

Sailors come out fighting

SYDNEY — Survivors of last year's tragic Sydney to Hobart yachting race plan to sail in the 55th race starting on December 26.

However, only 84 yachts are expected to compete this year — 31 down on last year's event when six crew were lost.

Bruce Gould, crewman of Winston Churchill which sank in last year's Sydney to Hobart and lost three crew, was not planning to compete again this year but is back for his 32nd race.

"The only reason I am going again is to get back on the horse, but I've promised my wife I'll be back in Sydney for New Year's Eve," Gould said.

Race director Phil Thompson said the event had to compete with New Year's Eve celebrations in the city.

"Considering the spectacle Sydney is putting on for New Year's Eve we are happy with the number of entries," he said. — Sapa-AFP.

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