

# Milestone Yachting Agreement

The Commodores of Cruising Yacht Club of South Australia (CYCSA) and Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron (RSAYS) Geoff Catt and Caillin Howard have signed a watershed agreement that will provide young people with an enhanced opportunity to become involved in keelboat sailing and racing.

Following on from the massive interest generated by the recent around the world adventure of Jessica Watson and the success of the CYCSA boat Two True as the outright winner of the 2009 Rolex Sydney to Hobart Race, both Clubs agreed that a clearly defined pathway for the development and training of new entrants to the sport is imperative for the future of sailing in general and yacht racing in particular.

The Clubs have agreed to establish a joint Sailing Development Committee to blue print a viable pathway for the progression of young sailors and adults from dinghy to intermediate keel boats and to offshore sailing. The committee will evaluate and select the most appropriate intermediate keel boat for training and racing. Each Club then intends to purchase their own racing fleet and adopt training and joint racing programs to support the new boats in concert with the existing keel boat fleets (specifically including J24's and Etchells).

This new initiative will continue to strengthen and add to the considerable success of the existing RSAYS junior development program, the 32' Squadron Mentor and junior committee program. Meanwhile, the CYCSA intends to become more closely involved with schools and colleges via its Marine Academy.

Through working together and, coordinating the use of resources, both Clubs see this as a chance to offer youth pathways to the sport and create the opportunity for the clubs to jointly attract major national and international sailing events to South Australia.