



Doug Parkinson, MLC
Deputy Leader of Government Business in
the Upper House
Tuesday, 11 November 2003

Sailing South Again

Up to 80 yachts are expected to take part in the third annual Sailing South Regatta in January 2004, following on from the Sydney to Hobart and Melbourne to Hobart yacht races.

The event was officially launched by the Deputy Leader of Government Business in the Legislative Council, Doug Parkinson, at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania today.

"The State Government, through Events Tasmania, is sponsoring the Regatta for this third year in recognition that the event builds on Tasmania's international sailing reputation," Mr Parkinson said.

"Along with the Taste of Tasmania, the regatta helps to ensure that the State is seen as a vibrant destination for sailing enthusiasts and visiting supporters of both the Sydney and Melbourne to Hobart yacht races, and also to the national and international media the event attracts."

"It is a welcome addition to the local calendar of events for local sailors and for the community in general."

The five-day event is made up of two days of harbour racing and two long distance races.

The social program includes a welcome gourmet barbecue, a 'raft-up' picnic lunch and trophy presentation dinner.

The January 2003 event attracted 71 yachts (five of which were from interstate) and more than 400 sailors.

"With race entries closing on 11 December, organisers expect up to 80 yachts to participate in the 2004 event," Mr Parkinson said.

"Tasmania's reputation as a premier sailing destination continues to grow, and an event such as Sailing South will bring a national and international focus to our excellence as a maritime destination.

"The world will get to see the State as an ideal venue for deepwater harbour competitive sailing, as well as our outstanding infrastructure and amenities for ocean racing yachts.

"I congratulate Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania Commodore Robert Badenach and General Manager Michael Wearne for their vision in initiating the event."

Further information: Tasmanian Government Communications Office

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