



## New Zealand Blokart Association History

Updated 16/01/2021

### Formation

The association was founded in Papamoa in 2002 and was incorporated on 9 October 2002 as Blokart Association Incorporated. On 23 September 2008 the name was changed to New Zealand Blokart Association Incorporated.

The founders were:

- John Skerritt (President)
- Paul Beckett
- Allen Rogers
- Phil O’Kell
- Bob Harding
- Chris Parnell

**2003/04 Committee Members:** No change as no AGM was held in 2003

### Significant Points 2004:

- One-design rules - only blokart brand PODs may be used, but any brand of batten is permitted.
- Racing to be production and performance split by weight divisions.

### 2004/05 Committee Members:

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Ash Rawson	Bay		
Secretary	John Skerritt	Bay		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Lu Clark	Auckland	Russell Harray	Auckland
	Bob Harding	Bay	Phil Ready	Capital
	Shana Payne	Hamilton	Bruce Johnson	Hawkes Bay

### Significant Points 2005:

- Members cannot join BAI directly, only through a club.
- A blokart club pack detailing formation of a club, types of events to hold, weight divisions, racing and equipment rules was prepared and available for potential clubs to use.
- The inaugural NZ Open was held at Blokart Heaven, Papamoa 24-30 October 2005 with 86 competitors. Racing Thursday to Saturday with Sunday a reserve day. Light winds created some creative sailing – a train of 20+ blokarts joined together and sailed the track. Mr Blokart, Paul Beckett, decided a nearby tree was blocking the light wind and demolished it with a chainsaw.

**2005/06 Committee Members:**

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Grant Crawshay	Auckland		
Secretary	Lu Clark	Auckland		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Russell Harray	Auckland	Paul Beckett	Bay
	Bob Harding	Bay	Don McKenzie	Bay
	Ross Mudgway	Bay	Matt Beckett	Bay
	Phil Ready	Capital	Barry Gartner	Capital
	John Nicholson	Hamilton	Graham Gordon	Canterbury

**Significant Points 2006:**

- 2006 NZ Open was held at Blokart Heaven, Papamoa with 70 competitors including 8 from Australia, 3 from USA, and 5 from Japan. A professional video of the event was filmed and 100 DVDs distributed.
- Initial discussions regarding the formation of an international blokart association were held and the International Blokart Racing Association was formed with Grant Crawshay elected Chair.
- Discussion around ABC hosting the inaugural world championships at Bruce Pulman Park, Auckland in October 2007, but as that venue will have construction work happening, the event will be moved to Blokart Heaven in Papamoa during October 2008.

**2006/07 Committee Members:**

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Grant Crawshay	Auckland		
Secretary	Nick Murray	Auckland		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Russell Harray	Auckland	Ross Vickers	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	Matt Beckett	Bay
	Bob Harding	Bay	Don McKenzie	Bay
	John Nicholson	Bay	Theo Vondervoort	Bay
	Phil Ready	Capital	Barry Gartner	Capital

**Significant Points 2007:**

- Inaugural NZ Masters Games were held at Wanganui in February 2007. Venue was a small carpark with overhanging trees, so moved onto the grass of a cricket pitch.
- International equipment and racing rules agreed by IBRA were used for the first time at the 2007 Australian Open.
- A keen group of blokart sailors from Bay Blokart Club sailed across the Mongolian Desert.
- Preparations for a Youth Championships were under way.
- 2007 NZ Open was held at Blokart Heaven, Papamoa with 53 competitors.
- ChipX transponders acquired and were put in waterproof, floatable canisters.
- Proposed that there be 8 knots minimum wind for races to be run, but that was later rescinded.
- Much discussion about the new 5.5 metre sails:
  - They not be permitted for the 2007 NZ Open – only to be used for fun races
  - Wind limits and weight divisions for the use of 5.5m sails
  - Can they be used in Production – if so, what mast sections?

- Only super heavies can use them
- These issues were eventually resolved – use them any time but no carbon mast sections for Production class.

#### 2007/08 Committee Members:

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Grant Crawshay	Auckland		
Secretary	Nick Murray	Auckland		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Russell Harray	Auckland	Ross Vickers	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	Matt Beckett	Bay
	Garry Ingram	Bay	Owen Bennett	Bay
	Stu Clark	Bay	Barry Gartner	Capital
	Phil Ready	Capital		

#### Significant Points 2008:

- No NZ Open was held in 2008 as the focus was on preparing for the World Championships.
- The inaugural Blokart World Championships were held at Blokart Heaven in Papamoa in October 2008 with 94 competitors from 9 countries.
- New Zealand world champions were (Performance Class unless stated):
  - Gabe Young                      BBC – Lightweight
  - Haydn Ingall                      ABC – Middleweight
  - Russell Harray                      ABC – Heavyweight
  - Dave (Orca) Bush    ABC – Superweight
- 2008 Secondary Schools Champs were cancelled due to lack of support from students.
- 2009 NZ Masters Games was held at Ohakea Airbase.
- Proposed that a North Island Champs be held in order to access Ohakea.
- Canterbury Blokart Club was formed and became a member of NZBAI.
- Jiglu was used as a forum for blokart sailors to communicate news and views.

#### 2008/09 Committee Members:

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Russell Harray	Auckland		
Secretary	Nick Murray	Auckland		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Grant Crawshay	Auckland	Peter Ronalds	Bay
	Stu Clark	Bay	John Nicholson	Hamilton
	Phil Ready	Capital	Barry Gartner	Capital
	Ian Timperley	Capital		

#### Significant Points 2009:

- 2009 NZ Open was held at Blokart Heaven, Papamoa with 73 competitors.
- Inaugural NZ Secondary Schools Champs were held at Ardmere, Auckland.
- Inaugural North Island Champs were held at Ohakea Airbase.

- Inaugural NZ Teams Racing was held at Blokart Heaven, Papamoa, but no racing because of lack of wind.
- 10 Year anniversary of Blokart International was celebrated with a dinner.
- IBRA Rules were adopted by all other regions.

#### 2009/10 Committee Members:

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Russell Harray	Auckland		
Secretary	Rowena Lennox-Robertson	Auckland		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Grant Crawshay	Auckland	Paul Beckett	Bay
	Stu Clark	Bay	Theo Vondervoort	Bay
	Phil Ready	Capital	John Nicholson	Hamilton
	Ian Timperley	Capital	Ted Philip	Manawatu

#### Significant Points 2010:

- 2010 NZ Open was held at Blokart Heaven, Papamoa with 63 competitors (held in June to enable gear to be transported to Belgium for the World Champs).
- NZ Secondary Schools Champs abandoned through lack of entries.
- 2010 Blokart World Championships were held in Belgium.
- New Zealand world champions were (Performance Class unless stated):
  - Gabe Young                      BBC – Lightweight
  - Russell Harray                  ABC – Heavyweight
  - Paul Beckett                     BBC – Superweight

#### 2010/11 Committee Members:

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Russell Harray	Auckland		
Secretary	Rowena Lennox-Robertson	Auckland		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Grant Crawshay	Auckland	Paul Beckett	Bay
	Stu Clark	Bay	Theo Vondervoort	Bay
	John Nicholson	Hamilton	Ted Philip	Manawatu
	Colin Cook	Manawatu	Bernie O'Donnell	Manawatu
	Phil Ready	Capital	Ian Timperley	Capital
	Dave Griffin	Canterbury		

#### Significant Points 2011:

- Inaugural South Island Champs were held at Wigram, Christchurch.
- IBRA became a formal organisation with a constitution, formal committee, and proportional voting rights. Grant Crawshay was elected president of IBRA.
- On-going discussion with the broker as to the extent of NZBAI's insurance cover.
- 2011 NZ Open was held at Blokart Heaven, Papamoa with 49 competitors.
- Blokarts were involved in the opening ceremony for the 2011 Rugby World Cup.

**2011/12 Committee Members:**

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Grant Crawshay	Auckland		
Secretary	Rowena Lennox-Robertson	Auckland		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Graham Ingall	Auckland	Ross Vickers	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	Theo Vondervoort	Bay
	Ted McDonald	Bay	Barry Emms	Canterbury
	Murray Shaw	TOTS	Ted Philip	Manawatu
	Colin Cook	Manawatu	Bernie O'Donnell	Manawatu
	Phil Ready	Capital	Ian Timperley	Capital

**Significant Points 2012:**

- 2012 Blokart World Championships were held at Ivanpah, USA.
- New Zealand world champions were (Performance Class unless stated):
  - Sarah Tootill                      ABC – Lightweight
  - Wayne Osborne                    ABC – Superweight
- 2012 NZ Open was held at Ardmore, Auckland with 56 competitors.
- NZ dropped the right-hand rule in favour of port/starboard.

**2012/13 Committee Members:**

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Grant Crawshay	Auckland		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Canterbury		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Graham Ingall	Auckland	Ross Vickers	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	Theo Vondervoort	Bay
	Ted McDonald	Bay	Barry Emms	Canterbury
	Bernie O'Donnell	Manawatu	Ian Timperley	Capital
	Phil Ready	Capital		

**Significant Points 2013:**

- 2013 NZ Open was held at Ardmore, Auckland with 66 competitors.
- Stand-by emergency pulley whip rope became permitted equipment.
- Affirmed that production and performance classes will be offered at national events.
- NZBAI became an Affiliated Class Association of Yachting NZ, giving access to resources and support for events.

**2013/14 Committee Members:**

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Grant Crawshay	Auckland		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Canterbury		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Graham Ingall	Auckland	Hamish Mc Gregor	Bay
	Paul Beckett	Bay	John Graham	Hawkes Bay
	Barry Emms	Canterbury	Corrie Stein	TOTS
	Ted Philip	Manawatu	Ian Timperley	Capital
	Phil Ready	Capital	Rowena Lennox- Robertson	Auckland

**Significant Points 2014:**

- 2014 Blokart World Championships were held at Lake Walyungup, Perth, Australia In January
- New Zealand world champions were (Performance Class unless stated):
  - Haydn Ingall                      ABC – Middleweight
  - Theo Vondervoort              BBC – Superweight
- Protest fees will be refunded to a competitor whose protest is successful.
- NZBAI dress shirts were available for members to purchase
- Masters Games format to change to age-based with 5-year age bands (bands to be merged where insufficient numbers) to have more alignment with the MG organisation.
- 2014 NZ Open was held at Wigram
- Event planning, management, and responsibilities document was introduced – Major Events Guidelines
- Clubs were surveyed regarding major events – agreed policy:
  - Production and performance classes to be offered at national events, and Cruiser be offered at NIO and SIO but not at NZO
  - Divisions to be combined within a class where there are few entrants – sliding scale introduced
  - Where practicable classes are to be run separately, not concurrently. This was amended July 2015 to permit classes to sail concurrently where there are fewer than 8 entrants in a class.
  - Cruiser class to be run separately from other classes – where practicable. No minimum numbers for cruiser. Name is “Cruiser Class”, not “C”
  - Dual entries (production and performance) are permitted

**2014/15 Committee Members:**

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Graham Ingall	Auckland		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Canterbury		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Barry Cole	Auckland	Trevor Pretty	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	John Graham	Hawkes Bay
	Peter Kingsbury	Canterbury	Geoff Combes	TOTS
	Trevor Register	Manawatu	Ian Timperley	Capital
	Phil Ready	Capital	Rowena Lennox- Robertson	Auckland

### Significant Points 2015:

- Clubs were surveyed in 2014 as to the purpose of NZBAI and what they want from NZBAI – 10 key points were adopted as NZBAI’s purpose – it’s reason for existence.
- A national (generic) NZBAI brochure was produced and 100 copies given to each club
- Quarterly NZBAI newsletters commenced
- 2015 NZ Open was held at Blokart Heaven, Papamoa
- AGMs can now be held up until 30 November each year, preferably in conjunction with the NIO, SIO, or NZO.
- NZBAI Facebook group was set up
- Major Events Guidelines document was reviewed and updated following 12 month’s trial

### 2015/16 Committee Members:

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Graham Ingall	Auckland		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Canterbury		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Barry Cole	Auckland	David Heilbron	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	John Graham	Hawkes Bay
	Peter Kingsbury	Canterbury	Geoff Combes	TOTS
	Trevor Register	Manawatu	Ian Timperley	Capital
	Phil Ready	Capital	Rowena Lennox-Robertson	Auckland

### Significant Points 2016:

- Modified Flexible Weight Bands were adopted for the NIO and SIO, and Sliding Scale Fixed Weight bands were adopted for the NZO.
- 2016 Blokart World Championships were held at Ivanpah, USA
- New Zealand world champions were (Performance Class unless stated):
  - Michael Denton                      CYBC – Heavyweight Production
  - David Heilbron                      ABC – Lightweight
  - Alex Morris                              CYBC – Middleweight
  - Wayne Osborne                      ABC – Superweight
- 300 NZBAI / Club business cards were provided to each club
- A record of results and place-getters for all NZBAI events since 2005 was compiled
- NZBAI purchased 10 licences for MyLaps timing software and will donate two to each club on application
- If there are less than six entrants in Cruiser class, entrants would be offered the opportunity to either move to another Class or have their entry fees refunded.
- 2016 NZ Open was held at Ardmore
- NZO to be held in the South Island every third year
- National safety guidelines and templates were agreed
- Further discussion on wheeling and halting races, but no practical solution found (again)
- Payment to clubs for providing timing at NZ events be \$250 per day and that the current \$200 set-up fee be dropped following the NZBAI assistance to clubs for new timing software.
- Payment to clubs for providing facilities (eg tents, buildings) should be on the basis of the host club itemising facilities to be provided, with a proposed cost for the budget. NZBAI events sub-committee to review the costings.

**2016/17 Committee Members:**

	Name	Club	Name	Club
President	Graham Ingall	Bay		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Canterbury		
Treasurer	Allen Rogers	Bay		
Committee	Barry Cole	Auckland	David Heilbron	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	John Graham	Hawkes Bay
	Peter Kingsbury	Canterbury	Geoff Combes	TOTS
	Trevor Register	Manawatu	Ian Timperley	Capital
	Phil Ready	Capital	Robert Deighton	Manawatu

**Significant Points 2017:**

- Support was given to MBC's proposal that NZBAI host the 2020 world championships at Ohakea and Sanson.
- IBRA affirmed that production class should be kept a pure entry level class with fibreglass mast sections, standard downhulls etc, as present. Otherwise production and performance classes will end up converging.
- National events should be for at least two days, as one day does not justify the travel for many.
- Further submissions and discussions on wheeling and halting races, but no practical solution (again)
- 2017 NZ Open was held at Wigram
- Decided to trial having the formal dinners for national events on the night of the last day of racing to encourage attendance and unwind/celebrate the event

**2017/18 Committee Members:**

President	Barry Cole	Auckland		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Bay		
Treasurer	Arron Schroder	Manawatu		
Committee	Graham Ingall	Auckland	Bob Loudon	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	John Graham	Hawkes Bay
	Terry Helm	Canterbury	Julian Steven	Manawatu
	Trevor Register	Manawatu	Ian Timperley	Capital
	Phil Ready	Capital	Robert Deighton	Manawatu

**Significant Points 2018:**

- 2018 NZ Open was held at Sanson.
- Blokart Heaven, the spiritual home of Blokart, was sold and the track was closed later in the year. The NZ Teams Racing Event was the swan-song for the track and Blokart International hosted a farewell dinner (with amazing entertainment) at the premises
- New Zealand was selected to host the 2020 world championships at Ohakea / Sanson.
- Confirmed with the new insurance broker that non-members are covered by NZBAI's insurance policies



**2018/19 Committee Members:**

President	Arron Schroder	Manawatu		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Bay		
Treasurer	Graham Ingall	Bay		
Committee	Barry Cole	Auckland	Mark Hursthouse	Auckland
	Paul Beckett	Bay	John Graham	Hawkes Bay
	Terry Helm	Canterbury	Julian Steven	Manawatu
	Trevor Register	Manawatu	Carlo van den Dijssel	Manawatu
	Phil Ready	Capital	Ian Timperley	Capital

**Significant Points 2019:**

- 2019 NZ Open was held two days at Sanson and two days at Ohakea.
- Questioned whether to continue to run the Masters Games under the Master Games franchise in future years - are we getting value for money or is NZBAI better to just run its own parallel, age-based event.
- Barry Cole (NZ) elected as President of IBRA
- Agreed that clubs hold onto subs collected January to March and forward them to NZBAI for the following year starting on 1 April.
- Hawkes Bay hosted their first national event (NZ Teams) at their new track in Napier.

**2019/20 Committee Members:**

President	Barry Cole	Auckland		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Bay		
Treasurer	Graham Ingall	Bay		
Committee	David Heilbron	Auckland	Paul Beckett	Bay
	John Graham	Hawkes Bay	Terry Helm	Canterbury
	Michael Brown	Canterbury	Warren Pedley	Manawatu
	Trevor Register	Manawatu	Carlo van den Dijssel	Manawatu
	Phil Ready	Capital	Ian Timperley	Capital

**Significant Points 2020:**

- Decided not to have spot prizes for every entrant at events, but have a small number of worthwhile prizes and channel the savings toward incentives for entering early.
- 2020 NZ Open was held at Wigram, Christchurch in February
- Only one cup will be taken to each national event to be used for a photograph of each winner. Place-getters will receive a trophy or medal. Relevant cups will still be engraved with winners' names and the cups will be displayed if/when a suitable site becomes available.
- Decided not to join the NZ Masters Games but to hold a blokart age-based event at Manawatu every second year.
- The COVID-19 pandemic delayed the holding of the 2020 North Island Open at Napier until November and the postponement of the 2020 Blokart World Championship event for a year.

**2020/21 Committee Members:**

President	Barry Cole	Auckland		
Secretary	Peter McCrea	Bay		
Treasurer	Graham Ingall	Bay		
Committee	Bruce Hales	Auckland	John Nicholson	Auckland
	John Graham	Hawkes Bay	Tony Unsworth	Hawkes Bay
	Trevor Register	Manawatu	Carlo van den Dijssel	Manawatu
	Phil Ready	Capital	Ian Timperley	Capital
	Michael Brown	Canterbury	Paul Beckett	Bay

**Significant Points 2021:**

- The COVID-19 pandemic forced the postponement of the 2021 Blokart World Championship event for another year (until October 2022).