**WORLD SPRINTS 2014**

The 16th World Va'a Sprint Championships will be held in Rio De Janeiro Brazil in August 2014, dates yet to be confirmed.

The IVF have changed the competition format for the 2014 WST that will set the standard for all future WST events. There will now be a World Elite Championship and a World Club Championship. Please read the attached document for further details.

We attended the IVF AGM recently held in Brazil to represent Australia and to table our bid to host the 2016 World Sprint Titles. As most of you will already be aware our bid was successful and will go a long way to promoting our sport Nationally and Internationally.

Whilst we were there we were able to look at the 2014 WST race venue and some accommodation options, availability of transport etc.

Accommodation seemed expensive and multi share will be the best option. There is accommodation within walking distance however booking accommodation early will become a priority. We have some concerns regarding transport and safety in general and it will be imperative that all persons going to this event consider all safety recommendations that AOCRA will circulate once we have received further information from the Brazilian organising body.

The temperature is similar to coastal Queensland, Rio being on the same meridian as Rockhampton. Time difference is 13 hours behind Eastern Australia Standard Time. Flights to Brazil are approximately $2500 and visas approximately $100 and you need to allow at least 3 to 4 months to apply for a visa.

Qualifying for the 2014 WST’s will occur at the National Sprint Titles in February 2014.

I am seeking expressions of interest, thoughts and comments from any zones, clubs, groups or individuals who are considering competing in Brazil.

Regards,

Trish

Trish Johnston

AOCRA VP

IVF Representative Australia

WST Australian Area Coordinator

