

# RIO YACHT RACE TROPHY GETS GOLD FACELIFT

Daily News Reporter

THE SILVER AND GOLD TROPHY for the Cape Town to Rio de Janeiro ocean yacht race is to be changed — even more of the valuable metals will be added to make it worth at least R2,000.

*He will not  
be among  
the starters*

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NEW YORK, Wednesday.

ROBIN LEE GRAHAM, the youngest person to sail round the world alone and who married in South Africa en route, does not intend to take part in next January's Cape Town to Rio de Janeiro race.

Mr. Graham, who started his round the world voyage when he was 16, arrived back two months ago, when he was 21 years of age.

He said in his home at Newport Beach, California yesterday that at present he has no plans to go travelling again. He is now "concentrating on being a husband and father" and, in the autumn, intends to enrol as a freshman student at Standord University.

Mr. Graham met his wife,

Patricia, on a Pacific Island while he was making his solo voyage. When he reached South Africa, she joined him and they were married there. Last Saturday they had their first child — a daughter.

## RIVAL

He considers the famous French yachtsman, Eric Tabarly, as the chief rival to Ocean Spirit. "He has the backing of the French Government and he is a brilliant yachtsman."

Michael has done a lot of yachting in Britain "under the auspices of my brother," but has no ocean yachting experience.

After the Round Britain race, Ocean Spirit is sailing to Malta, where another crew-member will join the vessel, and the boat will be completely fitted out. "The earliest she will be at Cape Town is December," says Michael.

"If there is enough time, I'm going to persuade Robin to sail up to Durban before the race."

The organisers of the race have now received 17 confirmed entries but expect at least twice as many before the closing date in November 1.

The race starts from Cape Town on January 16.

The floating trophy is a bold and imaginative design by South African sculptor, George Jaholkowski, of Cape Town. It shows a streamlined, symbolic yacht with sweeping silver sails and waves.

It was presented by the South African Chamber of Mines and now, at its suggestion, more gold is to be added to the hull and more silver to the sails. The new model will also have an even bolder and more modern look.

The trophy will be presented to the overall winner of the event, which starts from Cape Town on January 16. It will be kept as a permanent floating trophy for future ocean races across the South Atlantic, and smaller replicas will be made for the winning competitors to keep.

## INSCRIBED

The floating trophy itself will be held in trust by the South African Ocean Racing Trust, inscribed with the names of the owners and yachts that successively win the race.

The re-styled model is expected to be completed by August and will be known as the South Atlantic Trophy.

A computer might be used to give a day by day account of the yachts' positions during the race.

The race will be run under three separate categories, depending on the measurements of the yachts, and to a strict handicap system. Each entrant will radio back its position daily and only a computer would be able to work out positions according to each handicap.

## NEW RULES

This trans-South-Atlantic race will be one of the first ocean races to be held under the new International Measurement Rules, compiled by a team of six of the world's leading yacht designers over many years.

When more entries have been received for the event — the closing date is November 1 — the Cruising Association of South Africa will work out the categories for the race.

Mr. David Cox, the Natal representative of the Cruising Association, says that he, personally, would like to see a computer installed in Cape Town to analyse positions as the event takes place.

"Many people think that the first across the line is the winner. This, of course, is not so but it would be a great shame if the public lost interest because they were unable to follow the positioning."