

Blind Sailing Champs at Albury-Wodonga

July 29, 2008

The Notice of Race for the 2008 Australian Blind Sailing Championships has just been released. The event will be held from 17th – 19th October at the Albury-Wodonga Yacht Club.

Sailing will be on Lake Hume using the club members' fleet of Noelex 25s. The weekend gets underway on Friday, Oct 17 at 6pm with registration, a briefing and dinner. Prize giving will be held around 4pm on Sunday Oct 19.

The championships will be conducted in the Blind Sailing International integrated fleet racing format. Crews are made up of two blind / vision impaired sailors (helm & mainsheet trimmer) and two sighted sailors (headsail trimmer & a tactician who cannot operate any equipment). There are divisions for B1, B2 and B3 classified helms. Mainsheet-trimmers in the B1 and B2 Divisions can be either B1 or B2, and either B1, B2 or B3 for the B3 Division.

We are hopeful that crews from at least three States will compete. Entrants are encouraged to attend with a full team if possible, however there are a number of Noelex owners and crews who are happy to make up the sighted crew positions.

For some teams, this will be important preparation for the IFDS 2009 Blind Sailing World Championships, being held in Rotorua, New Zealand from 13-21 March next year. For others, it will be a rare opportunity to compete in a one-design fleet racing regatta.

In addition to the Albury-Wodonga Yacht Club taking on the organisation, the event is being strongly supported by the Noelex Yacht Association of Australia and Noelex Yacht Squadron Inc.

Entries and enquiries should be directed to:
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For information about the Albury-Wodonga Yacht Club - www.awyc.org.au
For information about the Blind Sailing Worlds 2009 - www.2009worldblindsailingnz.com
The Australian Blind Sailing website - www.blindsailingaustralia.org