



SSAA Winter Program 2006

The Short Handed Sailing Association of Australia is proud to announce its 2006 Winter program, a series of eight short handed events.

Sat 22nd April	WS -1 Secumar Sydney - Botany Bay - Sydney Race
Sat 13th May	WS -2 All Marine - Pittwater to Newcastle Race
Fri 9th June	WS -3 Rolly Tasker Sails Australia - Sydney to Port Stephens Race
Sat 8th July	WS -4 Inner Circle Polar Challenge
Sat 12th August	WS -5 Gill - Sydney to Pittwater Race
Sun 13th August	WS -6 Gill - Pittwater to Sydney Race
Sat 9th September	WS -7 SASC Lion Island Race (date TBC)
Sat 1st October	WS -8 Sydney - Lord Howe Island Race

Race 1 is sponsored by new SSAA supporter Secumar, who are donating two of their Survival 150 Harness inflatable PFDs, with light and lifeline as prizes to the winning double-handed crew. This is a great warm up for the Winter Series.

Race 2 starts at 8:00am in Pittwater, arriving in Newcastle late afternoon or early evening. We are pleased to again have the support of All Marine for the fourth running of this event. Our host in Newcastle is the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, and crews can get together for a meal and a drink after the race.

The June long weekend's race 3 is the premier SSAA race, again proudly supported by Rolly Tasker Sails Australia. Overnight from this year's start Sydney Harbour to Port Stephens on Friday night, arrive and relax at D'Albora Marina in Nelson Bay on Saturday, and then hop on the coach to Wandin Valley Winery in the Hunter Valley on Sunday, for lunch and the annual Skippers versus Crew cricket match.

The fifth annual Polar Challenge is again supported by Inner Circle. This race is a highly tactical race, out east to a longitude and return to Sydney. The previous races have been hotly contested, with skippers keen to pick the right course to maximise their yacht's speed. There will be a prizegiving and dinner afterwards at the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club.

We are proud to have Gill as sponsors of Races 5 and 6, Sydney to Pittwater on the Saturday, raft up in the Basin overnight, and race back to Sydney on Sunday. A function to present prizes and to learn more about Gill will be organised – date to be confirmed.

The SASC Lion island race is Race 7 on the SSAA calendar. The race is organised by SASC and further details will be available from the SASC closer to the date.

The final race in the SSAA Winter Series 2006 is the Cat 1 Sydney to Lord Howe Island race. This race has not been held for a few years due to lack of entries, but we have had some expressions of interest already for this challenging race, which is a great lead up to the 2007 Melbourne to Osaka race.

All races will be handicapped under the SSAA Handicap system, as well as length divisions, where points can be earned towards the annual SSAA Champion award. Depending on entries we may also offer an IRC division in each race for yachts with current IRC certificates. The SASC race will be run under PHS handicaps as well. Yachts will have to enter 5 races to be eligible for the series prize.

Full details, including Notice of Series, Entry Form and Sailing Instructions are available on the Racing and Events page on the SSAA website: <http://www.ssaa.com.au>.

For more information contact Peter McCorquodale on 0414 344 914.