

**REMARKS BY THE HONOURABLE PETER UNDERWOOD AC,  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA TO OPEN THE INTERNATIONAL  
CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP  
ON THE RIVER DERWENT HOBART TASMANIA ON  
SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2012.**

Today, it is my privilege and pleasure as the Governor of the State of Tasmania and my wife's privilege and pleasure to welcome to Hobart cadet dinghy sailors from all over the world to the 2012 International Cadet Championship. There are 35 boats and cadet crews who have come from Britain, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Argentina, Ukraine and Poland. An additional 38 boats will compete in the promotional Series. The overseas boats will be joined in the competition by 14 boats from Australia to make a total of 49 boats in the 2012 Cadet Championship. To all the visitors to our State, whether from overseas or interstate - competitors, families, supporters and friends - we say you are all very welcome and we hope that you will have a little time after the Championship is over to have a look around our beautiful island.

As all the competitors know, the cadet declaration includes a promise to observe the class rules and at all times favour the aims of the class. It also includes a promise to do your best to foster understanding and friendship throughout the world and never attempt to win a race by any means other than fair sailing.

Jaques Rogge, the President of the International Olympic Committee was the Cadet World Champion in 1959. Speaking from last year's Cadet World Championship held in Kuehlungsborn, Germany he said "I would urge all participants to compete in the spirit of fair-play and respect of rules. In such a Championship, there

is only one winner, but everyone can be a Champion. The winner is the one who crosses the finish line first. The Champions are those who respect the rules and each other and train hard. Therefore, all of you can be a Champion.”

I could not agree more with that statement. Every member of the crews in the 49 boats can be a Champion in the sense of that word as used by Jacques Rogge.

This year - 2012 - is a rather special year for competitors in the International Cadet World Championship for it marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the creator of this special boat - Jack Holt. British boat builder Jack Holt OBE designed the Cadet in 1947 especially for junior sailors. Made in wood and fibre glass the boat is deliberately too small for adults to sail, but provides a great learning platform for those who are serious about competitive sailing. The evidence that this is true lies in the high number of international sailors and Olympic Medalists who began their sailing career in Cadets and who went on to become a World Cadet Champion.

In addition to designing boats, Jack Holt was also a boat builder. His fittings business was in the loft above the boatbuilding workshop on the banks of the River Thames at Putney in London. Jack Holt was born on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1912 and so he would have turned 100 this year had he still been alive. This means that amongst us this evening is a crew that on the 4<sup>th</sup> January will be able to claim the prestige of winning the Cadet World Champion on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the boat's designer. You will have only

one opportunity to do that and the 2012 World Cadet Championship is it. It is a prize worth striving to achieve. So I wish you all the best of luck, but don't forget even if there can only be one winner, you can all be a Champion.

The waters of the Derwent River at Hobart and the adjoining D'Entrecasteaux Channel are ideal for sailing. This is particularly apparent at this time of the year for the end of December and the start of January sees Hobart as the finish line for the blue water classic, the 628 nautical miles Sydney to Hobart yacht race, as well as the finish line for the Melbourne to Hobart and the Launceston to Hobart. Here at the Sandy Bay Sailing Club we have just seen the Australian National Cadet Championship and from 6<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> January we will see the Optimist Australian National Championship. At the same time as all this is going on Hobart is alive with activity on the land as well as the water with music, festivals and other entertainment. It is a great excitement and you are all invited to join in.

The Committee of the Sandy Bay Sailing Club and a dedicated band of volunteers have been working hard for 2 years to put on this competition. They have done a wonderful job. The sponsors, including Jackson Volkswagon, Events Tasmania, and Juicy Isle, have provided essential support, so I wish you all fine weather, great competition, many friendships and a fantastic fun time here in Hobart during the 2012 International Cadet World Championship which starts at 10 am tomorrow.

Now it's time for me to say "Let the Championship begin."

