



Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race Statistics – 1945 - 2013

Number of Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Races conducted by the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia since 1945: 68. 2013 will be the 69th

Number of yachts to have competed: 1945-2012: 5,509 (4,548 completed the race, 961 retired or were disqualified)

Estimated total crew to have competed: About 50,751 between 1945 and 2012

Average size of fleets, 1945-2012: 81.02 (or 81) boats per race

Largest fleets: 371 starters in the 50th race in 1994 (309 finished); 179 starters in 1985 (145 finished); 151 starters in 1984 (46 finished)

Smallest fleet: Nine starters in the inaugural Sydney Hobart Yacht Race in 1945

First race winner: *Rani*, Captain John Illingworth RN (UK). Design: Barber 35' cutter. Line and handicap winner

Last year's fleet (2012): 76 starters, 71 finishers (with 5 retirements)

Last year's winner – IRC Overall: *Wild Oats XI*, a Reichel Pugh 100 owned by Robert Oatley, skippered by Mark Richards, Hamilton Island Yacht Club

Last year's line honours winner:

Wild Oats XI, a Reichel Pugh 100 owned by Robert Oatley, skippered by Mark Richards, Hamilton Island Yacht Club in the time of 1 day, 18 hours, 23 minutes and 12 seconds

Race record: 1 day 18 hours 23 minutes and 12 seconds, set by *Wild Oats XI* (AUS), in 2012

Race records and years in which they were set or broken:

- **1945:** *Rani* (UK) – 6 days 14 hours 22 minutes (first race)
- **1946:** *Morna* (NSW) – 5 days 2 hours 53 minutes 33 seconds
 - First yacht to break six days for the 628 nautical mile course
- **1948:** *Morna* (NSW) – 4 days 5 hours 1 minute 21 seconds
 - Third consecutive line honours win and first yacht to break five days
- **1951:** *Margaret Rintoul* (NSW) - 4 days 02 hours 29 minutes 01 seconds
- **1957:** *Kurrewa IV* (NSW/Vic) formerly *Morna* - 3 days 18 hours 30 minutes 39 seconds
 - First yacht to break four days
- **1962:** *Ondine* (USA) – 3 days 03 hours 46 minutes 16 seconds
 - In breaking *Kurrewa IV*'s record, set a time that stood until broken by *Helsal* in 1973
- **1973:** *Helsal* (NSW) – 3 days 01 hour 32 minutes 09 seconds
- **1975:** *Kialoa III* (USA) – 2 days 14 hours 36 minutes 56 seconds
 - First yacht to break three days
- **1996:** *Morning Glory* (Germany) 2 days 14 hours 07 minutes 10 seconds
 - Race record broken after 21 years – longest standing race record

- **1999:** *Nokia* (Denmark/Australia) 1 day 19 hours 48 minutes 02 seconds for an open race record (water ballast allowed) and first yacht to break two days
Brindabella (Australia) set a record for a conventional yacht of 1 day 20 hours 46 minutes 33 seconds
- **2005:** *Wild Oats XI* (Australia) 1 day 18 hours 40 minutes 10 seconds
 - Bob Oatley's then 98ft super maxi *Wild Oats XI*, skippered by Mark Richards, was also declared the overall winner of the Tattersall's Cup
- **2012:** *Wild Oats XI* (Australia) 1 day 18 hours 23 minutes 12 seconds
 - Bob Oatley's 100ft super maxi *Wild Oats XI*, skippered by Mark Richards, was also declared the overall winner of the Tattersall's Cup

Double line and handicap winners

- Rani (GBR) – 1945
- American Eagle (USA) – 1972
- Kialoa III (USA) – 1977
- New Zealand (NZL) – 1980
- Sovereign (NSW) – 1987
- Wild Oats XI (NSW/QLD) – 2005, 2012

Multiple line honours winners

- Morna/Kurrewa IV (NSW) – 7 races
- Wild Oats XI (NSW/QLD) – 6 races including 4 successive races (2005-2008)
- Astor (NSW) – 3 races
- Bumblebee IV/Ragamuffin (NSW) – 3 races
- Condor (BER) – 2 races
- Margaret Rintoul (NSW) – 2 races
- Solo (NSW) – 2 races
- Kialoa III (USA) – 2 races
- Sayonara (USA) – 2 races

Multiple overall winners

- Freya (NSW) – 3 successive races
- Love & War (NSW) – 3 races
- Westward (TAS) – 2 successive races
- Siandra (NSW) – 2 races
- Solo (NSW) – 2 races
- Ausmaid (SA/VIC) – 2 races
- Wild Oats XI (NSW/QLD) – 2 races

Largest line honours winners: *Wild Oats XI*, Australia AUS (2010, 2012) – LOA 30.48m (100ft); Investec Loyal, AUS (2011) – LOA 30.48m (100ft); *Alfa Romeo*, NZL/AUS (2009) – LOA 30.48m (100ft), *Wild Oats XI*, Australia (2005-2008) – LOA 30m (98ft); *Nicorette*, Australia (2004) – LOA 27.38m (90ft); *Skandia*, Australia (2003) – LOA: 30m (98ft); *Alfa Romeo/Shockwave*, Australia/New Zealand (2002) - LOA: 27.43m (89ft)

Smallest line honours winner: *Rani*, NSW (1945) – LOA 10.59m (34.73ft)

Largest overall handicap winner: *Wild Oats XI* (2012) – LOA 30.48m (100ft). *Wild Oats XI* had previously held the record in 2005 when she was 30m (98ft).

Smallest overall handicap winner: *Screw Loose* (1979) – LOA 9.2m (30ft);
Zeus II (1981) LOA 9.2m (30ft)

Smallest official competitor: *Klinger*, NSW (1978) – LOA 8.23m (27ft)

Largest official competitors: *Wild Oats XI*, AUS, *Alfa Romeo*, AUS, *Skandia*, AUS and *Konica Minolta*, NZL, all contested the 2005 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, finishing in this order on line honours, and all were 30m (98ft). *Maximus* (later to become *Loyal*), also 30m, contested the 2006 race along with *Wild*

Oats XI and *Skandia*. *City Index Leopard* (later known as *ICAP Leopard*) at 29.99m, contested the 2007 race

In 2009, the maximum LOA was extended to 30.48m (100ft), bringing the race into line with overseas events. Five 100 footers took to the start line, including the lengthened versions of *Wild Oats XI* (Robert Oatley, NSW), *Alfa Romeo* (Neville Crichton, NSW), *ICAP Leopard* (Mike Slade, UK) and *Loyal* (chartered by Sean Langman, NSW), along with *Rapture* (Brook Lenfest, USA)

Slowest race on elapsed time: *Wayfarer*, 1945, 11 days 6 hours 20 minutes; Skipper: Peter Luke, NSW

Slowest race on corrected time: *Wayfarer*, 1945; 7d 19h 43m; Skipper: Peter Luke, NSW

Closest finish for line honours: 1982 - *Condor* (BER) beat *Apollo* (NSW) across the line by seven seconds

In 2001 just 47 minutes separated the first seven boats

Record races by an individual: Tony Cable (NSW) holds the record for the most races sailed by an individual by sailing his 47th Rolex Sydney Hobart aboard *Duende* in 2012

Racing aboard *Getaway Volvo* in 2008, Cable broke the 44 race record the late John Bennetto (Tas) set in 2004, which was equalled by Lou Abrahams (Vic) in 2007

Tony Ellis (NSW) reached the 46 milestone in 2012. Bill Ratcliff, Syd Fischer and Colin Wildman from NSW have competed in 44 races each (Wildman has been aboard the Radio Relay Vessel since 2005), Bruce Gould (NSW) has attained 43 races (three aboard the Radio Relay vessel), while Richard 'Sightie' Hammond (NSW) and Bernie Case (VIC) have both sailed to Hobart 40 times, with Hammond being the first person to ever attain 40 races (in 1998).

Most races completed in a row: Lou Abrahams did 43 from 1965 until 2007; Lindsay May completed his 40th Hobart in 2012, having started in 1973

Record races by yachtsmen: Up to and including the 2012 Rolex Sydney Hobart Race, 101 yachtsmen have been recorded as having sailed in 25 or more races since 1945

Fathers and sons to compete in 25 races: Max (30) and Carl (27) Crafoord, Bernie (40) and Robert (28) Case and Peter (35) and Mike (34) Green

Most line honours victories by a 25 plus race sailor: Steve Jarvin. *Wild Oats XI*'s 2012 line honours win made it 11 victories

Record races by yachtswomen: Fourteen women have sailed 10 or more races. In 2011, Adrienne Cahalan (NSW) was the first woman to reach the milestone 20 Hobarts (2012 marked her 21st race). A new trophy has recognised that achievement and other women who reach this milestone will also have their names engraved on it

Gail Harland and Felicity Nelson 18 races; Vanessa Dudley 17. Mary Holley 16; The late Sally Gordon 15; Jan Howard 14; Amanda Wilmot, Sue Crafer, Julie Hodder 12; Audrey Brown - 11 of 12 were aboard the radio relay vessel

Record races by yachts: In 2007, Phillip's Foote Witchdoctor, a Davidson 42, set a new record of 27 races. *Bacardi*, a Peterson 44, now owned by Martin Power (VIC) equalled this record in 2011

Polaris of Belmont, a Cole 43, sailed her 26th race in 2010

Mark Twain, a Sparkman & Stephens 38, sailed her 25th in 2002

Impeccable, a Peterson 34, sailed her 25th in 2008

Spirit of Koomooloo (formerly *Ragamuffin*, then *Margaret Rintoul II*), a Sparkman and Stephens 48, sailed her 25th in 2010

Record races sailed together by multiple crews: Syd Fischer and Tony Ellis sailed their 40th together aboard *Ragamuffin-Loyal* in 2012

Bruce and Andrew Taylor (father and son) celebrated 21 Hobarts together aboard *Chutzpah* in 2012 (it was Bruce's 31st race)

Youngest skippers: The youngest recorded skipper is Sean Kirkjian (17) who skippered his parents' yacht, *Lady Ann* (NSW), in the 1986 race with his mother, Ann, as navigator

In 1976, *Ballyhoo* and *Apollo* from NSW, finished first and second across the line, *Ballyhoo* was skippered by Jack Rooklyn and *Apollo* by his son, Warwick (19)

Greg Prescott (Tas) skippered his father's yacht, *Hotshot* in 1980, aged 18

Liz Wardley (PNG), skippered her yacht, *Dixie Chicken*, in the fatal 1998 race aged 19, and was one of the many who did not finish

As of the 1999 race, the CYCA set an age limit of 18 for crew members

In 2011, three 18 year olds skippered yachts: Jessica Watson (*Ella Bache*), Peter Langman (*Maluka of Kermandie*) and Christopher Percy (*Alacrity*)

Oldest skipper: In 2008, aged 86, John Walker (*Impeccable*) became the oldest skipper. Retiring from ocean racing after that race, he and *Impeccable* are the only owner/boat combination to compete in 25 races together

In 1999, aged 84, Alby Burgin skippered *Alstar* in his 32nd and last race. He won the race overall with *Rival* in 1961 and retired from active offshore racing in 2001

In 2012, aged 85, Syd Fischer was the oldest skipper (*Ragamuffin-Loyal*)

Oldest sailor ever: John Walker (86 years, 2008)

Youngest sailors ever: As a baby, Raud O'Brien did his first of some six Sydney Hobarts on his parent's *Wraith of Odin* (sic). As a veteran at three, Raud broke his arm when he fell off the companionway steps whilst feeding biscuits to the crew on watch

Sophie Tasker sailed the 1978 race as a four year-old on her father's yacht *Siska*, which was not an official starter due to not meeting requirements of the CYCA. Sophie raced to Hobart in 1979, 1982 and 1983.

Quite a number of teenage boys and girls have sailed with their fathers and mothers, including Tasmanian Ken Gourlay's 14-year-old son who sailed on *Kismet* in 1957. A 12-year-old boy, Travis Foley, sailed aboard *Aspect Computing* in the storm battered 1998 race

In 1978, the Brooker family sailed aboard their yacht *Touchwood* – parents Doug and Val and their children, Peter (13), Jacqueline (10), Kathryne (8) and Donald (6). Since 1999 the CYCA has set an age limit of 18 for crew members in the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race

First and 50th races: The late Peter Luke and the late 'Boy' Messenger sailed in the first and 50th races. Luke skippered his own yacht, *Wayfarer*, in the first Hobart, Messenger sailed aboard *Horizon*. Luke, a CYCA co-founder, owned *Wayfarer* up until his death in September 2007 and was the official starter of the 2001 Sydney Hobart Yacht Race

First women to compete in the race: Jane ('Jenny') Tate, from Hobart, sailed with her husband Horrie aboard *Active* in the 1946 Race, as did Dagmar O'Brien with her husband, Dr Brian ('Mick') O'Brien aboard *Connella*. Unfortunately, *Connella* was forced to retire in Bass Strait, but *Active* made it to the finish. The Jane Tate Memorial Trophy is presented each year to the first female skipper to finish the race

First all-women crew to compete in the race: 1975, Vicki Wilman skippered *Barbarian*

Other all girl crews: 1989 - Christine Evans (*Belles Long Ranger*); 1992 - Kerry Goudge (*Nadia IV*), Adrienne Cahalan (*Ella Bache*); 1993 and 1994 - Kerry Goudge (*Telecom Mobilenet*); 1995 - Kerry Goudge (*WOW – Nortel*), 1996; Adrienne Cahalan (*Elle Racing*); 2001 – Lisa McDonald (*Amer Sports Too*)

Oldest yacht to race in recent years: *Maluka of Kermandie* was built in 1932. The 9.1 metre yacht was restored by Sean Langman and raced in the 2006 as *Maluka* aged 74 years. He raced again in 2008, 2011 and 2012 as *Maluka of Kermandie*

Prior to this, the record was held by *Southerly*, built in Tasmania in 1938, which won the Over 30 Year Veterans Division in the 50th Race in 1994. She sailed in the 2000 race, aged 62, but retired before reaching Bass Strait

Ray White Koomooloo, built in 1968, the same year it won the Tattersall's Cup, was the second oldest boat in the fleet to *Maluka* in 2006. In 2007, *Spirit of Koomooloo* (ex *Ragamuffin*, then *Margaret Rintoul II*) was the oldest boat in the fleet; as she was in 2009 and 2010

Oldest yachts to compete: According to CYCA life member and historian Alan Campbell, more than 31 yachts built before 1938 have competed in the race, including line honours winners *Morna/Kurrewa IV* (same boat, renamed) and *Astor*, which were built in the 1920s. He believes that *Alice*, which competed in the 1948 race, was built before 1908, although no records exist

Most successful designer of overall winners: Bruce Farr (NZL/USA) – 17 overall winners

These statistics have been compiled up to and including the 2012 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, based on records from the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Peter Campbell, Di Pearson, Lisa Ratcliff, Jennifer Crooks, CYCA life member and historian Alan Campbell, Tony Cable and other sources

Updated by Jennifer Crooks/Di Pearson 14/8/2013