



WA TOUR

& DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

SUPPORTED BY THE WARREN JONES FOUNDATION 



2020/21 PARTICIPANT PROSPECTUS



City of Perth



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1. INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 has disrupted 'business as usual' for many youth sailors, and as a Western Australian based not-for-profit organisation, Swan River Sailing has a constitutional purpose to run sailing events which benefit the region and its' community.

In Season 2020/21, Swan River Sailing, supported by the Warren Jones Foundation, will hold the 'WA Tour' with an attached development program. This is a series of events for local youth sailors to participate in over summer with the development program adding an extra element of commitment, discipline, and skill development for those who wish to take up the challenge.

The aim is for the WA Tour & Development Program to fill the void of this summer's sailing season where it is not 'business as usual' and to continue the development and pathways for local youth sailors for life beyond COVID-19, on and off the water.

2. THE WARREN JONES FOUNDATION

The Warren Jones Foundation was established in the name of the "Australia II" legend after his untimely and sudden death on the 17th May 2002. Warren made a fabulous contribution to local and international yachting with perhaps his greatest achievement occurring in September 1983, when as Alan Bond's lieutenant, he led a group of Australian yachtsmen to victory to win the 1983 Americas Cup from the New York Yacht Club for the first time in 132 years of competition. This feat brought Australia to the forefront of international sailing competition.

Warren also became one of Australia's leading businessmen and community leaders and played a big role in the development of young sailors. Warren had a down to earth nature, enormous amounts of energy, a competitive spirit, great courage and determination to reach his goals and was always ready to give the younger generation his words of wisdom and moral support.

The aim of the Warren Jones International Youth Regatta, and the Warren Jones Foundation, is to give a new generation of yachtsmen and women the chance to live their dreams – just as Warren did his. The Warren Jones International Youth Regatta has since been held for 18 years straight, and, due to the unprecedented situation that the world sees itself in due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, in 2021 the regatta will be taking a short break. In its place in 2021, the Warren Jones Foundation wish to continue with its' ethos and the core values that it holds at heart in memory of the amazing Warren Jones, by supporting the WA Tour & Development Program.

3. CONSULTATION

Swan River Sailing has consulted with a number of key stakeholders to ensure viable outcomes for the WA Tour & Development Program. At the core of the consultation process was the local youth sailors themselves. A focus group was held to establish attributes and objectives for the WA Tour & Development Program to ensure the outcomes were relevant to the sailors themselves.

4. OBJECTIVES

After consulting with stakeholders, the following objectives for the 2020/21 WA Tour & Development Program were established.

I. VISION

A development program over the 2020/21 season for local youth sailors that focuses on the development of personal, professional and life skills in addition to developing and improving skills towards the sailing discipline to assist with future development, on and off the water.

II. MISSION

Using a series of regattas, mentoring, group skill sessions and seminars to empower the program participants to work together as a team and improve from their baseline at the beginning of the program to the end, with the aim of winning the 'WA Tour'.

III. INSTILLING ACCOUNTABILITY

Using financial commitment as a tool to encourage and implore the program participants to commit to the entire program, which extends over a 4 month period, this being a deposit payable by each team at the commencement of the program and being fully refunded upon successful completion of the program.

IV. GOAL SETTING

Exploring the opportunity of featuring a 'Legends' team in the Colin Mullins Youth Regatta and the City of Perth Youth Cup to, as in the words of the Focus Group participants; 'give them something to strive for' or hopefully validate.

V. ENABLING STRONG COMPETITION

Not making gender equality or inclusion mandatory, but, providing fair and balanced opportunity for all male, all female and mixed teams. This will be done by setting the maximum crew numbers including skippers for all female teams as an optional seven (with an additional approximate 40 kilograms).

Allowing the inclusion of non-youth sailing crew, allocated on a handicapped basis, to provide the firsthand exposure and hands-on learning, not just during training and skill sessions, but also during competition. This objective is key in engaging local youth sailors to participate in the program and the acceleration of the mission.

5. THE WA TOUR

I. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

The WA Tour will see a series of five events, targeted to youth sailors, sailed over the 2020/21 Season in Western Australia. The WA Tour is structured as a series with aggregated scoring, overall prize money and handicaps to encourage fierce competition, dedication, hard work and skill development for local youth sailors during this irregular Perth summer.

KEY MESSAGE:

- The WA Tour consists of three match racing events and two fleet racing events
- Swan River Sailing are the managers of four of the WA Tour Events and will work in consultation with Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club who are the managers of the fifth event.
- One of the WA Tour Events will be sailed in Perth Waters as part of the 2021 City of Perth Festival of Sail.

II. ENTRIES TO TOUR EVENTS

Development Program teams will receive precedence for entries. Any additional entries after the fact will be available on a first come basis* to any teams/clubs in Western Australia. Notice of Races for each Tour Event will be available prior to the entry period and should be consulted on eligibility requirements, entry fees etc.

*This is for Swan River Sailing managed events. Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club should be consulted on their entry policies for the JESS Match Cup as this may differ.

III. SCORING

- Final results from each WA Tour Event will be given a score that will go towards the overall placings and scores for the WA Tour.
- Results from the WA Tour Events will be weighted as followed;

EVENT	WEIGHTING
2020 Youth State Keelboat Championships	X 1
2021 JESS Match Cup	X 1
2021 Colin Mullins Youth Regatta	X 1
2021 City of Perth Youth Cup	X 2
2021 Youth State Keelboat Championships	X 2

**One regatta score may be discarded*

IV. PRIZES & PRIZE MONEY

- Only Development Program teams who successfully achieve all Key Commitment Criteria noted on their Commitment Statements are eligible to receive a share of the \$8,500 in WA Tour Prize Money.
- Non-Development Program teams who compete in WA Tour Events will be given an overall score/placing, but will not be eligible to receive prize money.
- The top two overall finishing teams will also receive qualification for their Yacht Club to participate in the National Sailing League*.

**This gives the top two finishing teams' Clubs a 'place' in the National Sailing League Series which would be optional for the Clubs to participate in or not, at their expense.*

The National Sailing League where (open) teams representing clubs, two can 'qualify' from each state, with the winners the national competition then qualifying to compete in the Sailing Champions League (which is an international competition).

More information on the Sailing Champions League is available here: <https://sailing-championsleague.com/>

6. THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

I. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

➤ ONE PROGRAM

This is a program for any under-25 local sailors to participate in over the 2020/21 Summer Sailing Season in Perth, Western Australia. There is capacity for up to sixteen teams to be involved in the program.

➤ TWO MENTORS FOR EACH TEAM

Attaching a 'Sailing Mentor' and a 'Professional Mentor' to each team to provide a balanced mix of on water and off water mentoring and guidance to program participants.

➤ THREE SEMINARS

Hosting three theory based seminars on weekday evenings spread throughout the program. These seminars will compliment the timing and 'journey' of the program. The current plan for the first seminar topic to be about team management, liaising with stakeholders and approaching sponsors and supporters.

➤ FOUR 'TEAMS' (MINIMUM)

For the WA Tour & Development Program to continue to go ahead, a minimum of four teams will need to apply and participate in the Development Program.

➤ FIVE EVENTS

Five Tour Events will be held over December 2020 to March 2021 with handicaps, aggregated scoring, overall prize pool of \$8,500 and two qualification spots into the National Sailing League up for grabs for eligible teams. *Only Development Program Teams are eligible to win prize money and the qualification positions!*

➤ SIX GROUP CREW PRACTISE SESSIONS

Group Crew Practise Sessions are spread out over the duration of the program and in alignment with upcoming events. The aim is to have all teams practising together with assistance from mentors, developing and improving on event performances as the program progresses.

PLUS:

- *Each team will be given an additional 4 crew practise sessions to use as they see fit (pending yacht availability)*
- *Teams will have access to facilities like the SRS/AS Boardroom to use for mentoring sessions, team meetings and similar (pending availability)*
- *Development Program Teams are reserved entries into each Tour Event ahead of entries being opened to the public*
- *Eligibility to win a share of \$8,500 in prize money – with cash prizes for the overall first, second and third placed winners. The top two overall finishing teams will also receive qualification for their Yacht Club to participate in the National Sailing League.*

II. WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

Commitment from Development Program Participants is paramount. You only get from this program what you are willing to put in and we want to see as many local youth sailors benefit from this Program as possible.

STEP 1: APPLY

Complete an application form and submit prior to the closing date, 9 October 2020.

Available at www.swanriversailing.com/wa-tour

KEY MESSAGE:

- Apply as a team.
- Identify a minimum of three 'Core Team Members'
- Core Team Members must commit to the entire Development Program and Agree to the Commitment Statement upon the team's application;
 - o *Core Team Members must compete for your team at all WA Tour Events.*
 - o *One of these Core Team Members must be your team's designated skipper.*
 - o *All Core Team Members must be under 25 years of age as of 1 January 2021.*

STEP 2: COMMIT

Upon acceptance of your application, your team will be asked to 'Commit to the Program'.

KEY MESSAGE:

- All Core Team Members must agree and sign the Commitment Statement. This will include key criteria that must be met throughout the duration of the Development Program in order to;
 - a) Be eligible to receive prize money from the WA Tour
 - b) Be eligible to receive the refund of their Commitment Deposit
- Each team will need to provide a Commitment Deposit of \$500. This is fully refundable upon successful completion of the program – which is meeting the key criteria set out in the Commitment Statement.
- Each team will be reserved an entry in each WA Tour Event. You will need to refer to the Notice of Race for each event in terms of when entries need to be confirmed and paid for each individual Tour Event.

STEP 3: MEET THE KEY CRITERIA

Key criteria are notarised in this Participant Prospectus and form the Commitment Statement which will need to be met by each team upon completion of the final WA Tour Event, the 2021 Youth State Keelboat Championships on 21 March 2021. Upon completion and meeting all key criteria in this document, each team will be eligible to receive the refund of their Commitment Deposit and prize money from the WA Tour will also be acquitted on this basis.

Please see the final page of the Participant Prospectus where Development Program Participants will need to provide a signature as a commitment to the program.

KEY MESSAGE:

- **Commit to the program -> see the benefits -> be rewarded**
- **Develop as a team -> strive & improve -> aim for prize money**

III. KEY PROGRAM DATES:

APPLICATION PERIOD:

→ Friday, 11 September	Applications Open
→ Friday, 9 October	Applications Close
→ Tuesday, 20 October	Teams Announced
→ Tuesday, 3 November (First Seminar)	Signing of Commitment Statement
	Commitment Deposit Due
	Mentors Assigned

SEMINARS:

→ Tuesday, 3 November	Venue TBC
→ Tuesday, 12 January	Venue TBC
→ Tuesday, 9 March	Venue TBC

GROUP CREW PRACTISE SESSIONS:

→ Tuesday, 1 December	Royal Perth Yacht Club
→ Thursday, 17 December	Royal Perth Yacht Club
→ Tuesday, 19 January	Royal Perth Yacht Club (TBC)
→ Wednesday, 27 January	Royal Perth Yacht Club
→ Tuesday, 2 February	Perth Waters
→ Tuesday, 16 March	Royal Perth Yacht Club

WA TOUR EVENTS:

→ 2020 Youth State Keelboat Championships	Sunday, 6 December South of Perth Yacht Club
→ 2021 JESS Match Cup	Friday 22 - Sunday 24 January Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club
→ 2021 Colin Mullins Youth Regatta	Thursday, 28 January Royal Perth Yacht Club
→ 2021 City of Perth Youth Cup	Wednesday 3 - Friday 5 February Royal Perth Yacht Club Perth Waters
→ 2021 Youth State Keelboat Championships	Sunday, 21 March Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club

IV. THE EXTRA STUFF

MENTORS:

If there are teams that already have some existing relationships with sailing and professional mentors, then we will take this into consideration when assigning mentors. Applications include a space for you to nominate a mentor if you see fit.

Mentors will be asked to volunteer their time and attend seminars, Group Crew Practise Sessions and (hopefully) the Tour Events. The aim of attaching two mentors to each team is that there is redundancy if one mentor is unavailable for one/some of the dates and vice versa. These mentors are giving their time to help develop resilient, aspirational and hard-working young people and are great supporters of sailing in the local and greater community.

The aim is to attach mentors to teams at the beginning of the Development Program, to be in touch consistently throughout the duration of the Program and the WA Tour.

HANDICAPS:

One of the main outcomes of consulting with local youth sailors was that they want fair but strong competition. Your team's Commitment Statement will include your handicap for on the percentage of Youth/Open crew you must adhere to for each event.

Handicaps are expected to fall in the range of the following;

- *No Open Crew Members Permitted*
- *Up to 2 Open Crew Members Permitted*
- *1 Open Crew Member Permitted*

This is to enable onboard learnings from experienced (open) crew and to encourage fair and strong competition between all competing teams.

MAXIMUM WEIGHTS & RANDOM WEIGHING:

The maximum weight for each Tour Event will be in the Notice of Race as; 437.5kgs (476kgs for all-female teams).

Random weighing will occur at events without weigh in at registration. In the case of a random weigh in, teams must make weight within 45 minutes of the final race.

7. CONCLUSION

There is a unique opportunity to create an excellent domestic training environment in 20/21 as an in-house project for Western Australia. This will only happen with a collegiate approach with robust competition, this framework provides this with the generous support of our clubs and importantly Warren Jones Foundation and Swan River Sailing.

Please seize this opportunity with two hands, apply and let us help your teams be the best they can for this season and future competitions. Western Australia has an amazing legacy of producing talent, we will leverage from this both on your behalf and draw out the historical learnings and embed them in your skills execution.

8. COMMITMENT STATEMENT

Our team, _____ commits to improving as athletes and individuals throughout the WA Tour. Our mission is to operate collegiately and respectfully towards our partner clubs, sponsors, and team members. We will exit the season prepared for future challenges.

Our prize money and Commitment Deposit will be acquitted on the execution of our Key Commitment Criteria

Consistent Team Member #1 (Skipper)

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Consistent Team Member #2

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Consistent Team Member #3

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

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