

SAIL PARADISE

Gold Coast

MARINONICS
MARINE ELECTRONICS & ELECTRICAL



January 10 - 15, 2011
SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB

Two-time Audi Australian IRC Championship winner Rod Jones knows a good regatta when he sees one, and that's why he has chosen to enter his exciting new GP42 offshore racer, Alegria IV, in Sail Paradise off the Gold Coast in January.

'Sail Paradise offers everything we're looking for,' said Jones. 'The course area off the Gold Coast beaches is among the best; the summer sea breezes make for excellent sailing, and the host club delivers the goods.'

Sponsored by Gold Coast marine electronics and electrical specialists, Marinonics, and presented by Southport Yacht Club, Sail Paradise is scheduled for January 10 to 15. It is open to the full spectrum of offshore capable yachts, from Grand Prix level racers through to PHS and cruising yachts, multihulls, sportboats and trailerables. The RL 24 class will be deciding its national championship during the week.

Alegria IV will start as one of the hot favourites in the Grand Prix IRC division at Sail Paradise. Until now Jones has given his new charge only one serious hit-out since the yacht arrived in Australia, and that resulted in an impressive third place across the finish line and victory in the PHS division in this year's Brisbane to Great Keppel race. The yacht was designed by the emerging Spanish-based design group Botin Careek utilising the very latest design and construction technology.

'We are really looking forward to racing this yacht at Sail Paradise,' Jones said. 'I've been so busy developing the new SB3 sportboat class in Australia that I haven't had time until now to commit to a serious campaign with Alegria. It will be interesting to see how we shape up against what I am sure will be strong opposition come January.'

Three major events will provide avenues for yachts coming from the south and north to Sail Paradise. Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club's 30th anniversary Pittwater to Coffs Harbour race and the Marinonics Coffs to Paradise Race will cater for yachts coming from the south while Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron will stage the inaugural Manly to Paradise race.

Sail Paradise promises spectacular deep-water sailing just off the Gold Coast's magnificent beaches. The short races will be staged on courses set along the surfline adjacent to Main Beach and Surfers Paradise while the longer races will take the fleet south to Burleigh Heads and Cook Island, on the Queensland/NSW border. The mid-series lay-day will give crews, their families and friends the opportunity to experience the many and varied attractions of the region - from the unspoiled natural beauty of the hinterland through to the beaches and some of the world's best theme parks. In addition, Southport Yacht Club has an entertaining social agenda planned.

Gold Coast City Council and Gold Coast Tourism are associate sponsors of Sail Paradise.

- The Notice of Race for Sail Paradise and the Coffs to Paradise race are posted on the regatta website www.sailparadise.com.au and the Manly to Paradise Race NOR is published on the RQYS's dedicated website, www.manlytoparadise.com
- For information on the Pittwater to Coffs Harbour Race go to www.pittwatertocoffs.com.au

Image caption: Southport Yacht Club on the Gold Coast (hi res available)

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