



■ David Jacobs is part of the national team going to the TS Tera World Sailing Championships in Denmark. He has also been invited to take part in the Lipton Cup, in Mossel Bay, in two weeks time.

Sailor gears up for world championship

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REMO ANDREWS

David Jacobs, 16, from Grassy Park, took to sailing like a duck to water when he was introduced to the sport a few years ago.

Now he has been included in the national team going to the TS Tera World Sailing Championships, in Denmark.

David qualified for the team through a series of events in which he ended fifth overall.

David started sailing in Grade 8 as part of the development team at the Zeekoevlei Sailing Centre. He started with the Sonnet class where he was shown the ropes by mentors Ryan Pentolfe and Roscoe Cupido.

In Grade 9, he decided to go solo and switch from the two-man Sonnet boats to the RS Tera boat.

"You have to be mentally fit, have good reflexes and stamina," he said.

"The right tactics are important and your mind needs to be set on how you are going to get around the course before the race," David said.

His father Mark said David is determined to sail, come rain or shine and that his hard work is paying off.

David said that he would like to



PICTURES: ANGELO KALMEYER

■ David Jacobs displays the skill that won him a spot on the national team which will take part in the World Sailing Championships, in Denmark.

qualify for the Mirror Worlds competition as the next step in his sailing career.

"David is very determined and has put in the hard work without much fuss," said Cupido.

"He also has a positive attitude and uses criticism as fuel to improve. It usually takes people at

least three to four years to start sailing in competitions. If he keeps going the way he is who knows to what heights he could take his sailing career," Cupido said.

David has also been invited to be part of a six-man crew that will take part in the Lipton Cup, in Mossel Bay, in two weeks time.