

Understanding ILCA Initial Allocations

For each Laser World Championship Regatta, an initial allocation of places is made by the ILCA. This allocation represents the number of places in the regatta **guaranteed** to timely applicants for each country that is current on their class membership dues. If a country is not current on the payment of their dues, sailors from that country will not be able to submit applications or receive entry offers to compete in ILCA World Championship regattas.

How does the ILCA initially allocate places for a World Championship regatta?

The general goal is for countries to receive a number of allocated places proportional to their number of members, thus giving larger countries more allocated places than smaller countries. For example, we might have the following set of allocations for a regatta:

Number of Members	Initial Allocation of Places
>= 10	1
> 30	2
> 75	3
> 150	4
> 250	5
> 450	6
> 700	7
> 1100	8
> 1600	9

It is not a linear scale, but supports countries with lower membership numbers and still rewards larger countries, providing the opportunity for a good balance of sailors from around the world.

There are several factors that affect the initial allocation for an event:

- The number of available places for a regatta
- The size of each country
- Potential need for guaranteed access
- Host country bonus (additional spots granted to the host country).

For the host country bonus, if the host country normally would be allocated 4 places based on their size, their allocation may be increased to 10 places (2.5 times).

Sometimes these various factors combine to produce initial allocations that are skewed away from what might be considered the standard allocation.

Example 1: Consider a case where there are 70 places available (this might be the situation, for instance, for the Radial Youth Girls in a regatta where the total entry limit is 200, and 130 places are available for boys and 70 for girls).

There are more than 100 dues paying countries in the ILCA, therefore, given the size constraint (70 places available), clearly not every country can be allocated even one place. That is, a number of countries will not be guaranteed an opportunity for their sailor(s) to compete at the event. In order to still grant proportional representation for larger countries, we might have the following set of allocations:

Number of Members	Initial Allocation of Places
<= 75	0
> 75	1
> 165	2
> 300	3
> 500	4
> 800	5
> 1400	6

Example 2: Consider the case where there are 110 places available and the regatta is an Olympic qualifying event (this might be the situation, for instance, with the Radial Women's World Championship in certain years).

Given the IOC policy that all countries have access to qualification for the Olympic games, it is essential that we start from a position of guaranteeing every country an opportunity to compete. If we have 105 dues paying countries, they each need to be allocated a place. This would leave only five places left over for the very largest countries to receive a second allocated place.

Number of Members	Initial Allocation of Places
>= 10	1
>1000	2

There is no possible way to give every country a guaranteed opportunity to enter (through the initial allocation of a place) AND provide medium and larger country with proportionally more places than smaller ones.

How does the Initial Allocation function in practice?

As stated previously, the initial allocation represents the number of places in the regatta guaranteed to timely applicants for each country that is current on their class membership dues.

For example, if a country is initially allocated 3 places, that means that UP TO 3 sailors representing that country are guaranteed to receive an entry offer when the *initial* entry offers are made. These initial entry offers can only be made to sailors who completed/paid their application before the application closing date and had that application approved by their national Laser class representative.

Where there are more sailors with completed and approved applications from a country than the number of allocated places, entry offers will be made to the sailors in the order of their rank in the country ranking list, up to the number of allocated places. The remaining sailors will be waiting for an entry offer.

Alternatively, where there are fewer sailors with completed and approved applications from a country than the number of allocated places, these unused or “extra” places will be re-allocated to other countries with sailors who are waiting for an entry offer.