SOCIAL EVENTS**

Where practical an Opening and Closing ceremony event will be held to welcome competitors and supporters, showcase the event, satisfy sponsors etc.

Ideally this event will be held prior to the first full day of racing to allow most competitors and their supporters to attend.

The ceremonies could showcase the culture of the host nation and local area and the Hansa Class ethos of inclusion.



2018 Worlds – Hiroshima, Japan



2016 Worlds – Medemblik, Netherlands



2012 Worlds – Sydney, Australia

Prior to racing, a competitors' briefing should be held with sufficient space and access for all sailors.

A mid-event Sailors Forum should be held with sufficient space to host sailors in wheelchairs, access to a projector, microphone etc as required by the IHCA. The IHCA will provide ZOOM access for this event to be broadcast to sailors unable to attend the regatta.

## **15. CONDUCT OF THE AWARD PRESENTATION AND CLOSING CEREMONY**

Any additional event included within a Hansa Regional or World Championship should not overshadow the message as defined in the Hansa Class Ethos, that the main event is primarily a celebration of inclusion and open to all.

Accordingly, the trophies for the included event will be limited to first, second and third in the classes and categories as agreed in prior negotiation with the IHCA Executive Committee. These trophies are to be named to truly represent the included event and will be the first to be presented at the awards ceremony.

They are followed by the SKUD trophies, if applicable:

- The SKUD 18 International / Regional Champions
- The SKUD 18 International / Regional Championship 2nd Place
- The SKUD 18 International / Regional Championship 3rd Place

Then follows the World Sailing Recognised Classes, the 2.3, 303 and Liberty. These include the Perpetual Trophy plaques provided by IHCA (listed below), and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medals provided by the Event OC (also listed below).

The last 2 awards presented at the ceremony are not class specific, they are perpetual plaques so provided by the IHCA. They are:

- The Chris Mitchell Award for Inclusion
- The Worlds Teams Trophy

For Hansa World Championships the following perpetual trophies will be provided by the International Hansa Class Association.

- The Hansa 2.3 Single Person World / International / Regional Champion's Trophy Plaque
- The Hansa 2.3 Servo-Assist International / Regional Champion's Trophy Plaque
- The Hansa 303 Single Person World / International / Regional Champion's Trophy Plaque
- The Hansa 303 Two Person World / International / Regional Champion's Trophy Plaque
- The Liberty World / International / Regional Champion's Trophy Plaque
- The Liberty Servo-Assist International / Regional Champion's Trophy Plaque
- The SKUD 18 International / Regional Champion's Trophy

The following trophies, medals or prizes are to be provided by the organising authority:

- The Hansa 2.3 Single Person World / International / Regional Champion
- The Hansa 2.3 Single Person World / International / Regional Championship 2nd Place
- The Hansa 2.3 Single Person World / International / Regional Championship 3rd Place
- The Hansa 2.3 Servo-Assist International / Regional Champion
- The Hansa 2.3 Servo-Assist International / Regional Championship 2nd Place
- The Hansa 2.3 Servo-Assist International / Regional Championship 3rd Place
- The Hansa 303 Single Person World / International / Regional Champion
- The Hansa 303 Single Person World / International / Regional Championship 2nd Place
- The Hansa 303 Single Person World / International / Regional Championship 3rd Place
- The Hansa 303 Two Person World / International / Regional Champions
- The Hansa 303 Two Person World / International / Regional Championship 2nd Place
- The Hansa 303 Two Person World / International / Regional Championship 3rd Place
- The Liberty World / International / Regional Champion
- The Liberty World / International / Regional Championship 2nd Place
- The Liberty World / International / Regional Championship 3rd Place
- The Liberty Servo-Assist International / Regional Champion
- The Liberty Servo-Assist International / Regional Championship 2nd Place
- The Liberty Servo-Assist International / Regional Championship 3rd Place

Further trophies, medals or prizes may be awarded with the approval of the IHCA Technical Delegate.