

World #1 takes Australian Raceboard Title

The current world number one ranked IMCO sailor, Maxim Oberemko of the Ukraine, took out the 2004 Australian Raceboard title over the Australia Day long weekend on Lake Macquarie.

Maxim headed a small fleet, peppered with quality internationals, competing for the 7.5m and Unlimited sail area titles over three, well two, days of racing.

The womens contingent was truly world class. Australians Allison Shreeve, the world #4, and Jessica Crisp both straight from an intense Olympic selection battle, were alongside Britains Natasha Sturges, USAs Lanee Beshel, and other Athens bound sailors.

On the Saturday afternoon three races were sailed in a light to moderate SE/NE. Oberemko scored two victories and local Novocastrian Mike Lancey one – a commendable effort. Sturges, Crisp, and Shreeve each getting one highest womens' finish. In the unlimited class Sam Fawkes, Nathan Clift, and Byron McIlveen shared the honours.

There was more action around the lake on the Saturday night than over the whole of Sunday. No racing, just one false start, due the light and variable conditions. Fortunately, Sunday's disappointment was of little consequence as Monday threw up near perfect racing conditions.



Mick Saunders planing to masters victory

Four races were held in a moderate and consistent southerly of around 15 knots. Oberemko secured the mens title with another three race wins, Hungary's Aron Gadorfalui winning the other, but unable to catch Lancey for second place overall.



World #1, Maxim Oberemko, displaying the form that won him an Australian title

The highest womens' finish of each of Monday's races were shared around, characterising the tight and competitive nature of the racing; Crisp scored twice, Shreeve and Beashel once each. But it was Natasha Struges who emerged with the overall title having the better consistency of performance throughout the regatta.

Byron McIlveen began to dominate the Unlimited class in Monday's stronger conditions and secured his third straight Australian title with four consecutive race wins.

Mick Saunders was crowned Masters raceboard champ; Ilona Grinberga of Latvia secured the Mistral Masters trophy; while Alisha Kawalla and Corey Plant were respectively the top girl and boy youth, and in the process secured their nomination for the ISAF World Youth Championships to be held later this year in Poland.

An enjoyable well managed regatta set in a beautiful location with good sailing conditions, and at the end of it, worthy national champions.

7.5m Raceboard Class

| Place | Sail# | Name | Nation | IMCO | Sex | Age | Total | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 |
|-------|--------|-------------------|--------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | UKR19 | Oberemko Maxim | UKR | m | | | 7 | 1 | -2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | AUS171 | Lancey Michael | AUS | m | | | 13 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | -14 | 2 |
| 3 | HUN1 | Gadorfalui Aron | HUN | m | | | 17 | 4 | 5 | 2 | -8 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | GBR1 | Sturges Natasha | GBR | m | L | | 31 | 3 | 4 | -8 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 6 |
| 5 | AUS15 | Crisp Jessica | AUS | m | L | | 36 | 9 | 3 | 9 | -10 | 4 | 7 | 4 |
| 6 | AUS12 | Bonnitcha Jono | AUS | m | | | 36 | 5 | -12 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 11 |
| 7 | AUS2 | Plant Corey | AUS | m | | Y | 39 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 9 | -10 |
| 8 | AUS911 | Shreeve Allison | AUS | m | L | | 48 | -14 | 14 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 10 | 7 |
| 9 | USA76 | Beashel Lanee | USA | m | L | | 50 | -26 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 3 | 8 |
| 10 | NOR1 | Skalstrom Janicke | NOR | m | L | | 51 | 7 | 6 | -13 | 11 | 9 | 6 | 12 |
| 11 | UKR | Maslivets Olga | UKR | m | L | | 54 | 10 | 11 | 7 | 13 | -14 | 8 | 5 |
| 12 | AUS109 | Grunfelder James | AUS | m | | | 67 | 15 | -16 | 11 | 4 | 13 | 11 | 13 |
| 13 | GRE3 | Skarlatou Angelia | GRE | m | L | | 69 | 8 | 9 | 15 | 14 | 11 | 12 | -26 |
| 14 | GER61 | Kinzl Romy | GER | m | L | | 80 | 11 | 7 | 12 | 12 | 12 | -26 | 26 |
| 15 | HUN71 | Utassy Lorand | HUN | m | | | 81 | -26 | 13 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 9 |
| 16 | 49 | Saunders Mick | AUS | | | M | 90 | 13 | 17 | 14 | 16 | -19 | 15 | 15 |
| 17 | LAT18 | Grinberga Ilona | LAT | m | L | M | 95 | 12 | 15 | 17 | -18 | 18 | 17 | 16 |
| 18 | 249 | Thompson Chris | AUS | m | | M | 99 | 16 | 18 | 18 | -19 | 17 | 16 | 14 |
| 19 | RK | Kelly Ross | AUS | m | | M | 119 | 18 | 20 | 20 | -23 | 21 | 19 | 21 |
| 20 | GBR4 | Kawalla Alisha | AUS | m | L | J | 120 | 17 | 21 | 22 | 20 | -23 | 21 | 19 |
| 21 | N35 | Bear John | AUS | | | M | 123 | -26 | 26 | 26 | 17 | 16 | 20 | 18 |
| 22 | 8 | Lester Dave | AUS | | | M | 129 | 20 | 22 | 21 | 21 | 22 | 23 | -26 |
| 23 | HUN7 | Detre Diana | HUN | m | L | | 133 | -26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 20 | 18 | 17 |
| 24 | CM | Morrison Craig | AUS | m | | M | 135 | 19 | 19 | 19 | -26 | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| 25 | MRT | Thearle Martin | AUS | m | | M | 140 | -26 | 26 | 26 | 22 | 24 | 22 | 20 |

Unlimited Raceboard Class

| Place | Sail# | Name | Age | Total | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 |
|-------|-------|-----------------|-----|-------|-----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | BM1 | Mcllveen Byron | | 8 | -7 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 21 | Fawkes Sam | Y | 11 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | -3 |
| 3 | KA44 | Willis Bill | M | 23 | 3 | 4 | 6 | -14 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 4 | KS | Single Keith | M | 23 | 2 | -5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| 5 | 0 | Healey Bruce | M | 24 | 4 | -6 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 6 | AUS28 | Clift Nathan | | 44 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 6 | -14 | 14 | 14 |
| 7 | KA144 | Pyke Gary | M | 44 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 5 | -14 | 6 | 6 |
| 8 | AUS8 | Doolan John | | 46 | -11 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| 9 | BH | Harris Ben | | 41 | 8 | 11 | 8 | 7 | 7 | -14 | -14 |
| 10 | PKC | Coleman Patrick | | 57 | 10 | 10 | 11 | -14 | 9 | 8 | 9 |
| 11 | 46 | Seeley Glen | | 61 | 12 | 12 | 12 | -14 | 8 | 9 | 8 |
| 12 | GB | Bacon Greg | M | 61 | 5 | 7 | 7 | -14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| 13 | JK1 | Krohnke John | M | 84 | -14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |