

TAKE THE **THE BIG JIB CHALLENGE!** AT THE 51st HERON NATIONALS IN ADELAIDE

N.H.S.A.A. Life Member and multiple National Champion Don Jamieson has promoted the concept of a larger jib for the Heron in Australia for some time. He has now offered generous prizes for a **BIG JIB CHALLENGE** to be held in conjunction with the Invitation Race at the 51st Heron National Championship Regatta at Largs Bay Sailing Club on 28 December 2009.

The **BIG JIB CHALLENGE** will be open to heavyweight skipper/crew combinations (combined weight 135 kg or more). If sufficient sails are available, skipper and crew combinations weighing 125 -135 kg may also be able to compete, with weight correction (as described in the conditions below).

Approximately seven **BIG JIBS** purchased by Don will be available for allocation. In addition, skippers may use their own **BIG JIBS**. Skippers interested in purchasing a **BIG JIB** prior to the regatta can do so by contacting Andrew Campbell at Hood Sails in Sydney on 02 9905 0800.

The following rules will apply to the **BIG JIB CHALLENGE**:

1. Heavyweight entrants and those within 10 kgs of the heavyweight limit (125 -135 kg) who wish to enter the **BIG JIB CHALLENGE** shall do so at the time of registration for the 51st Heron National Championship Regatta, prior to 10 am on 28 December 2009. There will be no entry fee.
2. **BIG JIBS** will be made available to interested parties on 27 December 2009 so that boat set up (e.g. jib track location, halyard length) can be reviewed.
3. The following process will be used for the allocation of Don's **BIG JIBS**:
 - 3.1. If there are more **BIG JIBS** available than entrants, all entrants will be allocated a **BIG JIB**.
 - 3.2. If there are more entrants than **BIG JIBS**, sails will be allocated on the following basis:
 - 3.2.1. If the number of available **BIG JIBS** and heavyweight entrants is the same, the sails will be allocated to each heavyweight entrant. Sails will not be allocated to 125-135 kg combinations.
 - 3.2.2. If there are fewer heavyweight entrants than **BIG JIBS**, sails will first be allocated to all heavyweight entrants. A ballot will then be held to allocate remaining sails to 125-135 kg skipper/crew combinations.
 - 3.2.3. If there are more heavyweight entrants than **BIG JIBS**, a ballot will be held to allocate sails to heavyweight entrants. Sails will not be allocated to 125-135 kg combinations.
 - 3.3. Ballots (if required) will be conducted in the Largs Bay Sailing Club Clubrooms at 10am on 28 December 2009. Crew weights will also be confirmed at this time.
4. Any 125-135 kg entrants with **BIG JIBS** will carry weights in the form of bottles filled with water attached under the front thwart to ensure that the weight carried on the boat is at least the same as the lightest heavyweight combination sailing in the **BIG JIB CHALLENGE**.
5. Skippers and crews with their own jibs must weigh more than 135 kg or weigh 125-135 kg and carry weight correction as described in paragraph 4 to qualify for the **BIG JIB CHALLENGE**.
6. Prize money will be allocated for over the line placings as follows: 1st \$500, 2nd \$400, 3rd \$300, 4th \$200, 5th \$100.
7. Boats participating in the **BIG JIB CHALLENGE** will be ineligible for Invitation race trophies.
8. Boats participating in the **BIG JIB CHALLENGE** will start at the same time as A class boats competing in the Invitation Race.
9. If the Invitation Race is cancelled or abandoned, the **BIG JIB CHALLENGE** will not be held in conjunction with a heat of the National Championship.

For more information, contact Richard Gibson 0412974327 rgibson@scorpex.net