



"Cracker allows me to live in rural Albury Wodonga and still have connections with the greatest coaches in the country. I can connect with my state coach, the national coach and others who are assisting me on my journey. We can share videos and other resources, gain effective feedback about my development priorities, track my skill set and improvements with my skills profile."

Laura Thomson: Member Albury Wodonga Yacht Club, Victoiran Sailing Team; member of Victorian Youth Sailing Squad: Laser Radial Women's Olympic Class; Border Sports Academy Scholarship holder.

Challenges:

The Victorian Youth Sailing Squad wanted to help junior and youth athletes to focus learning and accelerate development. To increase success, squad members needed to be able to supplement the services from their home clubs with resources and expertise available beyond the club.

Solution:

With best practice and innovation as part of its DNA, Yachting Australia rolled out the Cracker platform to accelerate the development of the national pathway community. The platform is deployed as a private, member-only online environment. Accessing the skills profile and curated library; members connect with each other, mentor coaches and others to communicate and collaborate around training resources to better performance, relationships, professionalism and culture.

Results:

The Cracker platform has activated knowledge exchange and mentoring in a way not previously possible. Laura lives and trains over 300km away from a capital city and now connects with coaches, mentors and other athletes in the national pathway. She accesses resources developed by coaches in the Australian Sailing team – using her mobile phone. Junior athletes also connect with Laura for mentoring and guidance. Laura is rapidly developing her performance capability and is reporting very high levels of satisfaction with 'Enjoyment and Loving the Journey'.