



Media Release February 28 2010

## 2010 Etchells New South Wales Championship

### Fifteen wins the 2010 Etchells New South Wales Championship

Sydney (AUS) – David Clark and his crew on *Fifteen* have held onto their overnight lead in the 2010 Etchells New South Wales Championship to win after wrapping up the three day series with two races today.

After a delayed start, which held the fleet onshore for two hours, the race committee set the race course just inside Sydney Harbour heads in the Sound. The top two boats from the first two days of racing were separated by one point and the two races held today meant competitors were able to drop their worst result. The breeze settled from a South East direction at 10 knots as the fleet made up of teams from New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia lined up.

“We’ve had a great event and being able to get offshore to the track were the 2012 worlds will be raced has been very important to us. I’ve sailed with my crew for the last two years and we are preparing for 2012 here in Sydney. We’ve learnt that at this time of year we need to be prepared for all weather conditions. Our plan was to do well in this event so we have managed that, we like to chip away up the middle of the fleet and I think the fact that we were able to be consistent in the top five places in most races helped”, said Clark after he accepted his trophy this afternoon.

Tom King’s *Iron Lotus* has sailed a consistent regatta with only one race result out of the top ten and this consistency helped King’s team finish second overall.

“We really enjoyed the racing today in the harbour and we had a bit of luck today and managed to finish on a good note winning one of the races today. Fifteen and Dave’s team are definitely the boat of the regatta they sailed a great series and deserved to win. It’s been great to have so many boats racing and interstate teams travelling to compete in a strong class”, commented King.

Beijing Olympian Tom Slingsby, who is back steering an Etchells after a 12 month hiatus, completed the podium of overall places finishing in third with the team on *Steampacket 7* and winning the last race of the series earlier this afternoon. Slingsby, who sails with another one Design class the Farr 40’s, remarked, “It’s been great to sail with Bruce and Guddo for this event. It’s been tricky and challenging conditions and I finally figured out how to steer a Etchells again by the end of the regatta. Steering the boat for this event has been very beneficial and I am returning to my usual boat with John Bertrand for the Etchells Worlds in Ireland later this year”.

The Etchells class would like to thank the following supporters of the 2010 Etchells NSW Championship - Zhik, Tacktracker, Positive Image Innovation, John Boston Premium Beverages, North Sails and Sydney City Marine and host club Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron.

**Final Results – Top 10 places:**

1	Fifteen	David Clark	CYCA	18
2	Iron Lotus	Tom King	RSYS	39
3	Steampacket 7	Tom Slingsby	RPAYC	43
4	North Star	Julian Plante	RPAYC	44
5	Absolute Pearler	Peter McNeill	LMYC	48
6	Barry	Damien King	SYC	53
7	Why be flat	Kane Sinclair	LMYC	54
8	Tango	Chris Hampton	RBYC	61
9	Roulette	Mark Johnson	RSYS	65
10	Magpie	Graeme Taylor	MYC	73

For complete results go to <http://www.rsys.com.au/sailing/EtchellsNSW.php>

**Media Contact:** Sam Crichton ph +61 407 63 64 16 or email [samcrichton@smartchat.net.au](mailto:samcrichton@smartchat.net.au)