

Curriculum Vitae

Name: Mackenzie Hynard **Age:** 30

Current Location: Gold Coast, QLD **Hometown:** Wollongong, NSW

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Experience

- 2022 – Now: Head of Customer (Liveheats)
- 2020 – 2022: Event Manager (Summer of Surf)
- 2016 – 2020 Lifesaving and Education Coordinator (BMD Northcliffe SLSC)
- 2012 – 2017: Professional Ocean Lifeguard (Wollongong & Gold Coast City Council)

Achievements

- 2023 World Canoe Ocean Racing Bronze Medallist (Double)
- 2022 World Canoe Ocean Racing Bronze Medallist (Individual)
- 2019 Surf Life Saving Open Mixed Double Champion
- 2018 Surf Life Saving Open Men's Doubles Champion
- 2015 U23 World Canoe Ocean Racing World Champion
- 8 x Australian Ocean Racing Representative

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- ICF Ocean Racing Committee Member 2024
- World Ocean Racing organising committee member 2023
- Paddle Australia competition committee: 2022 - present
- Athlete representative, Paddle Australia Ocean Racing Committee: 2021 - present
- Owner and Co-host of '[The Paddlers Pod](#)'
- Race organiser of "[The Talle Ten](#)"
- A YouTube channel to document my paddling adventures [LAME Media Lab](#)

Qualifications

- Secondary education teacher in Mathematics, Science and Geography
- Surf Life Saving Bronze Medallion Training Officer
- First Aid, Advanced Resuscitation, Gold Medallion, Spinal Management Awards
- Marine License and Personal Watercraft Licence

Why I Wish to Apply for a Position on the ICF Athletes Committee?

Hi, my name is Mackenzie Hynard, and I've been immersed in the world of ocean paddling for over a decade. Since the inaugural World Championships in 2013, I've proudly represented Australia at every edition, gaining invaluable experience and building a broad network within the paddling community. These experiences have given me deep insight into the needs and perspectives of athletes—insight I believe would greatly benefit the International Canoe Federation (ICF).

My passion for supporting athletes has driven me to take an active role in amplifying their voices. I host a podcast dedicated to athlete stories, create racing opportunities that provide essential experience at the elite level, and serve on boards for both Paddle Australia and the ICF. Through these roles, I've worked to represent not only athletes but also advocate for the continued growth and success of ocean paddling.

Professionally, I've experienced the sport from both sides—competing as an athlete and working with event organisers. This dual perspective allows me to understand the complexities of delivering successful events and helps me advocate more effectively for athletes' needs in a fair and balanced way.

In addition, my background as a secondary school teacher has strengthened my ability to communicate clearly, confidently, and effectively with individuals and groups. Currently, I serve as the Head of Customer at LiveHeats, where I support a range of adventure sports—including surfing, skating, surf lifesaving, and snow sports—in delivering seamless digital competition experiences. My role involves strategic planning and change management to help organisations better serve their athletes globally.

Combining these professional experiences with my ongoing participation as an elite paddler gives me a unique skill set and a deep understanding of the sport I'm so passionate about. I believe these qualities make me a strong candidate for the ICF Athletes Committee, and I would be honoured to contribute to its mission.

Kind regards,
Mackenzie Hynard